

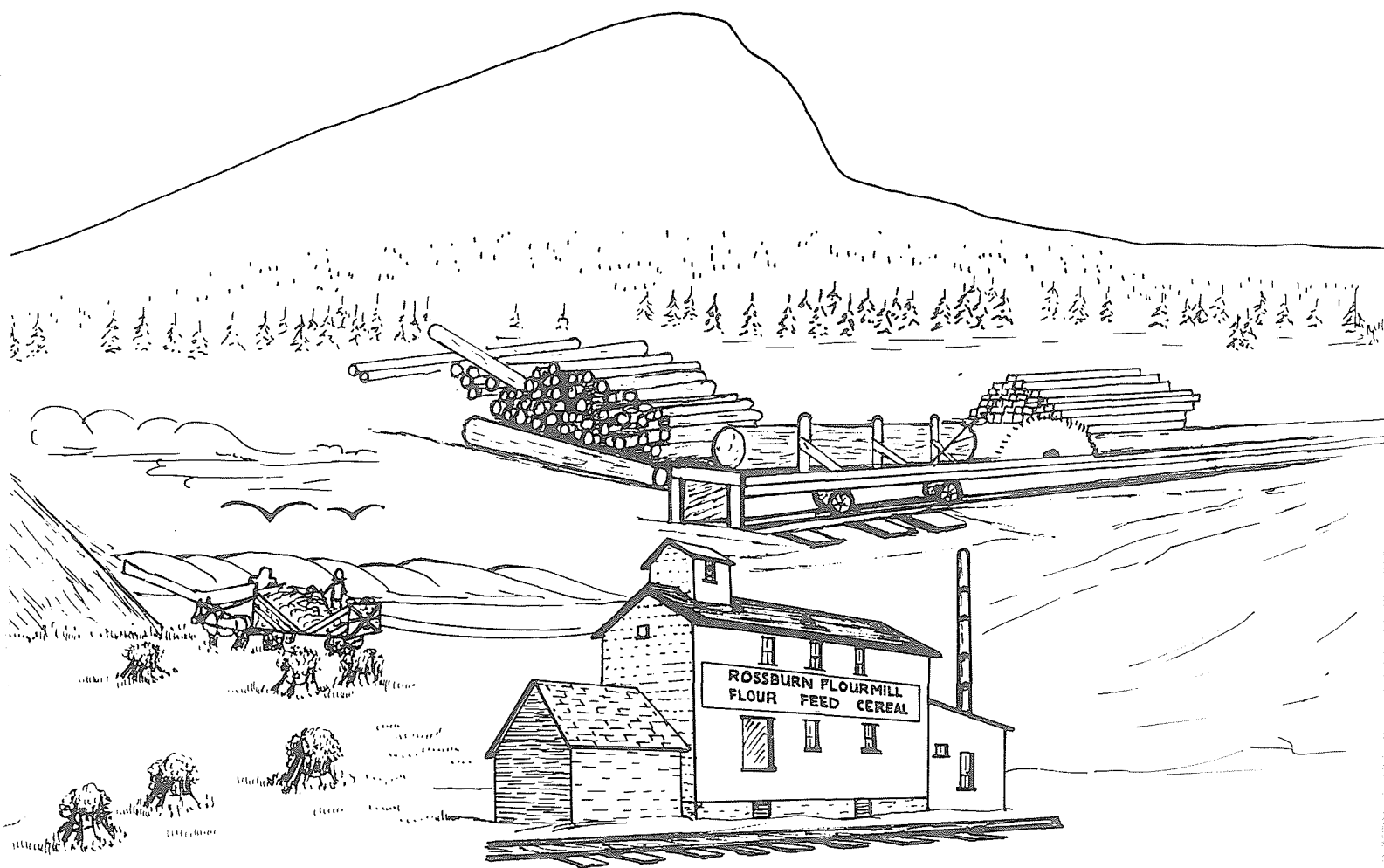
HAROLD SLEIGH 31	MRS. J. ANTONICHUK	ANDREW KIRYLK	WASYL ANDRIETZ 32	Wm. HOLLOWAY	SIDNEY GEARNEY 33	WASYL KARMAZENUK 34	WASYL TOPOLNISKI	Tom TARANNO	MIKE GLASCO	NICK ANTONIW 35	FRED DIDYCH 36	FRANK KOROWSKI
HRYTSKO YARMEY	JOHN ANTONICHUK	THEODORE BERZANSKI	JOHN TOPOLNISKI			ALEX BATURAK	JOHN KALYNIUK	KORNYLO CHOPP	V. SKONCYLAS	MICHAEL MARYNIUK	JOHN FIEL	
JOHN DANYLEVKO 30	WASYL ANTONICHUK	D. A. DOWNIE Co. 29		ONOREY TODOSIN	FEDOR ABRANCHUK 28	ANTON GREY 27	FRED ANTONOW 26	KOST TOPOLNISKI		JOE BOBINSKI 25	WOYTKO BOBINSKI	
NICK TORSKY	WASYL ANTONICHUK	GEORGE DANYLEVKO		JOHN ZAWERUCHA	MARTINDOWICH	JOHN KLYM	BASIL GENOVEY	HUDSON BAY Co.	FRANK GUMIENY	MIKE PROKOPIW		
ALEX 19 HAGGART		DMYTRO DANYLEVKO 20	DMYTRO KUZ	DAVID FLEMING 21	MACKO CYCHY	TOM GENOVY 22	FRED ANTONOW 23	INDIAN RESERVE	FRANK GUMIENY 24	WOYTKO GUMIENY	JOE BARAK	PETE TOKARUK
ALEC HAMILTON 18	LAZARI DIMIANIUK	FRED DANYLEVKO 17	MRS. W. DANYLEVKO	MIKE DOWHAN 16	DMYTRO KOZAK	DMYTRO GAWRYLUK 15	FRED ANTONOW 14	STEPEN PANAS	NYKAFOR PANAS 13	CROWN		
ROBERT HAMILTON	JOSEPH SIANCHUK	WASYL DANYLEVKO	ANDREW PEDEN	DMYTRO YARMEY	MAKSYM YARMEY	FRED ANTONOW	DMYTRO KOZAK	SAM KLYM	JOHN HRANKOWSKI	FLORAN HRANKOWSKI	PETE DUTKYWICH	
JOHN DUNCANSON 7	DMYTRO YARMEY	P.W. JOHNSTON 8	HARRY JOHNSTON	H. JOHNSTON 9	CROWN-GUNDY LAKE	NICK KITLAR 10	ALEX KITLAR	R. BAILEY 11	DAN CHWALUK 12	ANTON DUTKEWICH		
JAMES IRWIN	N. SCHARKO	ALEX BROWN		W.M. PEDEN	ALEX NOYCHYSHYN	WOYTKO CZYKLO	MIKE BOROWSKI	CROWN	ROMAN GLASCO	DMYTRO LEPSHAK	TOM KIEZ	MAKSYM YASKIW
Wm. MANSON 6	ALEX BROWN	Jos. 5 PLASTOW		JOHN TOMCHYSHYN 4	JOHN KARMAZAN	WASYL SIDLAR 3	ALEX KITLAR	WASYL LOSHKA 2	WASYL SHMYR	VICTOR SHMYR	GEORGE YASKIW	
				FRANK BLASKIEWICZ	NICK SIDLAR	GUS DOWHAN	WASYL SIDLAR	JOHN MUZENSKI	SAFRON SARAFATA	PAUL SLOBODYAN	PAUL SLOBODESKI	TROCHIM MACKEDENSKI

Township 20
Range 24

Jos. JUCE		JOHN KOWALCHUK	METRO HUBINSKI	WM KOLOSKY	J. SEMINIUK	THOMAS YORK	DUNCAN GRANT	CESSON YORK	CHESTER MERRITT	JOHN PLANT	
MIKE MELNYK	MICHAEL										
31	KALYN	32		33		34		35		36	HENRY SLEIGH
WM WYNESS		NICK BARNESKY	JOHN TANASYCHUK	G. SINCLAIR	W. CRAIG	JAMES DENNISON	CHARLES DUMAIS	WM. CRAIG	ANGUS GRANT	GEORGE GRANT	
M. MELNYK	NICK BARNESKY	JOSEPH		CESSON YORK	CHARLES W. ROSS	BOB PAUL	BOB PAUL	BOB PAUL	JOHN PLANT	HARRY SLEIGH	JOHN REINHART
30		29	H U S T O N	28		27		26		25	
ANTON PAWLUK	THOS. MCKEE	SAMUEL WARNOCK		HUGH ROSS	SAM VEITCH	SAM VEITCH	W. WELLERS	WILSON VEITCH	CROWN		
WM. SIBSON	WM. WILSON	ROBERT PEDEN	WM BUCHANAN	P U T N A M	THORPE BRIGHTWELL	DONALD SINCLAIR	SAMUEL VEITCH	GEORGE & ANGUS GRANT	MANITOBA & NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY	HENRY PALMER	THOMAS BUCHANAN
19		20			21	22		23		24	
DAVID TISSMAN	DAVID TISSMAN	RICHARD R. ROSS			GEORGE SINCLAIR	CHARLES LAWFORD	CANADIAN NORTHERN RAILWAY	MARGARET VEITCH	OSCAR PALMER	JOHN SINCLAIR	
								CHARLES LAWFORD		JOE SIANCHUK	
18		17		16		15		14		13	
								JAMES YOUNG		JOHN SINCLAIR	
								JAMES YOUNG	DONALD SINCLAIR	DONALD	ALEXANDER HAMILTON
7		8		9		10		11		12	
								JAMES CROOKSHANKS	THOMAS BUCHANAN	SINCLAIR	JOHN DUNCANSON
								GEORGE MANSON		ROBERT MURRAY	WM. MANSON
6		5		4		3		2			
								JOHN BROADFOOT		ROBERT WHITE	

Township 20
Range 25

ON THE SUNNY SLOPES OF THE RIDING MOUNTAINS



A History of Rossburn and District

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ISBN 0-88925-444-3

Published by
Rossburn History Club
Rossburn, Manitoba R0J 1V0
Canada

First printing, 1984

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

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Members of the Rossburn History Club, meeting in Rossburn Town Hall, January, 1983. Left to right: Stan Leschasin, Freda Butler, Dorothy Armstrong, Harry Aylwin, Ernie Antonow, Rowat Veitch, Alex Cleland and Wendell Cleland.



Members of History Club who were unable to be present when group picture was taken are: (L to R) Mike Sotas, Lena Nycek, Earle Taylor.

Preface

Volume Two relates the history of municipal government, educational and religious institutions, community halls and organizations, businesses and professions of the community. Available historical data about Lizard Point Indian Reserve is also included with the area's history.

This volume also contains a section relating the importance of the adjacent portion of the Riding Mountains area, firstly as a forest reserve and in more recent times as a National Park. This area in

earlier times was very closely involved in the livelihood of area residents.

By contrast to Volume One which dealt with family histories and reminiscences of residents and former residents that had been written and submitted by interested family members and relatives, Volume Two contains articles, in addition to material submitted by interested citizens, that have been researched from information still available from the earlier days.

Readers of this Volume

The sketch appearing on the cover was drawn by Mrs. Leah Gawryluk, of the Rosssburn Art Club. It was selected from a number of entries received in a competition to provide local art work for the cover.

The township maps appearing at front and back of book has been compiled showing the first recorded owner or settler of the land.

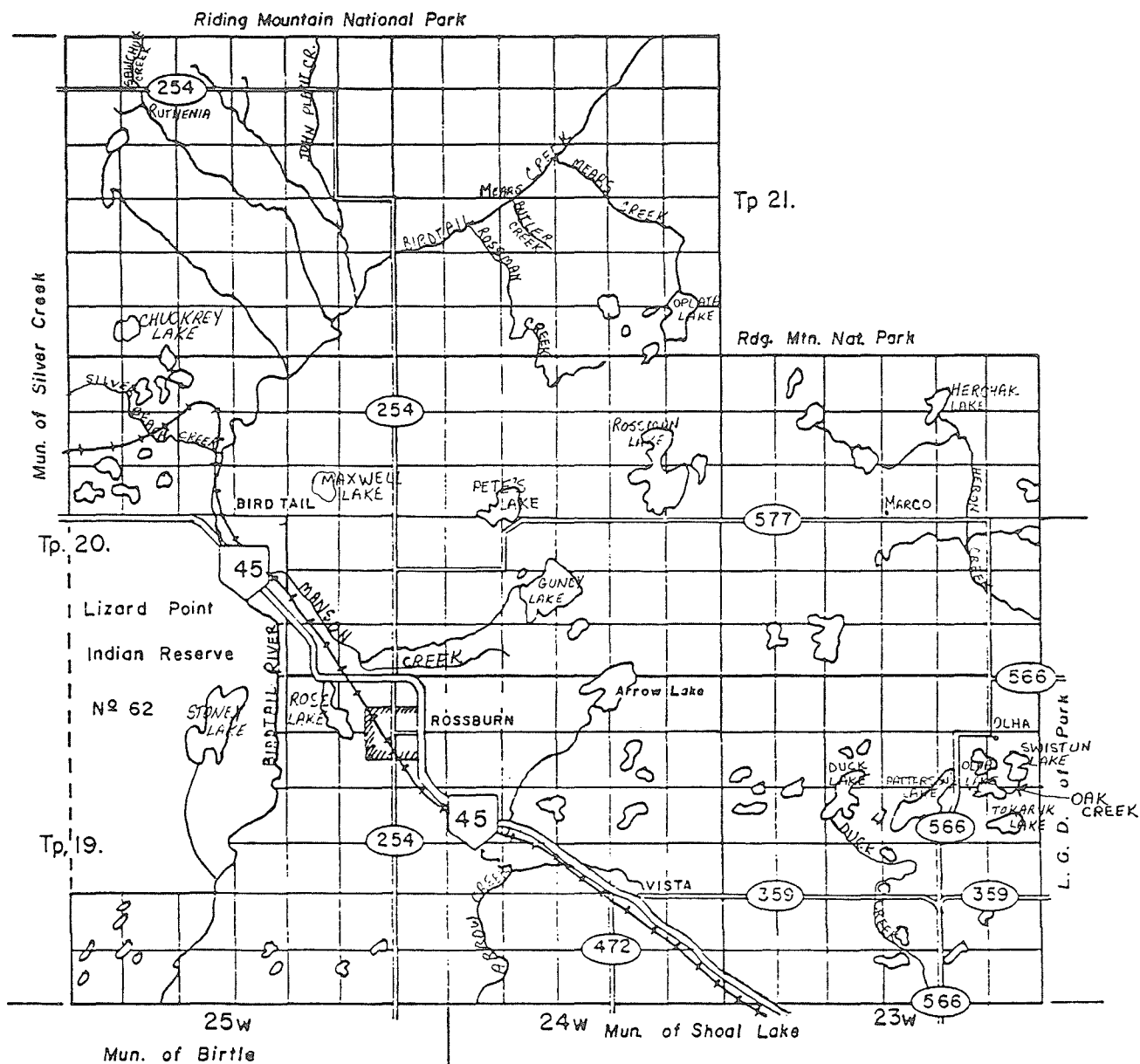
The articles and other histories contained in this volume have been compiled and printed from information as submitted and obtained from various

sources. This assistance has been gratefully appreciated.

Every attempt has been made to check for accuracy in content and proof-reading. However, in the event of errors or omissions, you are requested to submit the corrected copy, with verification, to the Rosssburn History Club — in order that any corrections in information, errors in typing or typesetting, or additional family histories, may be included in the up-date of this volume to be published at a later date.

Rosssburn History Club

Rural Municipality of Rosburn



Communities

County System Prior to R.M.

For a factual account of the earliest municipal history of the area prior to the organization of the Rural Municipality of Rosssburn, we turn to the "Reminiscences of the Rosssburn Pioneers" written in the early 1930s by Reita Bambridge Sparling.

"Before Manitoba was divided into Municipalities, each county had what was known as a county council, presided over by a warden. In December 1881, Russell County elected its first Council to act for the year of 1882. The first Council was made up as follows: Warden — Major A. C. Boulton, Councillors — Ward One: Cole, Whaley and Alex Stewart. Councillors — Ward Two: Fraser, Simpson and Denmark. Ward One was what now is Municipality of Rosssburn. Ward Two was all the rest of the County.

The county council for 1883 was the same as 1882 excepting J. C. Cole gave place to John Anderson in Ward One and Sandy Fraser to Peter Hyde in Ward Two. In 1883 the inhabited portion of the province was formed into municipalities and councils were elected."

Rural Municipality of Rosssburn

Out of the past comes the realization that Manitoba has been settled by a group of people who had come to this wilderness in order to build homes and from the homes, communities later, a place where they could raise their families in a happy, healthy, environment. So in 1884, after municipal boundaries had been surveyed by the government, the local citizens were ready to proceed with the organizing. On January 2, 1884 a group gathered in the Rosssburn School, arriving on foot or by oxen, perhaps as far as ten miles in bitter cold, in order to lend a hand. These public spirited men formed the first Council of Rosssburn Municipality. These were first and foremost, Thomas Young — Reeve and Returning Officer — Richard Rose Ross.

Councillors: Ward 1 — Robert Carson, Alex-

ander Cumming; Ward 2 — Robert Peden, Sam Warnock; Ward 3 — Tom Buchanan, James Young.

One week later, January 8th, they met again and completed their roll of officers.

Secretary-Treasurer — Richard Rose Ross, Salary \$140.00 per year.

The council to get \$2.00 per meeting and 10 cents per mile.

First Assessor — Donald Sinclair at an annual sum of \$35.00.

First Constable — was George Sinclair.

Pound Keeper — Ward 1 — Alex McDonald; Ward 2 — John Broadfoot; Ward 3 — Robert Taylor. The pound keeper was allowed a fee of .50¢ for every consignment of cattle or other animals in his charge.

It was agreed to have a Moose Head engraved on the seal. Future meetings were to be held in houses.

1885 — Schools became a necessity. Trustees had to be found. Taxes had to be collected and passed along to the schools. Pathmasters were appointed — whose duties entailed road building and repairing. Bridges were to be built, obnoxious weeds curtailed and fences inspected. Later fence viewers were appointed. This year also saw the minutes printed in the Birtle Observer. The railroad was coming but it was uncertain where. Letters were written, delegates sent to C.P.R. but to no avail. What a disappointment when the line was built twenty miles south. As a result, plans had to be made for mail services from Solsgirth to Rosssburn via Lone Tree.

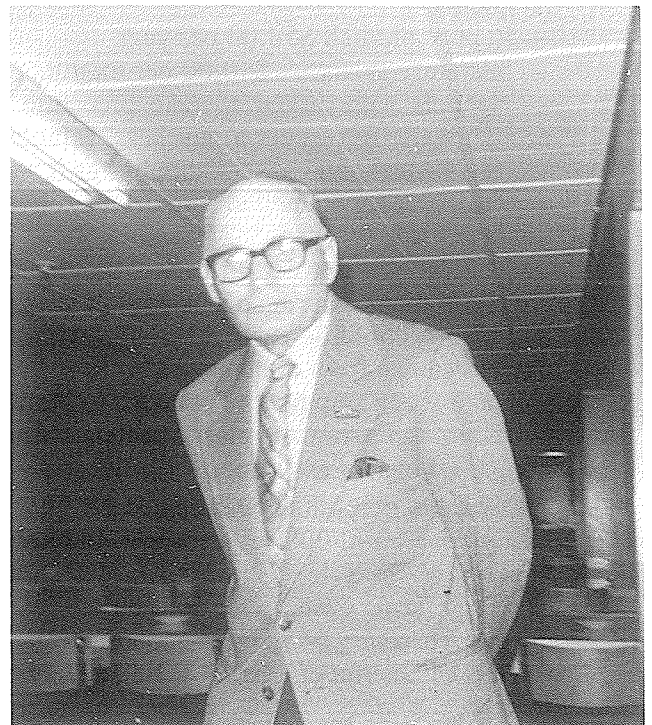
1886 — The assessment was set at \$5 an acre, and the first tax sale held. Help was given to victims of prairie fires, which were a great threat to the early settlers. Taxes were to be equalized between wards.

1887 — The first Court of Revision was held. A voters list was prepared by the clerk. The land laid aside as school lands was recommended for sale. The land that was to be used for a town cemetery was purchased.

- 1888 — Thomas Young was appointed immigration agent to act in co-operation with the government agent. Meetings were held in J. J. Stitt's house for a rent of \$2 a meeting. Thirty dollars was paid for a cemetery site, lying between the two ravines. After some speculation, it was decided to move the cemetery to its present site.
- 1889 — The present cemetery site was purchased — $5\frac{1}{4}$ acres at \$10.00 per acre and Mr. James McBride was to fence it.
— Perth School opened.
- 1890 — A decision was made as to where to build a bridge for crossing the Birdtail River. The site was chosen for the point in the valley. They made a request to the Member of Parliament for assistance in roadbuilding. The first advance to the Rossburn School was made.
- 1891 — Scrapers were purchased at thirteen dollars each.
— A by-law was passed to form a new school district which was named Valley School.
- 1892 — The Member of Parliament was appealed to for aid to build the road to Gilbert Plains along the Birdtail Valley,
— A by-law was passed for the proper observance of Sunday. It was against the law to swear, get drunk, or work on Sunday. If caught, a penalty of not less than \$5.00 and not more than \$20.00 would be charged.
— A bridge across the Birdtail was to be finally erected.
— Due to the trouble caused by the wolves, a wolf bounty of \$2.00 a head was issued.
— The fact that the government decided to reroute the railway and thereby miss the Rossburn area, caused a problem, especially after expectations were so high.
- 1893 — Strychnine was purchased to relieve the gopher infestation.
— Jurors were selected.
— The people were not satisfied with the way the school districts were divided up and a by-law was passed to remedy the situation. This by-law changed the districts around.
- 1894 — The medical health officer, Dr. D. M. McDonald, was chosen. Vaccinations were to be given, costing 40¢ each.
- 1895 — Lone Tree Post Office was established.
— Delgates met to discuss the changing lands in Perth school district but no change was made.
— Unpatented lands were bought in a tax sale for taxes owing.
- 1896 — A by-law was passed, prohibiting pigs and sheep from running at large from the first day of May to the first day of October.
— Perth School boundaries were changed to admit more land.
- 1897 — Bruan School District was formed.
- 1898 — Door to door peddlars were taxed.
- 1900 — A by-law was passed that set out exactly how the fences in the municipality should be: posts to be 14 feet apart, the bottom wire should be 20 inches from the ground and the top strand 14 inches from the bottom one. The posts should be of good sawed wood and pushed deep in the ground.
- 1901 — Dr. Wheeler was appointed Health Officer at \$70.00, with an extra fee for vaccinating. A thousand dollars was borrowed with an interest rate of 6%.
- 1904 — The Prohibition Law was passed.
— The C.N.R. was being built.
— The Bird Tail, Gorna (later known as Hranko), Boleslaw (later known as Olha), and Budz (later changed to Stanislav and then to Ruska Rawa) School Districts were formed.
- 1905 — A by-law was passed saying that all stores are to be closed at 7:00 P.M., with the exceptions being Wednesday and Saturday.
- 1908 — Zaporozha School District was formed.
- 1909 — Municipality was divided up into three wards.
— Chmelnicky and Mohyla School Districts were formed.
- 1910 — A by-law was passed prohibiting the retail clerks from selling cigarettes to anybody under the age of fourteen. If they are caught, they will be fined \$25.00 or spend a month in jail.
— An iron bridge for Birdtail was suggested.
— A by-law was passed which divided the municipality of Rossburn into four wards.
- 1911 — Secretary's salary now was \$365.00 per annum.
— All people who owned pool tables for business use had to get a license.
- 1912 — A by-law was passed prohibiting dogs from running loose in the streets.
— The first cement sidewalk was built in Rossburn.
- 1913 — Scales were installed in town. The wages paid were as follows: 40¢ an hour for a man and team and 20¢ an hour for a man.
- 1918 — A \$5,000 grant was given to the Red Cross.
- 1919 — Land was purchased in Rossburn in order to build a Municipal Hall.
- 1920 — A public health nurse service was available.
— The speed limit was 10 mph
- 1921 — Marconi School District was formed.

- 1923 — \$53,000 was borrowed in order to pay expenses that had arisen.
- 1924 — A by-law was passed that made it compulsory for all threshing machines from outside the municipality to get a license for the cost of \$50.00.
— Muskrats were declared a public nuisance and had to be trapped:
— A road plow was purchased for \$69.00.
- 1925 — Electric lights were installed in the office.
— A petition was presented to the ratepayers to get the squatters removed.
- 1926 — The purchase of 1 grader and 6 slush scrapers was approved.
- 1927 — Plans were made for a jubilee celebration.
- 1928 — The council decided to ask all the clergymen to try and discourage public dancing and confectionary selling on Sundays.
- 1929 — First appeal for help to procure clothing for school children.
- 1930 — Many people asked for assistance from the Municipality: a form of social welfare. Some were helped, more were refused. Concern was shown for the unemployment situation as was shown by council's approval for the Mafeking cut-off.
— Marconi School District declared a distress district and government took over.
- 1931 — Pensioners had to report to the Municipal Office before Department accepted them as recipients.
— Rent of old hall \$50.00 per year.
— Secretary salary — \$90.00 per month.
— Schools were asked to take precautions economically in respect to teachers' salaries, secretary's fees, and school supplies as it was very difficult for council to support the school districts.
— The council decided to cancel the unemployment relief program due to the late season and then it could be carried through without any assistance from the council.
— There was a shipment of potatoes to Melita.
- 1932 — Flour was given to relief families. More people asking for assistance.
- 1934 — Cemetery committee was appointed.
- 1936 — Highway built. 20% of arrears would keep land out of Tax Sale.
— Many farms were up for tax sale.
- 1937 — Teachers salary \$45.00 per month
— School District of Clarke — No. 2278 was formed.
— Gopher bounty was 1¢ per tail until June 1st, after that date it was ½¢ per tail to be credited to taxes.
- Dr. Whelpley of Angusville was appointed as Health Officer.
- 1938 — Dr. Manly appointed as Health Officer.
- 1939 — Bridge over Birdtail constructed.
- 1940 — Reeve Peden and Councillor Ryszytylo were to be a committee to arrange for excavation and foundation of the Municipal Building.
— Dr. Braunstein was to be offered the position of Municipal Physician. Offices were to be furnished from Oct. 1st including heat and light at a rental of \$20.00 per month. The scheme of Municipal Physician was later abandoned.
- 1941 — Cell built in basement of Municipal Building for police use.
— The Village was to share use of the Municipal office.
- 1942 — Ivan M. Storozuk appointed to office of Secretary-Treasurer.
- 1943 — \$500.00 Victory bond purchased. Road work 30¢ per hour per man, 45¢ — two horse team, 60¢ — four horse team. \$2.00 per hour — tractor.
— Secretary's salary \$100.00 per month.
- 1944 — Dr. Braunstein was paid \$300.00 per month — later resigned.
— Secretary salary raised to \$1440.00 per year.
- 1945 — Grant to farmers using preventive for Bang's Disease in cattle.
— Council recommended to various organizations within the municipality and district the advisability of procuring a suitable gift for each man of the municipality and district who served in the Armed Forces of our country from 1939-1945; and also that a canvas be made in conjunction with the Village of Rossburn to procure funds to erect a Memorial Hospital.
- 1946 — Temporary hospital set up.
— Ruthenia has plans to build a new school-house.
— Damages were done to crops by elk from Riding Mountain National Park.
- 1947 — Road machine purchased and driver hired. Plans approved for new hospital.
- 1951 — Secretary-Treasurer's salary \$190.00 per month. New Municipal office built. Hydro extended to Birdtail Siding.
- 1955 — Request for highway north and south through Riding Mountain National Park to connect No. 4 and No. 5 highways.
- 1956-58 — These years spent on the building of new roads, upkeep of schools and helping needy citizens.

- 1958 — Fishing Lake taken on as special project (later named Rossman Lake Resort).
- 1959 — Valley School closed.
— T.V. station petitioned for Baldy Mountain.
— Larger school division formed.
- 1961 — Feed shortage for cattle.
— Municipality stored grain in elevators. Hay permits in National Park were distributed to farmers.
- 1962 — Several schools closed and lands transferred to Rossburn and Oakburn.
- 1963 — Birdtail school district was dissolved and lands transferred to Consolidated School District of Rossburn.
- 1964 — Feed shortage for cattle once more.
— Chmelnyski School District dissolved.
- 1966 — Road to Rossman Lake built and lights installed.
— Glen Elmo School District dissolved.
- 1969 — The Lake at Shellmouth Dam named "Lake of the Prairies" (see article).
- 1972 — Pension plan for office staff discussed.
- 1973 — Help to procure library given.
— Veterinary Services planned between adjoining municipalities.
— Nick Karmazenuk resigned. Leonard Mackedenski hired as Assistant Secretary-Treasurer.
— Buried telephone wires installed in district.
— Road through Riding Mountain National Park refused by Ottawa.
- 1974 — Concept of a Regional or District Library to be held later in the year.
— Proposal on the acquisition of an ambulance service for Rossburn and surrounding communities.
- 1974 — Rossman Lake Committee report a very successful year of operations and expansion of facilities.
- 1975 — Detention cells dismantled.
— The enumerator was paid a fee of .20¢ per name appearing on the List of Electors for a total of \$179.20.
— The Returning Officer remunerated \$75.00 for the year 1975.
- 1976 — Electric heating installed in municipal office.
— Underwood #581 Electronic Printing Calculator purchased on a 50/50 cost sharing basis with the Village of Rossburn.
Assistance given to the Senior Citizens Group to construct a lawn bowling facility.
— Grant of \$9,366.00 received from Manitoba Lotteries Trust Fund to assist with Rossman Lake Youth Camp.
- 1977 — Beaver dams cause much damage.
— Ernie Antonow hired as Secretary-Treasurer starting June 1, 1977
— Rossman Lake sprayed for forest tent caterpillars.
— Champion Grader Model 740 purchased.
— 1977 Ford Fire Truck with 800 gallon tank purchased for \$42,000.00 from Metal Industries Ltd. in Brandon.
- 1978 — Mr. Joseph Sitko donated parcel of land on SW¼ of Sec. 22-19-23 being a mass gravesite of pioneer children, which has been designated a historical site.
— Renovation to Rossburn arena.
— Blackbirds, deer, elk, moose and black bears cause damage to crops.
- 1979 — Land owners sustained substantial losses to their grain, fields and hay meadows due to spring flooding.
- 1980 — All appointees of the Rural Municipality of Rossburn on the Rossburn and District Hospital Board to be remunerated for the year 1980 as follows:
(a) \$11.00 per regular meeting attended.
(b) \$11.00 per special meeting attended.
(c) \$3.50 per trip for cheque signing.
(d) \$40.00 per day for meetings outside municipal boundaries.



Nick Karmazenuk, secretary-treasurer of the Village of Rossburn 1952-1973, and Rural Municipality of Rossburn 1944-1973.

Municipality

Reeve

1884: Thomas Young

1885: William McDonald

1886: Thomas Young

1887: Thomas Young

1888: Thomas Young

1889: Thomas Young

1890: Thomas Young

1891: John McPhail

1892: John McPhail

1893: Thomas Young

1894: William McDonald

1895: John McPhail

1896: John McPhail

1897: John McPhail

1898: Richard Rose Ross

1899: Richard Rose Ross

1900: Richard Rose Ross

1901: Robert Carson

1902: Robert Carson

1903: Robert Carson

1904: Richard Rose Ross

1905: John McPhail

1906: John McPhail

1907: John McPhail

1908: Wm. Young

1909: Wm. Peden

1910: Wm. Young

1911: John McPhail

1912: John McPhail

1913: John McPhail

1914: John McPhail, Robert Brown, John Sinclair

1915: John Sinclair

1916: John Sinclair

1917: John Sinclair

Secretary

Richard Rose Ross

Wm. Manson

George Manson

George Manson

John Brodie

John Brodie

John Brodie

John Brodie

John Brodie

John Brodie

John Brodie

John Brodie

John Brodie

Thomas Young, John Brodie

Thomas Young, Wm. McKee

Wm. McKee

Wm. McKee

Wm. McKee

William McKee

William McKee

William McKee

William McKee, Robert Carson

Robert Carson

Robert Carson

Robert Carson

Robert Carson

Robert Carson

Robert Carson

Robert Carson

Robert Carson

Robert Carson

Robert Carson

Robert Carson

Councillors

Alex Cumming, Robert Carson, Robert R. Peden, Sam S. Warnock, James Young, Tom Buchanan

Robert R. Peden, Robert Carson, Alex Black, Jim Young, Wm. Strong, Robert R. Hamilton, Robert Carson, John McPhail, James Stitt, Wm. Strong, James Young, James McBride, James McBride, Alex Hamilton, John McPhail, Robert Carson, Wm. Strong, James Stitt

John McPhail, Wesley Strong, John Huston, Robert Carson

John McPhail, Robert Hamilton, Robert Carson, Angus Grant

Robert Hamilton, John McPhail, Wm. Strong, Wm. Peden

George Duncan (J.D.) Grant, Wm. Strong, William Peden, John Broadfoot

William Strong, William Peden, John Huston, John Broadfoot

William Strong, John Broadfoot, Alex Menzies, John Huston

John Broadfoot, John Huston, Alex Menzies, Wm. Strong

Alex Menzies, Wm. Peden, Alec Brown, William Strong

Alex Menzies, William Peden, John Broadfoot, Harry Sleigh

S. Warnock, Harry Sleigh, Wm. Peden, R. Johnson

S. Warnock, H. Sleigh, D. Hamilton, A. Menzies

S. Warnock, H. Sleigh, D. Hamilton, A. Menzies

T. Lawless, H. Sleigh, R. Johnson, Wm. Young

Thomas Lawless, William Peden, William Young, R. Johnson

Thomas Lawless, William Peden, William Young, R. Johnson

Records Lost

Records Lost

Records Lost

T. Lawless, R. J. Brown, J. Plant, J. Werbovicki

Records Lost

Dick King, John Sinclair, Gordon Plant, Robert Brown

Robert Brown, William Antonichuk, M. Luhowy, Michael Yanyk

Gordon Plant, Robert Brown, Dmetro Yarmey, Robert Peden

Gordon Plant, Robert Brown, Dmetro Yarmey, Michael Yanyk

Michael Yanyk, Gordon Plant, John Fiel, Robert Brown

Steve Nychuk, Robert Brown, Joe Huston, John Fiel

Robert Brown, Joe Huston, Dmetro Yarmey, Steve Nychuk

Robert Brown, John Werbovetski, Steve Nychuk, Dmetro Yarmey

Robert Brown, John Werbovetski, Mike Mariniuk, Steve Nychuk

Joe Huston, Robert Brown, Mike Mariniuk, Steve Nychuk

1918: John Sinclair	Joe R. McKinnon	Kornylo Chopp, Steve Nychuk, Robert Brown, Joe Huston
1919: John Sinclair	Joe R. McKinnon	Kornylo Chopp, Joe Huston, Steve Nychuk, Robert Brown
1920: John Sinclair	Joe R. McKinnon	Kornylo Chopp, Joe Huston, Steve Nychuk, Joe Stitt
1921: John Sinclair	David Hough	Steve Nychuk, Joe Huston, Joe Stitt, Kornlyo Chopp
1922: Robert Peden	Robert Carson, David Hough	Joseph Stitt, Joe Huston, William Butler, Steve Nychuk
1923: Robert Peden	David Hough	William Butler, Joe Stitt, John Werbovetski, Steve Nychuk
1924: Robert Peden	David Hough	Matt D. Hamilton, William Butler, John Werbovetski, Steve Nychuk
1925: Robert Brown	David Hough	William Butler, Steve Nychuk, Matt Hamilton, John Werbovetski
1926: Robert Brown	David Hough	William Butler, Steve Nychuk, Matt Hamilton, John Werbovetski
1927: Robert Brown	David Hough	William Butler, John Werbovetski, Steve Nychuk, Matthew Hamilton
1928: Robert Brown	David Hough	Matthew D. Hamilton, Steve Nychuk, Wm. Antonichuk, John Werbovetski
1929: Robert Brown	David Hough	Roy Plant, Wm. Antonichuk Sr., Steve Nychuk, Matt Hamilton
1930: Robert Brown	David Hough	Matt Hamilton, William Butler, Steve Nychuk, Roy Plant
1931: John W. Cormack	David Hough	William Butler, Matt Hamilton, Roy Plant, Dmytro Kowal
1932: John W. Cormack	David Hough	John Ryszytylo, Dmytro Kowal, Roy Plant, Matt Hamilton
1933: John Cormack	David Hough	Matt Hamilton, John Ryszytylo, Joe Kryswaty, Peter Gensiorek
1934: John Cormack	David Hough	Matt Hamilton, John Ryszytylo, Joe Kryswaty, Peter Gensiorek
1935: John Cormack	David Hough	Matt Hamilton, John Ryszytylo, Joe Kryswaty, Peter Gensiorek
1936: John Cormack	David Hough	Matt Hamilton, John Ryszytylo, Joe Kryswaty, Peter Gensiorek
1937: John Cormack	David Hough	Matt Hamilton, John Ryszytylo, Peter Gensiorek, M. K. Wasilka
1938: Robert Peden	David Hough	Matt Hamilton, Peter Gensiorek, John Ryszytylo, M. K. Wasilka
1939: Robert Peden	David Hough	Matt Hamilton, M. K. Wasilka, John Ryszytylo, Nick Karmazenuk
1940: Robert Peden	David Hough	Matt Hamilton, M. K. Wasilka, John Ryszytylo, Nick Karmazenuk
1941: Robert Peden	David Hough	Matt Hamilton, John Ryszytylo, Nick Karmazenuk, Mike Drozda
1942: John Ryszytylo	David Hough	Wm. Armstrong, Mike Drozda, Anton Yarmey, Nick Karmazenuk
1943: John Ryszytylo	Ivan Storozuk	William Armstrong, Mike Drozda, Anton Yarmey, George Hlagy
1944: John Ryszytylo	Nick Karmazenuk	William Armstrong, George Hlagy, Anton Yarmey, Mike Twerdochlib
1945: John Ryszytylo	Nick Karmazenuk	William Armstrong, Wm. Hyra, Alex Sawchuk, Mike Twerdochlib
1946: Harris Huston	Nick Karmazenuk	Gordon Taylor, Wm. Hyra, Mike Twerdochlib, Alex Sawchuk
1947: Harris Huston	Nick Karmazenuk	Gordon Taylor, Mike Twerdochlib, Wm. Hyra, Alex Sawchuk
1948: Harris Huston	Nick Karmazenuk	Gordon Taylor, Mike Twerdochlib, Wm. Hyra, Sam Trakalo
1949: Harris Huston	Nick Karmazenuk	Gordon Taylor, John Plant, Sam Trakalo, Mike Baubie
1950: Steve Ukrainetz	Nick Karmazenuk	Frank Zegalski, John Plant, Sam Trakalo, Mike Baubie
1951: Steve Ukrainetz	Nick Karmazenuk	Frank Zegalski, Wm. Hyra, Sam Trakalo, Mike Baubie
1952: Steve Ukrainetz	Nick Karmazenuk	Frank Zegalski, Wm. Hyra, Sam Trakalo, Mike Baubie

1953: Steve Ukrainetz	Nick Karmazenuk	William J. Hamilton, Wm. Hyra, Sam Trakalo, Mike Baubie
1954: Ed Shust	Nick Karmazenuk	William J. Hamilton, Wm. Hyra, Sam Trakalo, Mike Baubie
1955: Ed Shust	Nick Karmazenuk	William J. Hamilton, Wm. Hyra, Sam Trakalo, Mike Baubie
1956: Ed Shust	Nick Karmazenuk	Morley Brown, Wm. Hyra, Sam Trakalo, Mike Baubie
1957: Ed Shust	Nick Karmazenuk	Morley Brown, Wm. Hyra, Mike Baubie, Mike Pawluk
1958: Ed Shust	Nick Karmazenuk	Morley Brown, Wm. Hyra, Mike Baubie, Mike Pawluk
1959: Ed Shust	Nick Karmazenuk	Morley Brown, Wm. Hyra, Mike Baubie, Mike Pawluk
1960: Mike Sotas	Nick Karmazenuk	Morley Brown, Wm. Hyra, Mike Baubie, Mike Pawluk
1961: Mike Sotas	Nick Karmazenuk	Morley Brown, Wm. Hyra, Mike Pawluk, Fred Posmituck
1962: Alex Cleland	Nick Karmazenuk	Morley Brown, Wm. Hyra, Mike Pawluk, Fred Posmituck
1963: Alex Cleland	Nick Karmazenuk	Morley Brown, Wm. Hyra, Mike Pawluk, Fred Posmituck
1964: Alex Cleland	Nick Karmazenuk	Morley Brown, Joe Dnistransky, Mike Gawryluk, Wm. Hyra
1965: Alex Cleland	Nick Karmazenuk	Morley Brown, Joe Dnistransky, Mike Gawryluk, Wm. Hyra
1966: Alex Cleland	Nick Karmazenuk	Morley Brown, Joe Dnistransky, Mike Gawryluk, Wm. Hyra
1967: John Mitchell	Nick Karmazenuk	Ernest Drul, Wm. Hyra, Mervin Trakalo, Joe Dnistransky
1968: John Mitchell	Nick Karmazenuk	Ernest Drul, Wm. Hyra, Mervin Trakalo, Joe Dnistransky
1969: John Mitchell	Nick Karmazenuk	Ernest Drul, Mervin Trakalo, Peter Kowal, Wm. Hyra
1970: John Mitchell	Nick Karmazenuk	Ernest Drul, Mervin Trakalo, Peter Kowal, Wm. Hyra
1971: John Mitchell	Nick Karmazenuk	Ernest Drul, Mervin Trakalo, Peter Kowal, Wm. Hyra
1972: John Mitchell	Nick Karmazenuk	Ernest Drul, Mervin Trakalo, Peter Kowal, Wm. Hyra
1973: John Mitchell	Nick Karmazenuk	Joe Dnistransky, Walter Peleshok, Ernest Drul, Mervin Trakalo
1974: John Mitchell	Pete Matyshyn	Ernest Drul, Wally Peleshok, Charles Derlago, Joe Dnistransky
1975: John Mitchell	Pete Matyshyn	Ernest Drul, Wally Peleshok, Joe Dnistransky, Charles Derlago
1976: John Mitchell	Pete Matyshyn, Leonard A. Mackedenski	Ernest Drul, Wally Peleshok, Joe Dnistransky, William Antonow
1977: John Mitchell	Leonard A. Mackedenski, Ernie Antonow	Wally Peleshok, Ernest Drul, Joe Dnistransky, William Antonow
1978: John Mitchell	Ernie Antonow	John A. Klym, Wally Peleshok, William Antonow, Joe Dnistransky
1979: John Mitchell	Ernie Antonow	John A. Klym, Wally Peleshok, William Antonow, Joe Dnistransky
1980: John Mitchell	Ernie Antonow	John A. Klym, Wally Peleshok, William Antonow, Leonard Sitko

Road Building in the R.M.



Early road building during the 1930's east of Rossburn. Picture taken Nov. 7, 1930.



Another view of road building as seen on Nov. 7, 1930.



Road construction near Rossman Lake on P.R. 577.



Burying culvert — Golf Course Road, 1981.



Road Building — east of Rossman Lake, 1981.





Rossburn Municipal Office.

Municipal Office

The Municipal Office, presently located on the east side of Mountain Avenue was erected in 1951. Minutes from R.M. of Rossburn Council proceedings record some information concerning its construction.

At the May 5, 1951 R.M. of Rossburn Council Meeting, council agreed to sell the old Municipal building to Maurice Dutchak and Wm. Wladyka for the sum of \$7500 cash.

On June 2, 1951, the R.M. of Rossburn awarded the contract for erecting the new Municipal Office (present building) for the sum of \$6300, to Harry Komhyr.

On July 6, 1951, the R.M. Council purchased the north ten feet in full depth of Lot 27, Plan 555 from the Man. Dairy & Poultry Co-operative Assc. for the sum of \$100 for the purpose of allowing them enough space to erect a new Municipal Office.

The early history of the Municipal Office is recorded in the R.M. of Rossburn minutes. The original purchase of a Municipal Hall occurred in



Rural Municipality of Rossburn, Fire Truck (1977).

September 1919. The building known as Johnston's Hall was bought from H. W. W. Johnston for the total price of \$4250. The council had previously investigated the cost of obtaining a building site in March 1919 (either the Presbyterian or Methodist Church sites).

Prior to this, the R.M. of Rossburn had previously met in Johnston's Hall from at least 1909 as recorded in Rural Council minutes. Private homes were used for meetings in the earlier times.

A Relief Project

In the 1930's, there were many men out of work, and there was no work with remuneration to be had. It was at this time that the government of Canada voted a sum of money to each area. This money was to be used for some worth-while project, and to give work with pay, to the people in the area.

The Rossburn Municipality decided to use their share in Ward 1. They would have a grade built, and cut the scrub on a piece of roadway, five miles east of Rossburn.

Jim Armstrong and Jim Brown were the road-bosses and I was the time-keeper. Gordon Taylor supplied the tractor, (Allis-Chalmers) and Breaker-plow, as well as the fuel used in the tractor. All the men supplied their own transportation to the site, as well as food for their noon meal. The men who drove a team of horses must bring hay and oats.

Wages paid as follows: (1) man — 30¢ per hour; (2) man and team — 50¢ per hour; (3) tractor, plow plus fuel — \$2.75 per hour.

In order to give as many as possible an opportunity to work on this project, a limit had to be set. A man — from \$7.00 to \$8.00, man and team — \$12.00 to \$15.00. In this way a lot of men got work and earned a little cash.

Following is a list of the number, who worked each day:

Nov. 5 — 6 men and 17 men and teams,
 Nov. 6 — 11 men and 22 men and teams,
 Nov. 7 — 19 men and 28 men and teams,
 Nov. 8 — 16 men and 30 men and teams,
 Nov. 10 — 30 men and 48 men and teams,
 Nov. 11 — 22 men and 51 men and teams,
 Nov. 12 — 10 men and 24 men and teams.

It is of interest to note that on Nov. 11, we observed Two Minutes Silence.

The Total Paid — Approx. \$1240.00 (which included \$50.00 for culverts).

by Alexander MacPhail (Time-keeper)

Rossman Lake Resort

Rossman Lake has long been a source of recreation for the community. In earlier times, when the



Cairn at Rossman Lake Resort erected in commemoration of Manitoba's Centennial, 1970.

lake was known as Fishing Lake, the location was well known as a choice fishing spot. Swimming and some camping occurred at various sites around the lake.

Development of the beach and adjacent golf course became a project of the Rossburn Game & Fish Association. This is referred to in another article in this book. As the project expanded it was apparent that there was a real need for the involvement and supervision of the R.M. of Rossburn and its regulatory powers for further expansion to proceed.

Some highlights from the years of discussions at Rural Council meetings reveal this information.

Fred Posmituck was appointed constable for the resort in June 1968. A decision to charge annual tax levies to cottage owners was made in March 1969. The R.M. of Rossburn also decided at its March 1969 meeting to give an annual grant to Rossburn Game & Fish Association for operation of the Lake Resort.

On May 12, 1970, a committee was set up to operate the Lake Resort. It was composed of appointments by: Rural Council — Peter Kowal; Village Council — Maron Slon; Rossburn Game & Fish Assoc. — George Lawless; Rossburn Golf Club — Harold Slon; Cottage Owners — Orest Smyncuik. Harry Bidochka was named caretaker at \$175.00 per month, from June 1, 1970 to August 31, 1970.

Rossman Lake Resort was to be affiliated with the Rossburn and District Recreation Commission following a decision made by council in December 1970. In July 1971, it was decided that a Cabaret Centre and Refreshment Centre be located at the lake

for the Parkland Harvest Festival in conjunction with the Golf Tournament and other sporting events.

A Rossman Lake Committee was set up in Feb. 1972 consisting of: Joe Borowski, Peter Leschasin, William Antonow, Ivan Genovey and Peter Kowal. Peter Kowal was a representative of the R.M. Council. When Councillor Kowal was defeated in the municipal election in the fall of 1972, Ernie Drul was then named to that position.

In 1973, Ivan Genovey and Peter Leschasin felt they could not spare the time to serve on the committee, thus leaving committee membership of Joe Borowski and Bill Antonow, with Councillor Drul as R.M. representative. This committee has been intact until 1983 — except that in 1976 and 1977, both Ernest Drul and Bill Antonow were councillors. Since 1978, Bill Antonow has been the R.M. representative. Gordon Trakalo served on the committee for one year and Councillor Klym for one year.

The first Rossman Lake Resort committee meeting was held April 21, 1972. Harry Bidochka was hired as caretaker and policeman for the resort at that time. Scrubbing was undertaken at the north end of the golf course. The 1972 budget for the season was \$2,000.00 including wages, hydro, lumber and paint, gravel, bulldozing parking space, and other miscellaneous items. Terry Stefanuk was approached to paint a sign advertising the Lake Resort, to be placed on No. 45 Highway on the perimeter north of town.

In 1973, Matt Borowski was hired as caretaker-supervisor. Early in April 1973, work had commenced clearing brush for new cabin sites and picnic places. With the additional help provided by P.E.P. and L.I.P., considerable work was completed in grounds improvement for the resort area and golf course. A boat dock was built, in addition to a garage-storage building. Destruction of leaves on the trees by worms was serious and the worms were creating a real problem.

After these early years of development, construction of cabins quickly filled up available lots, and the budget for the Rossman Lake Resort operation increased regularly.

The Rossman Lake Committee, as named Nov. 6, 1974 comprised: Chairman — Joe Borowski; Secretary William Antonow; Councillor — Ernest Drul. This committee has been working since the fall of 1972 until the present time.

In December 1975, it was decided an application should be submitted for a recreational grant. By-Law No. 1017 was passed April 12, 1976, covering all forms of recreation at Rossman Lake Resort and Youth Camp. An application was made to Manitoba Telephone System for a telephone pay booth at the

Resort. A request was made in May 1976 to Manitoba Hydro to construct a power line to the Youth Camp as soon as possible. A capital expenditure of \$1,475.00 was approved by the R.M. council in June 1976, toward the cost of extending Hydro service to the Youth camp.

The R.M. of Rossburn decided at its July 12, 1976 meeting to survey Rossman Lake Resort and have the survey registered. The survey costs were to be paid by collecting Local Improvement fees from the cabin owners in return for a 21-year lease for the lot with an official description of the lot. In September 1976, word was received from the Manitoba Lotteries Fund of a \$9,366.00 grant to assist with completion of the Youth Camp. This was received in Feb. 1977 from Hon. Ben Hanuschuk.

In November 1976 a decision was made to have both the Lake Resort and Youth Camp served by one committee. This committee comprised council members Ernest Drul, William Antonow and appointed member Joe Borowski. They continue to serve at this time.

In April 1977, project approval was received by a Winter Works Committee of Cabinet in the amount of \$11,900.00 towards completion of Rossman Lake Youth Camp.

An outbreak of "Tent Caterpillars" resulted in a decision in May 1977 to spray the Rossman Lake area.

Rules and Regulation for safety at Rossman Lake Resort were set out in July 1977.

\$12,480.00 was received from Winter Works Committee of Cabinet in October 1977 towards project completion. Tentative approval was granted in November 1977 to the proposed Subdivision Plan.

In 1979, the resort facilities had improved to the extent that thirty serviced and twenty non-serviced trailer spaces were available in the campground for trailer parking. Services available included restaurant and confectionery, children's playground and of course swimming, water skiing, fishing and the scenic golf course.

Major changes and improvements at the lake: (1) Swimming area was moved from the south end (where boat launching now takes place), to the east side — and then to a location about three hundred yards further north from the former east end site. The south side was too crowded with swimmers, fishermen and boats. The second site provided no room for beach (a flat area away from the water's edge). The third site was developed, with several hundred yards of sand being hauled in during the winter and dumped on the ice. This is providing swimmers and beach bathers with the type of area desired. A landscaped kiddies' playground is just a few feet away from the beach area.

(2) An asphalt driveway (up the hill) now provides traction for cars and trucks taking boats to and from the lake, particularly following rains. A boat pier has also been provided.

(3) Landscaping area to provide improved and increased parking area for old trailer sites — plus an area for additional trailers. As of March 1983, there are over sixty trailer "stalls" with electrical service.

(4) Since 1972, an additional cabin and trailer area was opened up. This is the area north of the golf course No. 8 green and No. 9 tee off. There are 10 cabins here and room for 12 trailer "stalls" with hydro and for 12 without hydro.

The committee has been improving and expanding facilities at the resort. The number of cottages tripled since 1973 — until in 1983 there are approximately fifty cabins. An area in the NE corner of SW 24 was improved with ten cottages and camping facilities. This area was used by the Boy Scouts, who moved to the Youth Camp area. Every area along the lake available to cottages now has been utilized. Street lights were installed in the extra camping areas. Much landscaping has been done to increase parking and camping areas.



Rossman Lake as viewed from the south in this aerial photo.



Water skiing show at the Sunday program of the Harvest Festival at Rossman Lake Resort.

Caretakers have been: Harry Bidochka, Matt Borowski, Peter Kuzenko and Nick Antoniwi.

A sports day is held annually on the Sunday of the August long weekend. This was started in 1981 as a joint venture by the Lake Committee, Minor Baseball and Minor Hockey groups. This attracts large crowds who enjoy the Sunday outing in the resort atmosphere.



Rossman Lake Resort ball diamond.

Rossman Lake Youth Camp

The Rossman Lake Youth Camp originally became a reality out of the need by the Boy Scout movement for a permanent site on which to hold camporees. This need was becoming apparent in the late 1960s. Under aggressive leadership, the Scouting movement had become very popular amongst the youth of the community at that time.

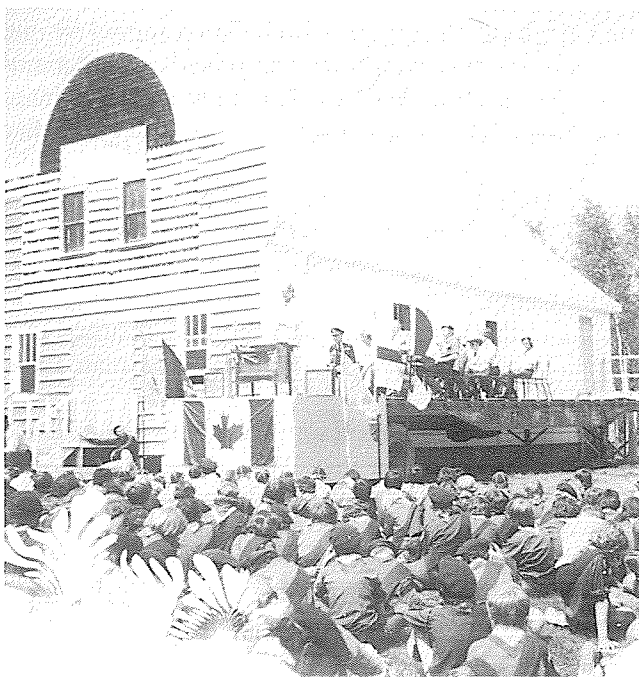
A large tract of land became available to the R.M. of Rossburn at the north-west end of Rossman Lake via Tax Sale. This site comprising 27 acres skirting a one-half mile of lake shore was given to the scout movement to use. Following drilling of a well, a marquee was built in the early 1970s by Harry Komhyr with assistance of the Scouts. A cement floor was later put in the marquee with Steve Maydaniuk supervising this part of the project assisted by the Scouts.

The opportunity soon became a reality to establish permanent buildings on the site. In 1974, the Beaver Lumber Co. closed its operations in Rossburn. The R.M. of Rossburn bought the office — showroom and cement shed at very low prices (a partial donation from Beaver Lumber) and in 1975 moved these buildings to their present site. The people of Mears district donated their hall, which was starting to deteriorate due to the need for more maintenance and upkeep. It was also moved in.

In 1976, the Rossman Lake Committee began to remodel and renovate the buildings. Various government grants became available along with R.M.



Rossman Lake Youth Camp.



A large crowd was in attendance at the Rossman Lake Youth Camp official opening, May 22, 1977.

funds. The office-showroom became a kitchen-dining room. Cupboards were built, dishes bought along with two stoves, refrigerator and deep freezer. Of course, hydro was brought in. The hall had its old siding replaced, new shingles put on and a few alterations made. The inside was left intact to show what it looked like way back when; besides it was in fairly good condition. The cement shed was completely remodelled, insulated, panelled, a rug installed and made into a 36 person dormitory. A well was drilled in 1979 right beside the kitchen.

On May 22, 1977, Lieutenant Governor Bud Jobin officially opened the camp. Close to 400 Scouts and Cubs were present at the Camporee held that weekend.



Rossman Lake Youth Camp. Building at left houses the kitchen facilities and dining hall. Centre — the former Mears Hall used on occasion for social functions. Building on the right is now used for dormitory accommodation.

The camp however, is very much underused. Further improvements are not planned. The marquee is starting to deteriorate as the Scout movement is not as active now, and there is lack of up-keep.

The main buildings are now used for private family reunions, and wedding anniversaries.

Arrow Lake (Stewart's Lake)

A popular resort area for Rossburn community before the growth in popularity of Fishing Lake (now Rossman Lake) was Arrow Lake (Stewart's Lake). For many years it was the "summer recreation spot" for swimming or just sunning on the beach.

It reached its peak in popularity in the late 1940's and very early 1950's when a summer dance pavilion was built at the south-west end of the lake adjacent to the beach area, just beyond Sam Fox's cottage.

An item in the June 17, 1948 issue of the Rossburn Review requested all persons interested in the Arrow Lake Project (Stewart's Lake) to attend a clean-up to put the beach in proper condition. The item continued by stating "The road from the highway to the lake has already been gravelled and the beach put in good shape. Citizens will have a beautiful summer right at home. Work has already commenced on the erection of a Dance Pavilion and rumors have it that a refreshment booth may be opened. The rumor is also circulating that some cottages may be built."

On July 4, 1948, opening day was held at Stewart's Lake, with community singing and get-together

ROSSBURN, MANITOBA, THURSDAY, JULY 8, 1948

DANCE

—AT—

Stuart's Lake

4 Miles East Of Rossburn And 3 Miles North Of Vista

—ON—

Saturday, July 10

—MUSIC BY—

DUNC'S ORCHESTRA

Dances will be held in the new pavillion at Stewart's Lake every Saturday night until further notice

in the late afternoon, followed by an evening church service.

In a later issue, the Vista news column reported: "A large crowd in attendance at the opening of the new open air Dance Hall at "Arrow Lake" last Tuesday — and tripped the light fantastic to the music of the Sidlar Orchestra."

As to how or when the hall was destroyed, little information can now be obtained, except that some recall the building as being destroyed by fire in a thunderstorm. It is thought to have lasted less than a year.

Through the years, however, Sam Fox had resided in a cabin adjacent to the lake. In this building he had kept a small amount of confectionery items and ice cream, etc., for many years. A typical example of his attachment to the lake was a news item in April 1949 recording that "Sam Fox took up residence in his cottage at Stewart's Lake in April."

After many years of his life spent out at Stewart's Lake every summer providing the services of selling small confectionery items, S. P. (Sam) Fox passed away May 14, 1950. An article written at that time told the story. "Mr. Fox's later years were spent at Stewart's Lake where he had a small cottage. Much of his time was spent in keeping the beach clean and looking after the safety of the small children who were bathing. It is there that he will be missed as he did a lot more at the park than the majority of the people realize."

The official name of Stewart's Lake, as verified by provincial maps, is Arrow Lake. It would appear, however, that Stewart's Lake was the name commonly used as Alexander (Sandy) Stewart was the first owner of S ½ 34-19-24 which includes the south side of the lake.



Len and Lil Peikoff in racing car at Arrow Lake (also known as Stewart's Lake) east of Rossburn.

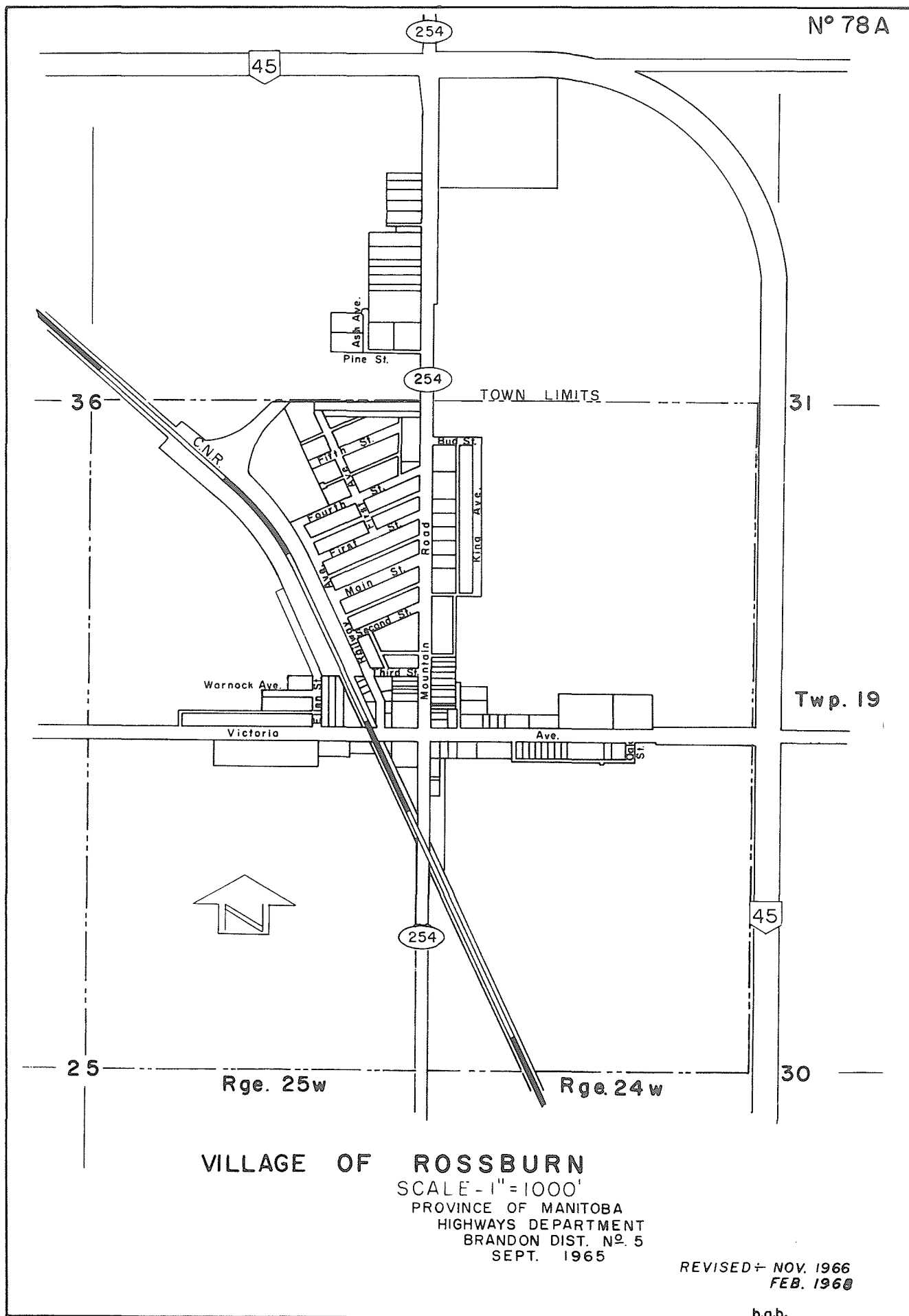
The Village of Rossburn

Thirty-four years after the arrival of the first pioneer settlers in 1879 Rossburn reached the stage of growth, when incorporation as a village became a reality. Prior to 1913, when Rossburn was granted village status, local residents had been calling for the separate municipal status that was needed as the village needs grew.

An editorial in the Rossburn Times, in 1913, stated: "All the talk in Rossburn at present is on the subject of incorporation. A meeting of ratepayers was held in Johnston's Hall two weeks ago to discuss the project which was practically unanimous in favour of incorporation. It appears that the revenue of the area proposed to be incorporated on the present basis of assessment and taxation amounts to approximately \$1,100 per annum, of which sum \$400 is usually spent on the town. It is calculated that \$150 will cover the costs of administration while the expense of incorporation, the chief item of which would be putting through of a special act of parliament costing about \$150, would not have to be met every year. There are enough public-spirited businessmen in Rossburn who would willingly give their services from whom to select a mayor and councillors. A greatly increased sum would thus be available for public improvements without raising the present assessment or taxes. Also the control of the expenditure would be in the hands of those actually living in the town."

A yearly summary of major council items gleaned from the minutes still available, tells us a little of our past.

- 1913 — A donation was made to the Ninette Sanitarium. For road work a man was paid 20¢ per hour, for a man and team it was 40¢ hourly. Consolidation of the school began. Rossburn Village held its first meeting on May 23, 1913, with Mayor — D. Hough, Secretary-Treasurer — R. Carson, and Councillors — T. Peden, R. King, V. W. Johnston and A. T. Shields. Health officer was Dr. Evans.
- 1914 — Grants were made to the Patriotic Fund (WW1); speed limit was 8 miles per hour.
- 1917 — Help was given to the Patriotic Fund.
- 1918 — An \$800.00 grant was made to the Red Cross.
- 1919 — \$17,000 was borrowed. The Secretary-Treasurer's salary was set at \$150.00 annually and \$19,238.00 was raised in general taxes. A vote was defeated to form a Hospital District. Meetings were held in the Carson home.
- 1920 — The agricultural society was granted \$200.00. A nuisance ground was provided and turned over to the village. A Public Health Nurse was supplied. A grant was made to the



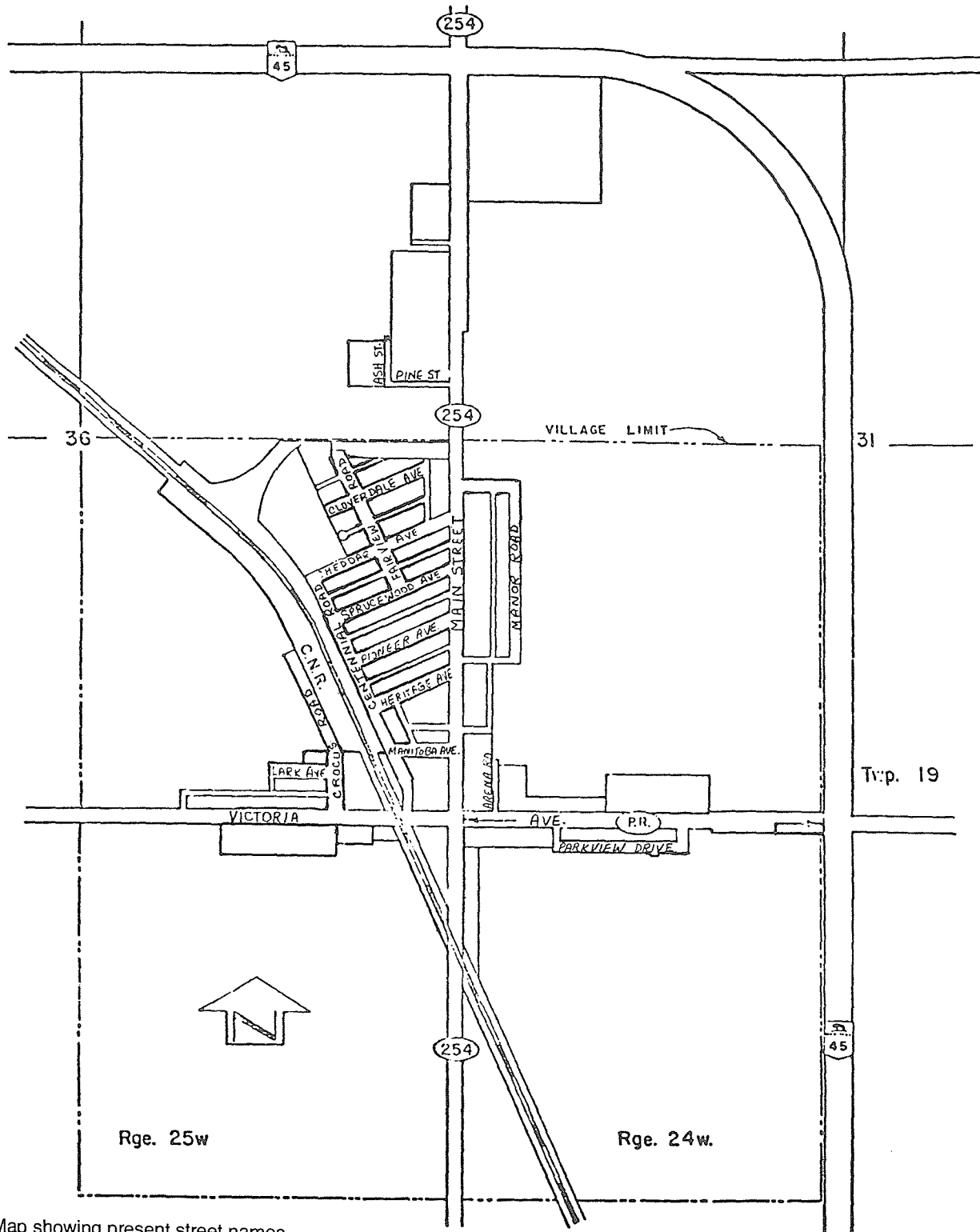
Map showing former street names.

- Salvation Army. The speed limit was now ten miles per hour.
- 1921 — Rossburn School special tax was \$2,464. Pool rooms were licensed. J. Beirnes was appointed assessor at a salary of \$40.00 per annum. Tennis courts taken over and held in trust. Number of school trustees increased to five. Public Health Nurse was shared with Silver Creek.
- 1922 — First typewriter purchased (second-hand) at a cost of \$50.00. Donation approved to Boy Scouts of \$25.00. Pool rooms were licensed. R.C.M.P. services requested. Women's Institute given grant to assist in repairs at cemetery.
- 1923 — Streets and sidewalks work rates set. Man 30¢ per hour, man and team 50¢ per hour. Protest to Ottawa regarding tax on cheques, etc. Ditch to drain the Warnock Slough discussed. Councillor John Clarke passed away. \$25,000 was borrowed.
- 1924 — Delegation regarding better police work in town. Fire protection discussed.
- 1925 — Electric lights were installed in the office. Dray and pool room licenses reduced to \$10.00 and \$7.50.
- 1926 — J. Peden was chosen as the assessor at a salary of \$57.00 per annum. Payment to be \$1.75 per day per patient, if patient unable to pay Dr. Peikoff's Hospital.
- 1927 — Ditches were dug at 25¢ per hour. \$2,000 was borrowed from the bank. John Lindsay resigned due to business obligations. Fire alarm is to be installed by the Telephone Co. The Pool Room, in Peikoff's building was licensed. The Douglas Hotel was licensed. Ten loads of gravel cost \$17.50. Grant paid to Dr. S. S. Peikoff.
- 1928 — The Hospital was granted \$50.00 per month. Cell for R.C.M.P. use was obtained. Vote on Liquor Bill held. Local option carried 86-5. Dr. Simpson to receive grant re Dr. Peikoff Hospital.
- 1929 — Cell cancelled.
- 1930 — Dupont to deliver 200 yards of gravel at 60¢ per yard.
- 1931 — Unemployment Relief Committee set up headed by Ed Harris. Cam Menzies appointed to replace Councillor E. V. Wilson. 200 sacks of flour ordered for relief. Half holiday brought into effect.
- 1932 — John G. Stitt was the mayor and Dave Hough was the Secretary at a salary of \$34 a month. Six street lights were installed by Harry Brugman.
- 1933 — Mothers Allowance Work accepted, Mrs. Evans to be responsible. J. M. Strong garage opened. H. Brugman to be paid \$1.50 per month for extra light down Victoria Avenue. New businesses to pay one year's business tax in advance.
- 1934 — Due to amount of relief work Dr. Manly and Dr. Evans were called upon to do, Council decided to cancel their taxes. Property bought from the Church Board, the corner lot for site of new Hall.
- 1935 — Saturday night dances interfering with Picture Show. Council requested to object. Request placed with Col. H. A. Mullins and Hon. T. G. Murphy for Highway from Russell to Clear Lake road via Rossburn. Mr. Glen suggested 24 ft.
- 1937 — Curling rink built. All labor by unemployed. Relief Committee and councils very concerned with poverty in town and district.
- 1938 — Manitoba Power Commission interviewed, re street lights, and they were accepted. Mayor George Spearman resigned. He was moving to Hamiota. George Shaw and J. McKague to manage mill. Town picnic held at Arrow Lake, August 8th. Town holiday proclaimed. Hall given for physical training as young people needed attention.
- 1939 — Dental Clinic Donation to Women's Institute. Dr. Miles gave time and all the school children's teeth were attended to. Festival play donated also. Town decorated in honor of King and Queen's visit to province. Peter Semkiw took over the Rossburn Milling Company. Local option by-law defeated and C. D. Douglas license granted.
- 1940 — First "Stop" signs installed. Mr. Peikoff's store burned — very old Historical building destroyed.
- 1941 — Dr. Evans passed away after 39 years of service to community.
- 1942 — Act passed to prohibit Tennis playing on Sunday. Mr. David Hough passed away. Edith Pate to carry on until H. Beirnes, the new secretary, ready to take over.
- 1943 — Casket bought for needy party. United Church taxes cancelled. All chimneys to be inspected in order to prevent fires.
- 1944 — Permit granted for building purposes.
- 1945 — On September 11, Rossburn ratepayers approved two debentures by-laws for sidewalks and a curling rink. Sidewalks: for 85, against 6. Curling rink for 66, Against 23. 46 names removed from voters lists, due to war work. Curling rink built.

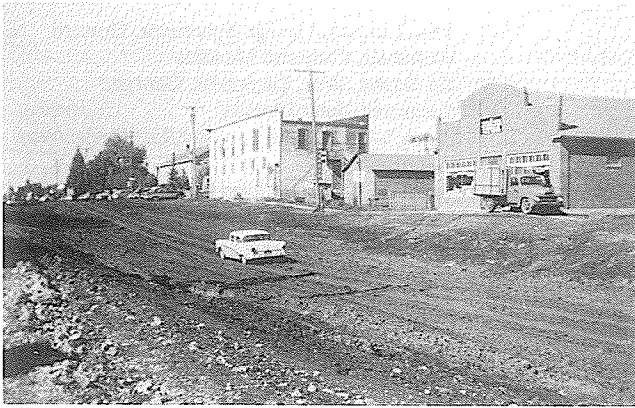
- 1947 — School tax rate — 11.3, business tax is 10%. Skating rink discussed. Hospital unit formed. Thursday afternoon closing April 1 to November 30. Harold Beirnes passed away. Nick Karmazenuk was appointed the new Secretary-Treasurer: later Peter Hyska took over.
- 1948 — Sam Silewich appointed Town Policeman — later Peter Kuz appointed. Hall rental (for sale of Beer) was \$45.00. Temporary rink donated also. \$100.00 donated to Hospital. Minutes published in Rossburn paper.
- 1949 — Manitoba Federation of Agriculture allowed to hold Tag Day. Sam Silewich appointed Scavenger for Village. Secretary resigned. Allan Elvers appointed Secretary Treasurer at \$60.00 per month. Dr. Cham was appointed health officer. Joined Manitoba Urban Society. Rural raised rent to \$20.00 per month. \$30.00 allowed for trip for convention.
- 1950 — Traffic sign installed. Donation to Dr. Shaver hospital. Councillor Sicinski resigned. Peter Wladyka elected. Rossburn Memorial Rink Committee formed. Fire brigade formed by O. Hodge.
- 1951 — Dr. Johnston was the Health Officer. Tag Day re Cemetery Committee. Mr. Allan Elvers resigned. N. Karmazenuk became Secretary Treasurer. Plans for Sports Memorial Arena made.
- 1952 — Rossburn Creamery, under manager Russell Hutton and butter maker Clarence Johanson, received first prize, for their butter, at Brandon, Toronto, Ottawa, and London. Recognition and congratulations sent to them from the council for the honor they have brought to our town.
- 1953 — Liquor permit applied for. Skating Rink transferred from Rossburn Recreational Association to Rossburn Council. A by-law passed to dig a new larger ditch, for drainage purposes.
- 1954 — Resolved that the Rossburn School District be allowed to install the sanitary toilets in the school as planned. Permits granted to keep one cow and fifty chickens.
- 1955 — Poliomyelitis Vaccine program from Department of Health and Welfare approved.
- 1956 — Addition to Nursing unit at Rossburn ratified. Streets re-named and marked. Request for Government Liquor Store in Rossburn sent in. First fire truck purchased.
- 1957 — Secretary-Treasurer's salary \$80.00 per month.
- 1958 — New Elementary school built. Manitoba Hospital Service Plan put into effect. Charge of \$5.00 for use of fire truck. Liquor Control Act put into force. Request placed for Highway to join P.T.H. No. 4 and P.T.H. No. 5.
- 1959 — Requested licensing of TV station close to Rossburn. Rest rooms and waterworks to be installed in the Hall.
- 1960 — Secretary-Treasurer's salary \$120.00 per month.
- 1961 — Alterations to skating rink planned. Hall basement renovations undertaken.
- 1962 — First waterworks vote held Sept. 14. Failed to receive required 60% approval of electorate, although the Yes vote was 128 to 88 No votes. One vote short of approval by electors.
- 1963 — Second waterworks vote carried June 1. Majority was 161-86. On August 1, the contract was awarded to Ran's Construction, for installation of sewer and water lines, for a tendered price of \$207,233.91. Three new types of liquor outlets approved by voters Oct. 23. Tax rate 67 mills.
- 1964 — Park grounds to be operated by Lions Club and Council. The construction of the water plant, which is located south of town was completed.
- 1965 — Lions Club donated \$100.00 to Skating Rink operation. Request to Government re Personal Care Home. Playground site adjacent to water plant to be Centennial Project.
- 1966 — Request for addition to Hospital building accepted. Lower water rate and tax concessions for proposed milk plant endorsed.
- 1967 — Recreation Commission formed for Rossburn and District. Skating Rink is the Village's responsibility. Village council and Lions Club worked together on centennial project. \$20,000 debenture issue authorized for sewer and water extension.
- 1968 — Joined the Parkland Regional Development Corporation. By-law passed re business tax exemption for cheese factory.
- 1969 — Council informed lake created by Shellmouth Dam named "Lake of the Prairies".
- 1970 — Cocktail Room and Cabaret licensed by the Liquor Control Board. Village Council and Lions Club worked together jointly on a Centennial project.
- 1973 — Library and Senior Citizens Drop-in Centre added to the Hall.
- 1974 — Village and R.M. jointly advertise to obtain druggist for Rossburn; King Street subdivision to be developed; By-law passed establishing Regional Library; Ambulance service established. Ambulance procured and put into service, aided by \$4,000 grant from

VILLAGE OF ROSSBURN

PROVINCE OF MANITOBA
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS
DESIGN OFFICE
WINNIPEG, MARCH 1972
SCALE: 1" = 1000'



Map showing present street names.



Portions of Mountain Avenue and Victoria Avenue (east) were excavated in the fall of 1958 as part of the preparations prior to hard surfacing these main thoroughfares in Rossburn. This photo depicts the People's Store (right), Cleland's Store (centre) with the Victoria Avenue excavation through which traffic was maintained for most of the time.

Lions Club. Voters approve referendum re Sunday sports.

1975 — Proposal endorsed for establishment of half-way house. Opposed Manitoba Government imposing tax on gas to pay Autopac expenses.

1976 — New Horizons Group express interest in developing a lawn bowling and horseshoe

area; land information re Functional programme for proposed new hospital received — new facility projected for 17 acute care and 20 personal care beds. Community Library proposed. Crosswalks placed on Mountain Avenue.

1977 — Application made to have village's water supply flouridated. Parkview Drive in new subdivision decided on as the street's name. Senior Citizens Lawn bowling organized.

1978 — Village supports efforts to establish a two doctor practice in Rossburn. Council received report from Rossburn Lions Club Arena Building Committee that project had been completed and all obligations paid. Wheelchair ramp to be added. Building permit approved for addition to cheese factory.

1979 — Support given to C.N.R. application to re-open Carberry subdivision. Application made for capital grant to assist in construction of new library.

1980 — Council appreciates successful efforts to have Rossburn CN subdivision included in basic rail network until year 2000. Report received indicating approval of new hospital and personal care home. New higher water rates established.

Village — Incorporated 1913

Mayor

1913: David Hough
1914: David Hough
1915: David Hough
1916: David Hough
1917: David Hough
1918: Wm. Young
1919: Wm. Young
1920: Charlie W. Wickett
1921: Charlie W. Wickett
1922: Dr. Murrough O'Brien
1923: Richard King
1924: Richard King
1925: Richard King
1926: Richard King
1927: John Lindsay (Resigned)
George Spearman (acting Mayor)
Dr. Sam Peikoff

Secretary-Treasurer

Robert Carson
Robert Carson
Robert Carson
Robert Carson
Robert Carson
Robert Carson
Robert Carson
Robert Carson (Deceased)
Joe R. McKinnon
David Hough
David Hough
David Hough
David Hough
David Hough

Councillors

Victor W. Johnson, Richard King, Thos. Peden, Andrew Shields
Howard Alexander, Richard King, Andrew Shields, Jasper Strong
Wm. Young, Richard King, Howard Alexander, Jasper Strong
Wm. Young, Henry Gordon, Richard King, Jasper Strong
Henry J. Gordon, Jasper Strong, Jim Irwin, Richard King
Jasper Strong, Richard King, Henry Gordon, Jim Irwin
Henry Gordon, Herbert J. Shipley, Richard King, Jim Irwin
Richard King, Henry J. Gordon, Jasper W. Strong, Herbert J. Shipley
Joe Hendry, George Ferguson, John Lindsay, Richard King
John Lindsay, Jasper Strong, John Clarke, Joe Hendry
Cameron Menzies, John Lindsay, Joe Hendry, Jasper Strong
Cameron Menzies, John Lindsay, Joe Hendry, Jasper Strong
John Lindsay, Jasper Strong, Cameron Menzies, George Spearman
John Lindsay, Jasper Strong, Cameron Menzies, George Spearman
Howard McIntosh, Jasper Strong, Cameron Menzies, George Spearman

1928: Jasper Strong	David Hough	John Lindsay, George Spearman, Howard McIntosh, Cameron Menzies
1929: Jasper Strong	David Hough	Ed Harris, Wm. Campbell, George Spearman, John Lindsay
1930: George Spearman	David Hough	Elmer Wilson, John Lindsay, Ed Harris, Wm. Campbell
1931: George Spearman	David Hough	Cameron Menzies, John Lindsay, Thos. McDonald, Ed Harris
1932: John G. Stitt	David Hough	Ed Harris, Chas. Douglas, Morris Clubley, Tom McDonald
1933: John G. Stitt	David Hough	Ed Harris, Chas. Douglas, Morris Clubley, Colin Barlow
1934: John G. Stitt	David Hough	Ed Harris, Chas. Douglas, Morris Clubley, Colin Barlow
1935: John G. Stitt	David Hough	Ed Harris, Chas. Douglas, Morris Clubley, Colin Barlow
1936: John G. Stitt	David Hough	Joseph Peden, Wesley Strong, Colin Barlow, Ed Harris
1937: John G. Stitt	David Hough	Wesley Strong, Ed Harris, Colin Barlow, Jos. Peden
1938: John G. Stitt	David Hough	Wesley Strong, Ed Harris, Colin Barlow, Jos. Peden
1939: John G. Stitt	David Hough	Wesley Strong, Ed Harris, Colin Barlow, Jos. Peden
1940: John G. Stitt	David Hough	Wesley Strong, Ed Harris, Colin Barlow, Jos. Peden
1941: John G. Stitt	David Hough	Wesley Strong, Ed Harris, Colin Barlow, Jos. Peden
1942: John G. Stitt	David Hough (Deceased) Edythe Pate	Wesley Strong, Ed Harris, Colin Barlow, Jos. Peden
1943: John G. Stitt	Harold G. Beirnes	Joseph Peden, Wesley Strong, Colin Barlow, Steve Glushka
1944: John G. Stitt	Harold G. Beirnes	Joseph Peden, Wesley Strong, Colin Barlow, Nick Stupnisky
1945: John G. Stitt	Harold G. Beirnes	Wesley Strong, Joseph Peden, Nick Stupnisky, Roland Craig
1946: John G. Stitt	Harold G. Beirnes	John Cormack, Roland Craig, Nick Stupnisky, Joseph Peden
1947: John G. Stitt	Harold G. Beirnes (Deceased) Nick Karmazenuk	T. Howard Alexander, Peter Kuz, Joseph Peden, John Cormack
1948: John G. Stitt	Peter Hyska	Howard Alexander, Peter Kuz, Nick Sicinski, Joseph Peden
1949: John G. Stitt	Peter Hyska	Oliver Hodge, Joseph Huston, Nick Sicinski, Joseph Peden
1950: Earl Moffat	Allan Elvers	Oliver Hodge, Joseph Huston, Wm. Antonichuk, Nick Sicinski
1951: Earl Moffat	Allan Elvers	Pete Wladyka, Harry Verbowski, Wm. Antonichuk, Joseph Huston
1952: Earl Moffat	Nick Karmazenuk	Pete Wladyka, Harry Verbowski, Wm. Antonichuk, Joseph Huston
1953: Earl Moffat	Nick Karmazenuk	Pete Wladyka, Harry Verbowski, Wm. Antonichuk, Joseph Huston
1954: Earl Moffat	Nick Karmazenuk	Joseph Huston, Wm. Antonichuk, Harry Verbowski, Pete Wladyka
1955: Earl Moffat	Nick Karmazenuk	Mike Smyncnuik, Wm. Antonichuk, Pete Wladyka, Harry Verbowski
1956: Earl Moffat	Nick Karmazenuk	Pete Wladyka, Harry Aylwin, Harry Verbowski, Mike Smyncnuik
1957: Earl Moffat	Nick Karmazenuk	Pete Wladyka, Harry Aylwin, Michael Antoniwi, Harry Verbowski
1958: Earl Moffat	Nick Karmazenuk	Peter Wladyka, Harry Verbowski, Harry Aylwin, Michael Antoniwi
1959: Earl Moffat	Nick Karmazenuk	Peter Wladyka, Harry Verbowski, Harry Aylwin, Michael Antoniwi
1960: John G. Stitt	Nick Karmazenuk	Peter Wladyka, Harry Verbowski, Harry Aylwin, Michael Antoniwi
1961: John G. Stitt	Nick Karmazenuk	Peter Wladyka, Harry Aylwin, Michael Antoniwi, Harry Drosdoski

1962: John G. Stitt	Nick Karmazenuk	Peter Wladyka, Harry Aylwin, Michael Antoniwi, Harry Drosdoski
1963: John G. Stitt	Nick Karmazenuk	Peter Wladyka, Harry Aylwin, Michael Antoniwi, Harry Drosdoski
1964: Peter Wladyka	Nick Karmazenuk	Mike Verbowski, Harry Komhyr, Harry Drosdoski, Mike Antoniwi
1965: Peter Wladyka	Nick Karmazenuk	Mike Antoniwi, Mike Verbowski, Harry Drosdoski, Harry Komhyr
1966: Peter Wladyka	Nick Karmazenuk	Mike Antoniwi, Mike Verbowski, Harry Drosdoski, Harry Komhyr
1967: Peter Wladyka	Nick Karmazenuk	Mike Antoniwi, Mike Verbowski, Harry Komhyr, Mike Baubie
1968: John Cormack	Nick Karmazenuk	Mike Baubie, Mike Antoniwi, Mike Verbowski, Wm. McKietiuik
1969: John Cormack	Nick Karmazenuk	Mike Verbowski, Mike Baubie, Wm. McKietiuik, Orest Smycnuik
1970: John Cormack	Nick Karmazenuk	Mike Baubie, Wm. McKietiuik, Maron Slon, Louis Kurchaba
1971: Louis Kurchaba	Nick Karmazenuk	Mike Baubie, Wm. McKietiuik, Maron Slon, Harry Drosdoski
1972: Louis Kurchaba	Nick Karmazenuk	Harold Slon, Harry Drosdoski, Mike Baubie, Jack Sedor
1973: Louis Kurchaba	Nick Karmazenuk	Harold Slon, Harry Drosdoski, Mike Baubie, Jack Sedor
1974: Louis Kurchaba	Pete Matyshyn	Harold Slon, Harry Drosdoski, Mike Baubie, Rick Plaisier
1975: Louis Kurchaba	Pete Matyshyn	Harold Slon, Harry Drosdoski, Barry Lee, Rick Plaisier
1976: Louis Kurchaba	Leonard Mackedenski	Rick Plaisier, Miron Swintak, Harry Drosdoski, Barry Lee
1977: Louis Kurchaba	Leonard Mackedenski	William McKietiuik, Miron Swintak, Harry Drosdoski, Rick Plaisier
1978: Rick Plaisier	Leonard Mackedenski	Harry Drosdoski, Morley Kostecky, Miron Swintak, Ernest Stefanuk
1979: Rick Plaisier	Leonard Mackedenski	Miron Swintak, Harry Drosdoski, Ernest Stefanuk, Morley Kostecky
1980: Morley Kostecky	Leonard Mackedenski	Kenneth Caldwell, Ernest Stefanuk, Miron Swintak
1981: Louis Kurchaba	Leonard Mackedenski	Kenneth Caldwell, Orest Smycniuk, Ernest Stefanuk, Joseph Zegalski

Waterworks

Waterworks did not come to Rossburn easily — but no one would be without it today!

On Sept. 14, 1962 Rossburn voters narrowly re-

jected a \$145,000 Sewer and Waterworks By-Law by the narrowest margin possible. Actually the majority of Rossburn ratepayers voted 128-88 in favor of the Money By-Law. However, as a 60% favorable vote



Rossburn Town Council, 1955. Sitting, left to right: Nick Karmazenuk (Clerk), Peter Wladyka, Joe Huston, Earl Moffat (Mayor), Wm. Antonichuk, Harry Verbowski. Standing: Wes. Danyleyko (town police), Nick Mandziuk (solicitor).



1983 Village of Rossburn Council. Left to Right: Back Row: Councillors Joe Zegalski, Ken Caldwell. Front Row: Councillor Orest Smycniuk, Mayor Louis Kurchaba, Councillor Ernest Stefanuk.

was required at that time for a Money By-Law's passage, the yes vote was 2 votes short of the necessary majority.

Undaunted, the village council again presented the Waterworks Money By-Law on June 1, 1963. On this occasion the By-Law received the endorsement of Village ratepayers 161-86. As can be seen, the issue was still a divisive one in the village.

Ran's Construction Co. Ltd. was awarded the waterworks contract and installation work commenced Aug. 15, 1963. Materials had been arriving since the weekend previously.

Excavation and laying of sewer mains started on Victoria Avenue West, approximately across from the J. Murphy residence. This was one of the deepest excavations in the system.

The Official Opening of the Waterworks system in Rossburn, held in conjunction with the observance of 50 years of Incorporation and the annual Rossburn Lions Club Sports Day on Saturday, June 13th, 1964 was a day which will be long remembered by all in attendance.

Although the day was cool and cloudy, the enthusiasm was high, and by 1:15 p.m. a crowd of many hundreds had gathered at the pumping station site and along the parade route. At 1:30 p.m. the gathering at the Manitoba Water Supply Board pumping station was called to order by the town clerk, Nick Karmazenuk, and the Strathclair Band then played O Canada. The symbolic cutting of the ribbon by Premier Roblin followed as he took the opportunity to congratulate the village on completion of their waterworks project, which the province was proud to have helped make possible through establishment a few years ago of the Manitoba Water Supply Board. Mayor Wladyka took the opportunity to express a few words of welcome and the hope that the Waterworks would prove to be a great benefit to village residents.

The parade, which had formed up south of the CNR tracks, then led off with the Strathclair Band and Majorettes at the head. The parade was outstanding. Following the "official" cars, and the marching members of the Rossburn 4-H Sewing Sisters, the Boy Scouts and Cubs, came the 'bear', and floats entered by — Rossburn Hospital staff and the Hospital Aid, Rossburn Creamery, Rossburn Pool Elevator, Rossburn Hotel, McKietruk Freighters, Rossburn Plumbing & Heating, M. & K. Contractors, Beaver Lumber, Pritchard Electric, Nick's Store & Barber Shop, Veterans Freighters, Bidochka's Grocery, Millicent's Beauty Shoppe, National Grain Co., Erickson Lions Club, People's Store, Manitoba Hydro, Rossburn Game & Fish Assoc., Melnyk's Garage, Lucille's Beauty Salon, Ed

Shust's steam engine and the old-time Separator followed by the Case Water Wagon, Steve Maydaniuk — contractor, United Church, Credit Union, Dew Drop Inn, Rossburn Elementary School, 4-H Beef & Dairy Club, Rossburn Lions Club.

After the parade had arrived at the Fair Grounds, a program of speeches and musical entertainment was held in front of the grandstand. Mayor Peter Wladyka addressed the gathering on behalf of the village. Hon. R. G. Smellie, then spoke reviewing the history of the Waterworks project — some of the problems and disappointments encountered prior to the successful vote on June 1, 1963. He congratulated Rossburn residents on the progress of the past 50 years and expressed the hope of continued progress in the future.

Mayor Wladyka also introduced to the gathering: Mrs. McConaghy, of the Manitoba Municipal Board, who had brought the cheque for \$9,399.02 from the Manitoba Hospital Commission, as the local hospital's share of the cost of the sewer and water project. Hon. R. G. Smellie presented the cheque to Bert Mitchell, chairman of the Rossburn Hospital Board. This was later presented to Mayor Wladyka. Others introduced included: Joe Rans, of Rans Const. (contractors); H. B. McLenaghan, of W. J. Wardrop & Associates (engineering consultants); J. A. Griffiths, of Manitoba Water Supply. J. G. Stitt, former mayor, also addressed the gathering and reviewed the progress of the village in celebrating its 50th anniversary of incorporation.

J. N. Mandziuk, M.P. for Marquette, also brought greetings and spoke on the need for Canadian unity in our country today. Mr. Mandziuk had made a special flight home from Ottawa to be present at this important occasion.

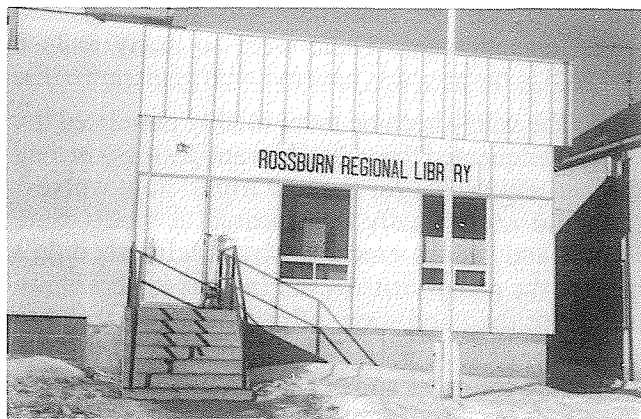
Premier Duff Roblin extended provincial congratulations on completion of the Sewer and Water project, mentioning that Rossburn was the 12th community to be serviced by the provincial Water Supply Board. Many more communities, the premier, noted, would soon be added to this number.

An enjoyable "Fashion Show" rounded out the program.

The Smorgasbord supper at 5:00 served by the Agricultural Society ladies was a great success.

Rossburn Regional Library

Rossburn Regional Library was established on November 18, 1974 as a result of an agreement between the Village and R.M. of Rossburn. Library services prior to this date had been provided by the Women's Institute — operated in members' homes; books provided by Parkland Regional Library and



Former Rossburn Library premises 1974 to Feb. 1981.

distributed from a tiny room in the Town Hall Basement.

Initially the Regional Library operated as a depot for Parkland Library. Statistics for the year 1975 follow: Hours opened — 14 hours per week; Circulation of books — 2,664; Operating budget — \$3,517.96; Board members were — Irene Tanasychuk (chairman), Lorna Veitch (secretary), Zelma Salyn, Les Andrew, Harold Slon and Wally Peleshok, Librarian — Rose Stefanuk.

The library was located in the Rossburn Town Hall in a 165 sq. ft. room. Because of a demand for services offered, the library increased in size until space became a problem. In February 1981 the move was made to a new building. This facility of some 1,500 sq. ft. currently serves the community.

Official opening of the library was held in conjunction with the opening of the adjoining Senior Citizen's Drop In Centre on June 5, 1981. Library statistics for the year 1981 are as follows: Hours opened — 26 hrs. per week; Circulation of books — 8,290; Operating budget — \$11,945.00, Board members — Les Andrew (chairman), Janette Huston (secretary) 7th year on board, Alice Lindsay, Rose



The new Rossburn Regional Library and Rossburn Senior Citizens Drop-in Centre, built in the winter of 1980-1981.

Goletz, Lawrence Kostaskey and Orest Smyncnuik, Librarian — Rose Stefanuk.

Much credit is due to Les Andrew who did so much in trying to convince the community that a library was a necessity. He served twice on the Library Board, the second time as chairman, and he was also chairman of the building committee. Janette served as secretary.

The building project was a community effort and also provided recreational facilities for the Senior Citizens of the community. Known as the Rossburn Community Centre Project, the building cost \$110,000.00 to construct, of which approximately \$65,000.00 was provided by federal and provincial government funding.

The Birdtail Valley including the districts of Ranchvale, Glen Elmo and Mears

Period from 1858-1980

On August 26, 1858 Henry Youle Hind, an explorer with his expedition left the Assiniboine River several miles west of what is now the town of Russell and headed east on a trail to the southern flanks of the Riding Mountains, to the mouth of what he called Birdstail Creek at the eastern end of the valley. This valley is scarcely a mile wide for the first five or six miles. Birdtail Valley is north of the Village of Rossburn approximately six miles. Hind with his surveyor and engineer James Austin Dickenson, assistant surveyor and draughtsman John Fleming and photographer Humphrey Hime plus fifteen other men of Metis status from the Iroquois, Ojibway and Cree nations, and French Canadian voyageurs, surveyed and mapped the Birdstail Valley (Birdtail).

In the 1880's it was again surveyed by George Wakefield for homesteads. He was the first white man to settle here mid way between Ranchvale and Glen Elmo Post Offices. Here he set up his office to issue homesteads to the new settlers in the name of Her Majesty Queen Victoria. The first settlers came overland from Fort Ellice, a Hudson Bay Post at the junction of the Assiniboine and Qu'Appelle Rivers. The George Grants, two brothers, Jack and Gordon Plante came and formed the Birdtail Stock Co. George Grant, who was a brother-in-law to the Plante brothers, made his home on a hill overlooking the valley of ranchers. Thus the origin of the district's first Post Office "Ranchvale". George Grant was the first and last postmaster of Ranchvale, which remained in existence until 1921. First white baby born in the valley was Wesley McIntosh, place and date of birth appears on birth certificate as Ranchvale, 1885. The actual land description was NW ¼ of section 16,

21, 24. Second baby to be born shortly after was Ella Plante (Mrs. York). This stretch of valley was called valley of dry bones for the ground was literally white with buffalo bones bleached white in the sun. Henry Hind called the valley Birdtail but as years passed it was referred to as Birdtail.

In 1911 another Post Office was established three and a half miles further north. Donald Cameron was the first Postmaster. He was followed by Gordon Plante, John Plante and John Hlagy. It closed in 1967.

Somewhere around 1926 the Post Office of Birdtail was operating west of Ranchvale taking the Ranchvale patrons and hastening its closure in that year. On October 1, 1925 Mears Post Office was set up in the home of Wm. Henry Butler six miles to the east of Glen Elmo. Bill was the first Postmaster until his retirement in 1945. His younger son Frank Victor Butler remained Postmaster until its closing January 26, 1967. As the homesteaders streamed into the valley it was obvious a sawmill was needed to provide lumber for the settlers' building boom. The Riding Mountains were covered with white spruce and poplar of very large dimensions. The Gunn and MacArthur brothers set up their own mills at the eastern end of the valley on the rapids one and a half miles from the mountains and operated by water wheel on Section 27, 21, 24, known since 1926 as the Mears district.

By the year 1901 immigrants from eastern Europe were taking up every available homestead in the area, most of these homesteads were very hilly and thickly wooded, for the valley land had been already taken. The first of these eastern Europeans came, I believe, on the same trail by which the Hind expedition entered this valley August 27, 1858. They walked the thirty-six miles from their Assiniboine landing to the western fringes of the valley to a point where Ruthenia Post Office was later set up. At this point they were met by a white settler previously mentioned as Mears first Postmaster, William Henry (Bill) Butler, who escorted the group to their homesteads and brought them their first flour, etc. He was supply officer for the district. Some members of the party were: John Levitsky, Andrew Barnesky, son John, Alex Oryniak, fourteen year old son Samuel, and Alex's brother Metro, John Kozun, George Walko and sons, and Bartko family, plus a large number of children. Descendants of these families are still in the Rossburn area.

Tom Bradshaw, William Henry Butler, his older brother Edmund Bradshaw Butler, and William McIntosh were the first white settlers in the eastern end of the valley (McIntosh's picture appeared for many years on the sides of the Case Co's first threshing machine). They said as they came over the large sand hill overlooking the Birdtail River Sections 16

and 17/20, 21, 24, that there was still a Saulteau Indian encampment. There were so many tents it looked like the area was covered with giant puffballs.

As the valley became more thickly populated the Indians frequented the valley less and less. Soon they quit entirely except for the odd trip to hunt wolves. Their old trails finally disappeared as fields were plowed and fences erected. Mrs. McIntosh didn't care for the many visits by the Indians to her shanty asking for food and soon influenced her husband to leave the valley before 1900 where they would run their cattle for miles and miles with no fences to stop them but she preferred to live in a more heavily settled area south of Rossburn. Soon after the older Butler brother left. The descendants of Wm. Henry Butler are the only family remaining of those who originally settled in the valley in this area. The fourth generation of Butlers still reside on the old homestead.

The Mears district of this valley had sixty-five families. The land was thickly populated on some sections. As many as 55 with up to nineteen children in one family living on 80 acres. They were hard working people as they broke and cleared solid bush. This influx of settlers started to diminish in the late 1940's until 1967 when only eight families were left and it has remained so to this day.

There were many men who should be mentioned who were as rugged as the voyageurs who first explored this valley. They were the mail carriers of Ranchvale, Glen Elmo and Mears Post Offices — the first being George Beirnes for Ranchvale only. William Strong who contracted for both Ranchvale and Glen Elmo, then Henry Palmer, but the longest on this long trail was Ernest Herbert Harris (Ed) as he was called along the route. He carried the mail from Rossburn to Glen Elmo on to Mears every Tuesday and Saturday for 33 years until his retirement in 1954. From that year on, the other mail carriers had it relatively easy as the roads were kept open in winter and they could deliver the mail in comfort and warmth inside a truck. They were Joe Kreshewski and his sons for four years, then Eugene Caldwell till the closing of both remaining post offices in 1967.

The changes in this valley have been many as one looks at the Birdtail River today. One can hardly believe that logs from the Riding Mountains were run down the river to Birtle before the sawmills came in. One homesteader from Glen Elmo district used to walk down the river ahead of the log run, clearing the ice flows from their paths and clearing the log jams. His name was Dan Cameron. He was badly crippled from this cold job in early life but lived well into his 90th year. Bill Butler, in his bachelor days, was the camp cook for the logging camp. These camps and

sawmills were the only places the homesteaders could make a dollar while they cleared and broke their land. The Riding Mountains on each side of this valley are still well treed with poplar (black and white) Manitoba Maple, birch, white spruce, fruit trees, such as saskatoons, chokecherry, pincherry, highbush cranberry, raspberry, dogwood, hazelbrush, red willow and oak. Fires never destroyed the bush like it did on the prairies. Most animals are scarce but at times, herds of elk come into the settlement from the Riding Mountain National Park where they are protected. Black and brown bears are frequently seen along with jumping deer, raccoon and the unforgettable coyote, whose howls still echo across the valley with its lazy old Birdtail Creek forever flowing round the numerous bends on down to Birtle eventually draining into the great Assiniboine River.

written by Freda M. Butler

The four generations of Butlers to live on Section 16 and 20, Township 21, Range 24 are:

1888-1980

1st — William Henry Butler; spouse — Amy Elizabeth Hiscock

Children: Walter Austin, Frank Victor, Dorothy May
2nd — Frank Victor Butler; spouse — Freda Mabel Walker (Tom Bradshaw's granddaughter)

Children: Nedine Freda, Brian Nelson, Randal Frank

3rd — Nedine Freda Butler Vanover

Children: Lee-Anne Ellen, Lisa Ann Butler — adopted by grandparents (Frank and Freda)

4th generation — Lee-Anne Ellen and Lisa Ann Butler.

Still living there on Feb. 8, 1980 are: Frank and Freda Butler and two granddaughters Lee-Anne and Lisa; the only descendants left in the east valley of the first four who entered back in the 1880s.

Only descendents of Gord Plante of Ranchvale, Birdtail Stock Company are: Myrtle Plante Maxwell (Mrs. Wm. Jr.) granddaughter of Gordon Plante in the Valley centre.

4th generation: Glen Maxwell, great-grandson, wife Bertrice.

Great-great-grandchildren: Barbara, Karen, Bonnie, Dale and Robert.

The Early Birdtail Valley Settlers (1879-1914)

If you can muse in retrospect of men who came to live

In this beautiful Birdtail vale with all their strength to give.

They came into this great unknown and were the first to stay,
'Twas Geordie Finch and Harry Sleigh who led the rest this way.

The Gordon Plants and brother, Jack who trekked in from the east

and John A. Smith and Bob Wilson survived, to say the least.

The great Grant clan and Camerons, Hustons, John and Jane,

who settled near the creeks and springs to homestead on this plain.

So Arthur Brown and Tom Bradshaw pioneered in this glen,

Samuel Liscum and Preston bought land for dollars, ten.

Jimmy McBride and Cecil York, Wakefield and Merritt, too

Who came into this promised land to swell the motley crew.

The Crookshanks, Butlers and Hiscocks, Cochranes and Martin, Ben

Who toiled and thought of better days and wondered if and when?

They built their earthly homes by day and dreamt throughout the night,

If ever they would see success which was their noble right!

Much later on some roads were built, a school on vacant trail,

They travelled far for their supplies — this was their 'Holy Grail'.

So years crept on and Sifton dreamt of settlers by the score,

Across the ocean wide they came from Europe's distant shore.

They came in their strange sheepskin coats to customs strange and new,

They worked and built their crude thatch huts, some even made homebrew.

These sturdy peasants from o'er the sea, in silence and in pain

Slaved at all the menial jobs, a piece of bread to gain.

There was Andrew Barneski and senior Belbas, Nick,

Johnny Karnezenuk, the first, and Prodan, alias Mick.

Joseph Wladyka and his clan, George Walko and his cast,

Then others came, 'tis hard to tell who's first and who came last.

Livetskis dwelt at top of hill and Ternovetskis, too.

They travelled miles to earn some cash, Kozuns
lived by the slough.
Matthew and Alex Oryniak and Danyleyko,
George
Who came this way, so full of hope, Kostuik built
near the gorge.
Then Sotas H. and Ewanchuk M. came into valley,
green.
While Stan Korolyk worked so hard that he was
seldom seen.
So Saley, Sam much like the lamb, he left the
family fold,
And Kaban, Bill whose stronger will, lured others
fearless, bold.
The Semeniuks and Verbowskis brought out their
kin and kith,
And Kuzenkos and the Hlagies to their new homes
forthwith.
They struggled on through days and nights, though
fraught with many fears.
They cleared the trees and ploughed the soil with
sweat and blood and tears.
These valley settlers worked so hard were robbed
of daily fare.
The grain exchange "stole" part of it, meat
packers "robbed" them bare.
The price was fair till harvest time the buyers knew
full well.
They dropped the price fifty percent when farmers
had to sell.
There was no prepaid medicare, in sickness they
all cried
About the pain in their backsides and suffered till
they died.
So now our verse is at an end, a fact for all to see,
The only thing we people need is much more
harmony.

Marge and Mike Sotas



The Birdtail River in flood following spring run-off and heavy June rains. This bridge, surrounded by water, was located just east of the CNR bridge at Birdtail. The Brightwell farm buildings are in the distance.



Brightwell's bridge washed up against CN Railway bridge at Birdtail at the peak of a flood of the Birdtail Creek (1940's).

Birdtail

The history of Birdtail dates back to the arrival of the railroad. The main reason for the establishment of this siding was the easily available water supply needed for the railway steam engines. The original name was Roche — shown on some early maps and later changed to Birdtail Siding because of its location on the Birdtail River.

The first settlers were the Railway Section Crew and the Elevator agents. The Section Crew looked after the water tower and lived in a Box Car.

The United Grain Growers (U.G.G.) elevator was the first to be constructed around 1908 or 1909. The first Post Office (1915) was in the office of the elevator, and operated by the Elevator agent for many years. The first grain agent was Bert McDonald. Later agents were — Bert Barclay, Patrick Middleton, Nelson Boyd, Neils Maddson, Bob Chisholm, Doug Davidson, Cliff Strong, Neil Byrd, Collin McTier and Nick Morris. This elevator was later taken over by Manitoba Pool Elevator.

The British American Elevator was built somewhere around 1915 with Peter Robinson as the first agent.

Bill Heffron built the first store about 1921. The Post Office was then established in this store and Mr. Heffron operated both for many years. Others who later took this over were — Malick Peikoff, the Paisner brothers, Dubinski and Isaac Minuk.

Later a second store was built and operated by Mr. Brightwell. Over the years this store also changed owners — Nick Sydorik, Bill Pidlubney, Bill Tanasychuk, Alex Sawchuk and Anne Hamilton. This building is now owned by Bill Tanasychuk.

The third store was built on top of the Birdtail Hill on the east side, and was operated by John Pradiniuk, Joe Kostaskey and Alex Saley. This building burnt



Aerial view of Birdtail taken in the late 1950's. Ann Hamilton's store and post office appears at left of picture, with the residence of Bert Frieze, elevator agent, seen in the centre. The former general store, in which the William Tanasychuk family resided, appears next to the C.N.R. tracks. Two elevators can also be seen — while the highway at that time formed Birdtail's street.

down and the property is now owned by Joe Schaworski.

The mail came by passenger train three times a week, Monday, Wednesday and Friday. The arrival of the mail was always a very busy time for the store keepers. On many occasions the train would arrive very late in the evening, and you could pick up your mail as late as 11:00 p.m. or midnight.

A small railway station was built to house the passengers waiting for the train. A stockyard was built beside the railroad track to enable farmers to ship their cattle to market.

In the 1930's Birdtail was a thriving place. A Post Office operated by Mr. White, a blacksmith and woodwork shop operated by Steve Barnesky, three stores, a garage, another blacksmith shop operated by Harry Stambler, a station house, water tower and stockyard.

At one time the small hamlet of Birdtail and district supported real good baseball and hockey teams who played many enjoyable games with the Rossburn Boys and other rural teams. The "Swimming Hole" in the Birdtail River was one of the main attractions on a hot summer evening. Bathing suits

were not always available, but this did not deter the bathers.

In early days the general store carried everything that was required by the settlers — hardware, harnesses, boots for the whole family, and the very basic food necessities. Butter, sugar and mixed candy (a luxury) came in large wooden tubs, these were then scooped out to be sold by the pound to the customer. Settlers took their wheat to the grist mill to be ground into flour. Wheat was roasted slowly in the oven to be used as tea.

Every spring and fall, a travelling salesman with horse drawn wagon full of supplies covered the countryside, going from door to door selling a large variety of goods. You could buy almost anything, from yard goods and fancy multi coloured tablecloths to green tea which was in a large wooden box lined with heavy foil. The housewife brought out her metal tea box to be filled.

As transportation became more readily available and money became more abundant, the little hamlet began to suffer the consequence of more prosperous times. Small businesses gradually closed down as the local people travelled to the larger centres.

There is still a Post Office operated by June Koloski, and the one elevator which is privately owned still remains.

Birdtail is now almost a ghost town.

Birdtail Co-operative Elevator Association

In June, 1929, a provisional board of directors was set up to sign up shareholders for a Cooperative Elevator Association at Birdtail. They were Joe Huston, Wm. Allen Craig, Wm. Finch, John Plant, Steve Shust, Abner Joiner and Sam Crookshanks.

On the 3rd of July, 1929 a shareholders' meeting was held at the Valley School with these shareholders present; Wm. Butler, Roy N. Plant, John A. Plant, J. Oryniak, L. E. Plant, T. Dychakowsky, A. Obedniak, M. Hasiuk, N. Verbowski, S. Saley, N. Kozun, Steven Barnesky, John Semeniuk, Wasyl Walko, Stanley Korolyk, Albert Hiscock, Wm. Plant, Harry Sotas, Gordon Plant, Mike Evanchuk, Nick Karmazenuk, Geo. Hlady, Sam Liscum, Nick Torsky, A. Elvers, W. E. Parmelie, A. R. Dychakowsky, Harry Komher, Harry Mamalyga, Steve Shust, Joe Huston, T. R. White, Wm. A. Craig, Wm. Finch, John Plant, James McIntosh and Sam Crookshanks. At this meeting it was decided to form the Birdtail Cooperative Elevator Association.

Elected to the first board of directors were; J. I. Huston, President; Wm. Butler, Vice-president; Geo. Hlady, Steve Shust, A. Hiscock, J. Wladyka, W. A. Craig, and Allen Elvers was elected secretary. He held this position until 1939 and director until 1944. Other secretaries were; Nick Karmazenuk, John Plant, Mike Sotas, Wasyl Walko, and Adolf Melnyk.

The Birdtail Association Elevator, cottage, and coal shed was purchased for \$8,500.00.

In 1966 a Carter disc cleaner was purchased so the members could clean their seed at the farm.

Gordon Kilburn was the first grain buyer. Other grain buyers were; John Mishko, Matt Sawchuk, Bert Frieze, Frank Fiarchuk, Mr. Maloney, Allan Wilson, and Paul Cilevach.

Mr. Joe Huston was chairman of the board from 1929 to 1945. Other Chairmen were; A. Joiner, Mike Tanasychuk, John Hlagie, and Paul Horitchie.

The Association was dissolved in 1974. Last board was Paul Horitchie, Mike Deydey, Adolf Melnyk, Eugene Kozun, Matt Melnyk, L. Kuzenko, and Stanley Brykaliuk.

Previously the Birdtail Association Elevator had been built at the Birdtail. The first grain buyer was Mr. Peter Robinson followed by Abner Joiner, Ernie McIntosh, and E. G. Leifer and in July, 1929 it was purchased by the Birdtail Co-operative Association.

Marco

Marco District and the surrounding area consists of a heavy, light brown clay soil and is hilly and stoney. The poplar and birch trees thrived well on it. In the early years, up to the time the bulldozers became popular, clearing land was quite a chore. To clear an acre of land required a lot of hard labour by using a scrub hoe, a scrub scythe, and an axe, not to mention a 16" wooden beam walking, breaking plow powered by a four horse unit, operated mostly by one man but sometimes if the horses were not teamed well it took two men. One was operating a plow while the other one drove the horses. If there were boys in their early teens they would follow the breaking unit with a crow bar in hand and pry the stones out to later on get them off the field. Then the root picking and discing took place, and after discing, more root and stone picking had to be done. Then finally the breaking was then ready for spring seeding, but a person dared not harrow it as that meant more root picking.

In the dry thirties the land produced heavy crops and there were farmers from as far south as Shoal Lake that would come out and dig out 2 yr. old wheat straw stacks, haul it home by sleigh racks and teams to feed their cattle. The 1940 years got wetter and it was then, that the crops started to dwindle. Heavy rains washed the top soil off the hills and all ended up in low places or edges of fields which is mostly bush, unsuitable for clearing.

The downhill flats were mostly hay meadows and that is where people got their hay to feed their livestock with through winter months. The hay equipment in those years was all horse powered, mowers, hayrakes, wagons, and hayracks, except a three tine pitchfork and that was one haying equipment that a man lost a lot of sweat operating it.

Farmers within five miles distance of the park always tried to finish up haying at home first and have it all in stacks before the 25th of July as that was the date that you were allowed to start cutting hay in the park, if you had any meadows claimed. You bought a cutting permit at 25¢ per ton of cured hay and in the 1940's the permit cost went up to 50¢ per ton.

You first went there with horses, wagon and mowers and camped there until you had all your meadows cut. On the first day you arrived on your camping grounds, one man would start mowing the hay while the other one would cover up the living quarters with green hay, thrown over sort of a roof shaped hut, made of poles and young trees, branches trimmed to about 2-3" so the hay would cling to it and they were leaned on a centre cross pole to shape the roof without walls. That same frame stood there from year to year providing you took the hay off when through with the hut for the season or, the elks would

break it down reaching for hay. These huts had to be large enough to sleep 6 or more men plus room for boxes with food and dishes. You could see these huts along the trails wherever there was a different camping ground.

Once the hut was covered, it was up to the same person to see that there was a water hole to water the horses from. After that was done, he joined the other person mowing hay if time permitted that afternoon.

The bed was made out of dry hay you brought from home, just spread out evenly on the ground and then put blankets over it, a quilt to cover yourself with, and you had a bed fit for any dignitary to sleep on providing he was as ready for it at the end of the day as you were. In order to get the mosquitoes out of the hut you made a little smudge in an old pail and brought it inside and kept it there for a few minutes, half an hour prior to going to bed. You made sure the entrance was closed for the night as the mosquitoes would be back.

The cook stove was made out of top of a steel drum, rested on four iron rods driven into the ground and you built a fire underneath. It served well, even though the pot and pans were a little smokey. You used anything you could get a hold of to sit on to eat your meal. It was always buffet style and no tables. Pyrohi, bologny, canned meats in sealers, and potatoes were the main courses and it didn't matter whether it was breakfast, dinner or supper.

After you had your meadows cut, you took home your mowing equipment, rounded up a few extra men, took more food from home and out you journeyed again, this time with stacking equipment, hay-rake, hayracks, pitchforks, and a few teams of horses.

After getting the hay stacked, you left it there until snowfall, and then you hauled it home by sleighracks and horse teams. You always tried to haul it out of there as quickly as possible, as once the snow got deep, the elk would start feeding on it.

There were different times that there were as many as 10 to 15 teams with loads of hay going home together through the park and branching out in different directions to their homes when they approached the settlement. Hauling hay was hard work as you had to fork loose hay twice that same day in order to have it on the stack at home plus the morning and evening chores. But there was also a lot of fun too, with a bunch of boys forever trying to play some tricks on one another, while travelling in for the hay or on the way home with it.

In the middle of the 1940's the hay making system was modernized a little, a hayloader was purchased, a machine that you hooked on behind the wagonrack and when the wagon was pulled, it would elevate the

hay on the rack. It saved forking the hay on, but it still had to be forked off the rack and the stack had to be built. The hayloader required a side delivery rake in order to have it work right. It was purchased.

Not until a year after, that a dump cart was rigged up out of an old 40" threshing machine rear wheels and axle, and a 12' x 16' x 8' high rack was built on it with the tail gate being on hinges and you opened it up to unload. This cart and a hayloader was pulled by a tractor and 3 men were needed on the rack, building a load, and it took only ½ an hour to build the load with unloading included. Out of one of these loads, ready topped when dumping it, you had two winter loads on a 9' x 14' sleigh rack. When it came to dumping the load, you opened the tail gate and tripped the catch that kept the rack balanced, the rack would tilt back, and with the tractor moving ahead the stack of hay would slide off. Five farmers used to get together and make hay in the park with this system.

The square bales came to use in the district in the 1950's. That was considered at that time as if going picnicking, making hay in such an easy way. As the years went on, even that system got to be too much like hard work. The seventies saw the big round bales being invented and most of the people turned to them.

By the time you finished haying in the park it got well into August and the grain was about ready to be harvested. Binders, pulled by four horse teams were the only machines available in those years to cut the grain with. You then had to stook the sheaves and after the grain dried and cured, the threshing machines were then used to thresh the grain. You had to haul in the sheaves to where the threshing machine was set by horse teams and wagonracks and fork the sheaves off one by one into the machine. It might seem like hard work but there was something in that part of farming that a person enjoyed doing. The sound of tractors, of earlier twenties two cylinder models, pounding away, the later ones, the 4 cylinder purring, threshers humming, the wagons rattling, men hollering, commanding their teams and joking amongst themselves, and the smell of that fresh straw. All that gave you that wonderful indescribable feeling. And must not forget to mention the afternoon lunches we used to look forward to. And, oh yes! There never went a day by, that some prank or a joke was not played on one of the crew. Come meal time, it had to be revealed so that the ladies could get in on it and have a good laugh. Even the cows, when you brought them home off the pasture to be milked or if they pastured within sight or hearing of the threshing machine, they would sniff the air, bawl and

romp around with joy, knowing that they'll soon be able to get out on the stubble fields to feed.

Ice sawing and storing it for summer use was a common necessity. In earlier years it was all done by hand, using ice saws and ice tongs to handle the ice blocks with. In the forties an ice sawing machine was made by Peter Leschasin using a 1½ H.P. water cooled engine running a circular saw, and used a chisel to break the blocks off with. That eased up a lot of backaches. People paid him 2¢ per square for sawing and the rest of handling they did themselves. Ice houses and pits were used to store the ice in, covered it with sawdust and used it for their summer refrigeration. By putting on ice and cover with sawdust different foods like butter, meats, milk, cream, cheese, kept good for as long as it does in the fridge nowadays.

Cutting wood in those days was a must too. Woodburning stoves and heaters were the only means of cooking your meals on and heating your homes with. An average home needed from 20 to 25 cords of wood a year and by the time you had it all done, it involved a lot of work. The axe was the only tool you had and used for cutting wood. Cutting it, hauling it home, sawing it into blocks, splitting it, and to top it all, to go and return the help you had from others who helped you saw your wood. In short, the wood-sawing bees, which took from 7 to 8 men depending on the size of the poles you brought in, itself took 8 or more days.

In the thirties, in the winter months, it was quite common to see a dozen or so teams a day come from around Oakburn and Shoal Lake to get their year's supply of wood to heat their homes with. There was a section and a half of crown land with dense bush on it and in 3 or 4 winters the land was well cleared, of suitable fire wood. Now some 45 years later, on that same land there's more fire wood than ever, but no one has any use for it. Oil and electricity took over the means of heating homes.

In the 20's and early 30's there were three saw-mills within a 3 mile radius. Bewza Bros., the biggest of the three, was on N.E. ¼ sec. 36-20-23, Peech's mill was on S.E. ¼ sec. 24-20-23 and Maron Slon's mill was on N.E. ¼ sec. 34-20-23. All these mills were putting out rough lumber, they had no planers. The people that were getting lumber out from these mills were mostly from nearby districts. The mills had a one room cook house, and it served as a bedroom with four bunk beds, a kitchen and a dining table. The table was nothing fancy but just nailed together out of rough lumber and oil cloth over it. The cook house itself was made out of rough lumber on a 2 x 6 frame and was insulated with sawdust. The little stables they had for their own

teams were built of single ply of rough lumber with no insulation.

There would be dozens of teams a day going in or out of the mills past Marco. Not only to the three mills mentioned, but the route to Peden's Mill was past Marco also, which was situated in Riding Mountain Forest Reserve now known as Riding Mountain National Park on the north shore of Whitewater Lake. You were able to see and admire a variety of teams of horses. Some were beautiful, well groomed, well matched, spirited, fast stepping teams. The brass buttons and the bells on their harnesses were all polished up. There were red tassels on the bridles and the Top Collars were with brass ornaments and buttons and some had the plumes instead of ornaments with assorted colours of narrow ribbons adding beauty to it all.

After the government discontinued issuing timber limits in 1936 the mills had to shut down and move out. The winter traffic was reduced to less than half compared to the previous years. However, after those mills mentioned previously closed down, three different mills started up in the district on their own farms, by Alec Dutchak, Mike Topolniski and Mike Baubie.

John and Ann Zimmerman started and operated a small grocery store located on the S.W. corner of Marco Cross Road across the road from Marco Hall in 1935 until they sold it to John Herchak in 1946.

In 1945 John and Stella Kokurudz started up another grocery store in their home on the N.W. ¼ sec. 15-20-23. In 1946 they moved from their farm to the N.E. corner of Marco Cross Road where they built a building and a pool room to the side with 2 pool tables in it. They operated the store and the pool room until 1951.

Saturday used to be our weekly mailday and Marco Corner was a busy place with people coming in for mail and groceries. The transportation of surrounding people was mostly on foot, a team, or horseback. In 1951 John Herchak sold his store to Joe and Ann Hachkowski who in 1955 sold it to John Pradanuik, who in turn leased it to Bill and Lucy Chomica. They operated it for a few years until it caught on fire and burned down.

Shortly after the store burned down, a bachelor by the name of Stanley Zapuchlak kept a little stock of groceries at his home on the S.E. corner of Marco Cross Road. It was known as Zappy's Drive In. The place is now vacant for the last 5 years.

The difference in population in the Marco district from the time Marconi School was built in 1922: there were 69 pupils attending school that first year and in 1958 the school closed because there were not enough pupils. The remaining children went to Rus-

ka Rawa school. Ruska Rawa School too, had around 50 pupils at the time Marconi was at its peak, and it operated until it consolidated with Pelly Trail School Division in 1965. Now, in 1981 there are very few people remaining in the district. From the year of 1922 in Marco District including both schools, Ruska Rawa and Marconi where there were close to 120 children of school age, now there are only 12 children attending school.



Some of the young ladies of the Marco district as seen in this May 11, 1930 snapshot are: L to R: Frances Kuris, Mary Lazaruk, Thelma Leschasin, Mary Charney, Mabel Charney, Nellie Leschasin, Martha Lazaruk, Emily Zimmerman, Carrie Zimmerman.

Businesses of Mears

First store was started in 1928 by Mike Silewich, but it wasn't central so didn't last very long.

Mike Struminsky, a resident of the area often talked of the small stores back in the old country where everyone gathered there to chat. So, in October 1930, Angus Derlago partitioned off part of his garage and started up a business as Mears first General Store located on the N.E. ¼ 27-21-24. Almost all necessities could be bought there including veterinary supplies and gas. He was close to the school and more centralized and did a good business. One of his first customers was Mr. Clement Derlago. Angus and Mary Derlago always found time to talk with their customers who gathered around the old stove to chat and play cards. He moved to Rossburn in 1941 and continued running a store in town for many years till around 1959.

Bill and Sophie Kozun, along with Sophie's parents, Angus and Mary Derlago, started up a store at Mears Hall corner. They operated it from November 27, 1937 to October 1938 then sold it to Alex Sawchuk. One of Alex's first customers was Bob Crookshanks as he called in the morning after Alex's and his wife Dora Kawka's wedding. Bob drove a truck picking up cream and eggs. Alex and Dora

operated the store at Mears until 1946. Alex had a good spot for his store on 4 corners with Mears Hall across the road. He carried a very good stock of general merchandise. Alex then bought the Rossburn transfer and later moved to Rossburn. He sold his store to a district bachelor, Fred Kohuch, who operated the store until around 1951.



Mears Store in centre with building for living quarters and warehouse at right, Anglo gas pump in front. Picture taken in early 1940's. Alex and Dora Sawchuk operated this store for eight years.

George Semaniuk's store which was one mile south of Sawchuk's operated for a number of years but was closed around 1943.

When Angus and Mary Derlago retired to town in 1941, his son-in-law, Bill Kozun and wife Sophie took over the store. It served him very well because he had a large family and a trucking business. When he delivered wood, etc. to Rossburn he could load up his truck with his grocery supply. His business had several peaks of prosperity, once when the hydro went through in 1952, and then the road crew in 1962-1963. He retired in June 1976 and his last customer was Frances Matus.

A small store was set up in Mears Post Office by F. Butler in 1960. It sold mostly meats, ice cream and a limited variety of groceries and continued until 1967 when the Post Office closed.

submitted by Freda Butler

Olha Store

While Twerdun's business premises was under construction, Stanley and Helen Antonation began their little business place (general store and gas) in 1940 across the road (almost corner to corner) on SE ¼ 35-19-23. (A little competition?) Stanley with the aid of Frank Sicinski, who has since passed away, completed his structure with living quarters at rear by late fall, thus the two businesses began simultaneously. The Olha post office which was housed in the residence on the Antonation's farm was trans-

ferred to the new premises, thus making it convenient for all concerned.

In 1947, Antonations sold the business to Peter and Mary Wasilka. Joyce Wersak, (now married to Rudy Kristalowich) took charge of the Post Office for 2 years until 1949 when it changed hands with Mr. and Mrs. D. M. Prosak. Mike Prosak looked after the postal matters.

In 1952 Fred and Lena Posmituck bought the business and operated the store until 1963. In 1959 a



Olha Store as seen in 1953. Operated by Mr. and Mrs. Posmituck.

warehouse was added on, a sign that business was expanding.

In 1963 Walter and Nadia Swereda took a plunge into business and carried on until the end of 1971 when once more it changed hands — the present owners are Steve and Marion Koltusky.

Many changes transpired over the years since its inception. Renovations and remodelling have taken place. Steve has a fuel route and Marion keeps busy in the store. The little country corner store has gained much popularity especially on Sundays and summer holidays when tourists travel to the surrounding lakes and beaches and stop by. One can purchase fresh vegetables, fruits, meat, milk products, cigarettes and gas just to mention a few.

Twerdun's General Store Olha, Manitoba

In 1940 Fred, Mary and baby Ronald haled from Dauphin to begin a new life in the Olha district. Fred purchased one acre of land from John Osadec, south of the Olha Community Hall (NW-¼ 25-19-23). With the aid of Joseph Topolnicky who now resides in Neepawa, Fred built a small general store with living quarters at the rear. A gas pump was installed. On August 19, 1940 Fred moved his family in and was opened for business. To provide a better life for his



Aerial view of Olha depicting stores, church and hall.

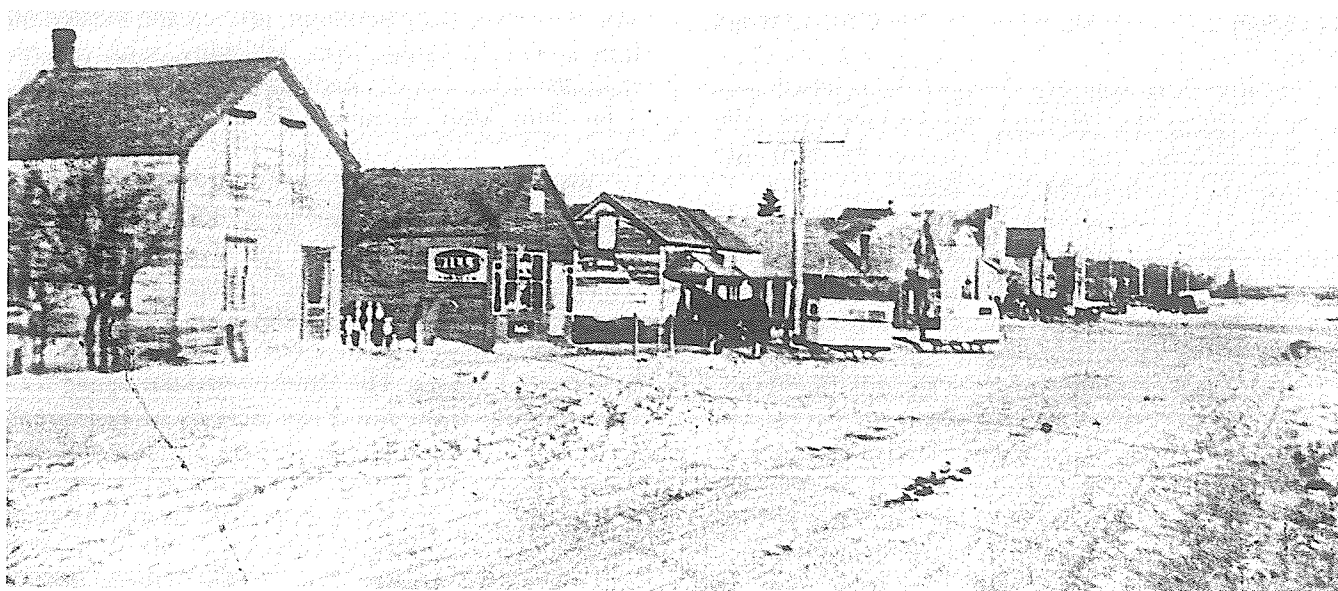
family, Fred was engaged in a trucking business, hauling grain to elevators and cattle to the market for the farmers. Fred also purchased a cream hauling route from Bill Matiwsky. He delivered cans of cream from the Seech, Olha, Rogers and Oakburn areas to the Shoal Lake Creamery for 5 years.

In 1949 the Twerduns sold their business to Peter and Mary Wasilka and moved to Shoal Lake, Manitoba where they made their home. The Wasilkas operated the store until 1969 when Peter passed away and Mary moved to reside in Brandon. Nick Werzak lived in the building until his new home on the farm was completed. Today the old building remains desolate and lonely.

At one time little country stores were bustling with people who shopped mostly in the evenings and discussed world affairs. The store was a great "meeting place" as others came to catch up on the latest news. Many cans of tomato juice, soda pop and chocolate bars were consumed during the evening.



Twerdun's Store, Olha, with Mrs. Fred Twerdun and sisters on the store steps, August, 1947.



Businesses at Vista as seen in this 1943 photo of the west side of the main street.

A Story Of The Vista Community

By Flora Mary Forde nee MacDonald — 1958

(Note — This book has been in the process of formation for some time. It is not the kind of thing that can proceed quickly. Information is sometimes hard to get and I wish to take this opportunity of thanking all those who have helped in any way to get information. I recently had a very interesting letter from Mrs. Shaw who is 84 years old, recording their history and experiences. We are trying to get every one in that we can — for each person in some way has contributed something to the development or welfare

of the district and so is deserving of a place in its history. Some people find this kind of thing boring — others are interested.

This summary is roughly divided into three parts. The first part has tabulated the settlers up until about the time of the railway. The second part deals with the growth of the town and the third, this and that with a few reminiscences. I ask you to follow with me down Memory's Lane. Yours may not be the same lane as mine, but it will be similar.

Editorial Committee Note — 1) Mrs. Forde suffered many years from the pain of arthritis. She was

badly crippled when the Vista Women's Institute requested her to undertake the project of recording the history of our community in the early 1950's. Mrs. Forde passed away Sept. 14, 1969. Her husband predeceased her in May, 1964.

2) As Mrs. Forde's story was written in the 1950's, readers should take note that many of the residents and property owners have changed since the writing of this story.)

Part One

Our community had its beginning in 1880. In the spring of that year, my father, Alexander MacDonald of Tiree, Scotland, walked from High Bluff to the farm now owned by Tom Stitt, and we must admit, that was quite a little walk. He put up the walls of a shanty, then one afternoon walked out to look up homesteads for his brothers. Upon returning along what is now Main Street of Vista, he found four men, new settlers, who had just finished pulling down his shanty, and were not in an amiable mood. In brief, he gave up the idea of settling on this farm, and finally took up section 6, township 19, range 23, three and a half miles east of Vista where he lived for fifty-six years.

On this farm was the Oakburn P.O. which was taken over by Tom Halliday then living one mile south of MacDonalds. It was moved by him into Oakburn when he built the hotel there.

John D. McKinnon of Tiree, Scotland arrived later in 1880. His grandson, Hugh Armstrong, is farming his original homestead (S ½ 4:19:24).

John MacPhail of Tiree, Scotland settled in 1880 on S.W. 10:19:24, still farmed by his son, Alex.

John Brodie from the Orkney Islands, Scotland, homesteaded 22:19:24, the farm now owned by Andrew Belinski. Mr. Brodie was clerk of the municipality of Rosssburn for ten years, but his greatest asset to the district was his victorious fight for the railway. The charter had already been given, which would have put it away from us, but through his persistent efforts and that of Mr. Ross of Rosssburn, it was changed and we got the railway.

Joseph Moulton homesteaded the land where Vista now is. He also retired here in 1919, built a store which finally became the property of Mike Waytowich and was scrapped this year.

David Maxsom, from Lincolnshire, England, homesteaded the farm now owned by Tom Stitt. He lived here for twenty years, then moved to Winnipeg.

George and David Machann from Ontario came in 1880 and were followed the next year by two more brothers, James and Robert, also their mother who homesteaded 18:19:23. They moved to Portage after five years.

Jim Paul homesteaded 12:19:24, the farm now

owned by Lorne Hrysak. His brother, Sam, followed in 1881, and established on this farm a general store and farm implement shop. He was the first to sell implements in the Rosssburn district.

Alex Cummings from Ontario arrived in the fall of 1881, and filed 16:19:24 where Paul Bilinsky is now.

In 1882, Alexander Bell from Islay, Scotland, arrived and homesteaded 2:19:24, the farm now owned by Robert Young. He was the first secretary of Islay School which was named after the Bells' old home. The following year, his brother John came out and filed 18:19:23, the farm now owned by Wilfred Chegwin.

Frank Simpson, later of Shoal Lake, in 1882 homesteaded the place now owned by Peter Chegus.

Robert Johnson homesteaded half a mile south of Vista 10:19:24, now farmed by Willis Stitt. He moved into Vista and built the original of the house now owned by Mrs. Margaret Miller; also bought grain for a number of years in the Northern Elevator.

In 1887, Mr. James Halliday Sr. and son James from Dumfriesshire Scotland, arrived and located on homestead 36:18:24. Mrs. Halliday, with the remainder of her family, namely Robert, Adam, Will, John, Tom, Matt, Vicar and Belle, followed the next year.

Adam Muirman, a brother of Mrs. Halliday, came out in 1897 and homesteaded SE 34:18:24.

The farm which has had the greatest number of tenants is that occupied by Mike Olyarnyk one mile east of Vista. It was homesteaded in 1880 by J. C. Cole, but as soon as he took out his patent, it was sold to Charles Lamont. The latter owned the whole section running from the Vista School to the Greek Orthodox Church. This he farmed until the railroad came through. He then moved farther west to Elfros and eventually to Kandahar. The farm was then worked for one year by Wilkinsons — Mr. Wilkinson was a Methodist minister, and moved to the McIntosh farm in Rosssburn. McNallys from Neepawa were the next owners and farmed this land until 1911 when Gordon Taylor of Rosssburn occupied it and farmed the whole section until 1916, and the west half until 1918. Joe Woycheshyn and Peter Starenky then bought the east half, and Alex Andrew the west. Finally, it came into its present owner's hands in 1944.

In approximately 1885, Alexander McAinsh of Scotland homesteaded NW 2:19:24 — the farm south of town now owned by Wilfred Brown — this farm was occupied for a long period of time by Hector McPhail.

Alexander Bell homesteaded SW 2:19:24 in 1882. After a number of years farming, he sold his

farm to John A. McPhail of Scotland, and then about the year 1905, to Jim Campbell, also of Scotland, who then sold to Will Young in 1908. The farm is still operated by his son, Robert Young.

Mr. Whyman of Gladstone homesteaded SE 24:19:24, now owned by Bilinskys. His son-in-law, George Bennett, farmed NE 24:19:24. One of the latter's sons, Albert, is an alderman for the city of Winnipeg and has mentioned his hopes of being a future mayor. Hugh Glass homesteaded SW 24:19:24.

In 1899, Mr. and Mrs. Chesney came out from Ontario, and bought the farm then owned by Wm. John Hamilton, now owned by S. Matkowski.

Mr. J. R. McLeod of Bruce Co. Ontario came west in 1888 and homesteaded SW 28:18:24, the farm still occupied by his son, Reg McLeod.

Alexander Black of Iona, Scotland, came out in 1902 and farmed the land now owned by Mike Shwaluk, retiring later to Shoal Lake.

In 1905, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Miller moved to the farm now occupied by Willis Stitt. Mr. Miller was the first Vista Postmaster.

Hamiltons and Browns are names which have been linked with our district for more than 50 years. The older members of these families came with their parents in 1880 to the Rosburn district.

In 1899, M. D. Hamilton settled on his present farm where he has remained ever since. His father and other members of the family moved the following year in 1900 to the farm occupied by Wm. J. Hamilton and still farmed by him.

Robert Brown moved to his Vista farm 23:19:24, in 1905. Now it is farmed by his son Morley. His brother, James Brown, moved to Vista in the same year and farmed 26:19:24. He was a cattle buyer in this district most of his life. His farm is now operated by his son Walter.

Wm. John Hamilton, who had homesteaded N ½ 4:19:24, sold to Chesneys and bought 22:19:24, the original homestead of George Forrest and now occupied by Carman Brown.

Mr. David MacDonald came to Canada from Lochinver, Scotland as a young man. He worked on bridge construction for some time and then took a farm south-west of Vista, now owned by Joe Mackedenski. Mrs. MacDonald was born in Plocton, Scotland and came to Canada in 1905. They were married in Winnipeg, and after a short honeymoon, came to their farm in Vista.

In 1899-1900, the Ukrainians came to Manitoba and settlements were close to Rosburn and Vista districts. The first to move into our school district and attend our school were Mike Hrysaks on the farm now occupied by Matt Shwaluk and George Yaskiws on the neighboring quarter.

Early settlers among them were Hullicks, Bewzas, Hrysaks, Cheguses, Bilinskys, and Woycheshyns.

Part Two

Those who have always been used to the convenience of a railway can hardly be expected to realize what it means to a settlement long without it.

Excitement rode high with the coming of the first surveyors in 1903. There was much conjecture as to how long it would take to build. Some were optimistic and others were pessimistic, but finally construction began, grading got underway, the ties were laid, then the steel, and at last came that wonderful day in 1905 when we actually heard the whistle of a train. We all ran out to watch it rattling past as we cheered and waved! To us, who were children, it was sight enough to see, a real train going through our fields, but we were somewhat surprised to see the grown-ups throw their caps in the air, and shout and cheer like school boys. We didn't realize how much it meant to them. They soon saw the end of long cold hauls and weary drives. To them it was the fulfillment of a dream — a dream come true — and with the coming of the railway, Vista was born. There was no sentiment about the name — it was simply a name given by the Railway Company. Rumor had it that it would have been called Islay, only there was another Islay in the west.



Vista station is pictured with Jack Miller (foreground) and others standing on station platform.

The first building was erected in 1906. It was the "Carriage Works" of Wm. Miller. His son Wilfred carried on the wood-work business here, and later Mr. Beck had his blacksmith shop there. This building is now owned by Vin Murray of Winnipeg but is not in use at present.

The Johnson House, the original of the home now occupied by Margaret Miller, was built shortly after



Baker's Store, Vista, (above) was purchased by W. Baker & Son in 1950 from Lazaruk Bros. Walter Baker remained actively involved with the store until 1972. The store is now operated by Dick and Joan Baker, and continues to be known as Baker's Store. The Vista Post Office has been located in Baker's Store since 1970. In addition, the store has served as the Greyhound Bus Depot since 1950.

as a boarding house and there was also a livery barn in connection. This became the home of T. O. Miller while he farmed and bought grain.

The General Store now owned by W. Baker & Son was erected in 1907 by Mr. Wm. Young of Rosburn, but was not open for business until 1908. A box social and concert were held here in aid of the manse. Other proprietors of this store have been Julius and Alf Gourdeau, Alex Hamilton of Oakburn, George Sinclair, and Lazaruk Bros.

The original of the present Community Hall was a store built in the fall of 1911 and opened by a Jew, Mr. Romalis, in the spring of 1912. This gentleman did not continue long in business, and the property was bought by the Grain Growers' Association of Vista. It was rented as a house to Mr. Walker, buyer



Construction of Vista Hall. Standing behind is Ronald Hay and Wilfred Miller is centre. Girls in front are Mildred Douglas and a niece of Mrs. Albert Chesney.

for the U.G.G. Elevator Co. It was then taken over by George Sinclair, Art Chesney and John Brodie and operated as a hall for some time, until 1927, when the United Farmers of Manitoba, successors to the Grain Growers' Association of Manitoba deeded the lot, hall, and sixty dollars worth of lumber to the Vista Community to build a Community Hall.

Mr. Sitko's General Store was the tinsmith shop of Joe Hendry of Rosburn. It was moved to Vista by Art Chesney and John Miller and became the harness shop of Ted Hanlon, and later, the General Store of Weshneweskie.

The cafe now operated for several years by Robert and Edythe Young was the first business place of George Sinclair. Others who carried on business here were James Douglas, Norman Cummings, Melvin Ham, Paul Zemliak, Frank Shewchuk and Walter Woycheshin.



George Sinclair and the little shop he started at Vista, 1921.

Another General Store, scrapped this year, was erected in 1919 by Joseph Moulton.

The Warehouse, the original of August Miller and Rogers Garage, was built in 1907 and stored grain. The first buyer was Mr. Cummings for one year and then T. O. Miller.

The first blacksmith was Sam Ham whose shop was built in 1909.

The first elevator erected was the Northern about 1906 and the first buyer was Mr. Campbell.

The Western Elevator, now Pool, was built in 1909 and the first buyer was T. O. Miller.

The U.G.G. Elevator was built in 1913 and the first buyer was Mr. George Miller.

The manse became the home of Mr. and Mrs. Rogers but was built in 1908 where church services were held for some time.

The first farmer to move into town was Mr. Dan Hamilton. He built the residence now occupied by Mike Mackedenski.

The first Church of the District was a log one built across the creek south of Wheatfield School. It was a Baptist Church as many of the Scotch settlers south of there were of that denomination. After Wheatfield School was built, services were held there instead. Some of the pews of that old log church were used for seats in this building.

About 1904, the Baptists held services on alternate Sundays with Wheatfield in the Islay School. The minister was Rev. W. C. Smalley. The alternate Sunday in Islay was taken by the Methodists from Rossburn. The minister was Rev. McKim Young and lay preachers who helped were Hugh Ross, George Stewart and Hammond Irwin. There was a good Sunday School with officers and teachers as follows; Supt., Mr. McNally; Bible Class, John Bell; Intermediate, Mrs. Huston; Primary, Katie MacDonald. Finally, services were held in the Saint Andrews Church.

In 1898, Argyle Church to the west was built, a Presbyterian Church which was well attended by people of all denominations.

The first Sunday School of the district was established here and was a good one. Duncan McAinsh was the respected superintendent, and the Bible Class teacher, Mrs. Chesney, taught the Primary. Annie Armstrong taught the intermediate girls, and Angus McArthur taught the intermediate boys. Some of the ministers were Mr. Campbell, Mr. McLennan, Mr. Gurney, and Mr. Ross.

Argyle was the community centre in those early years. Occasionally, there was entertainment but the high light of the year was the Picnic. It was held at Rose Lake and was looked forward to for days by the children who lived from Christmas to Picnic, and from the Picnic to Christmas. It was an all-day affair; we went for dinner, and remained for supper, and such piles of food! Not salads or dainties, but lots of sandwiches, cakes, pies, doughnuts, and cookies. Among those serving were Mrs. Chesney, Mrs. J. D. McKinnon, Mrs. Brodie, and Mrs. Armstrong.

The ice cream was made the night before, in hand cranked freezers, and was particularly good as it was likely to be the only ice cream we would get that year. This, along with the other good things such as oranges, popcorn, etc., were sold at the stand.

There were swings for the children, all kinds of races in the afternoon and ball games; the climax came after supper — the walking of the Greasy Pole. This was a pole stretched out over the water and a good prize was given to the one who could walk it successfully and many a miss there was, a plunge

into the water, much to the enjoyment of the spectators, before the winner finally brought back the flag at the end of the pole.

Evening came all too soon, and we all went home happy. St. Andrews Church was built in 1910. The first minister was Rev. Mr. Lang.

In the centre of S.W. 12:19:24 (which is about half a mile east of our house) on a bare bleak knoll, during the years 1900 to 1901, there stood an old log house. The doors and floors sagged, the windows were empty spaces, and the stairs were rickety. The road to school passed this old house, and children walking passed by furtively peeking over their shoulders at the gaping windows, feeling that eyes were watching them. But once they became so frightened at a herd of cows calmly grazing below the house, that they actually climbed the rickety stairs. Even from this vantage point, upon looking out the empty window, they still thought the cows had designs on them, and one said to the other, "We should say our prayers," so they said their prayers, their evening prayer, the only one they knew and, no sooner had they finished, then they heard voices. Down the rickety stairs they ran to the protection of the older children who had rescued them just in time — from nothing at all.

It was in this house, before it fell into such disrepair, that the first school was held. The teacher was Mr. Bruce, later Dr. Bruce.

Islay school was built in 1894 on the N.E. corner of 11:19:24, one mile east of where it now stands. Messrs. Dandridge and Castell, of Shoal Lake, built it for \$495 dollars, hauling the lumber from Shoal Lake. How well the work was done was proven when it was moved to town without the least harm. Even the plaster was not damaged. Greenshaw's Hardware and Lumber merchants at Shoal Lake supplied the material. John Simpson of Shoal Lake drew the plans and estimates. Donald Grant of Shoal Lake loaned the money to build it. It was named after that Island in the Hebrides from which the Bells came — Islay, affectionately known as "Queen of the Hebrides". Alexander Bell was the first Secretary. The first trustees were Jos. Moulton, Alexander Bell, and Alexander MacDonald. The scholars were George, Fred, Clara, Rosie, and Mary Whyman, Hugh and Anna Johnson, Annie and John Moulton and Mary MacDonald. Mary had to go when she had just turned five in order to make up the necessary ten to get a school. Some early teachers were Mr. Lourie, Mr. Grant, Miss Ross, Miss Tully, Miss McEwan, Miss Rastis, Mr. Dugan, Miss Mackenzie, Miss Bates (later Mrs. Markle), Miss Conn, and John Adam Smith.

The school was heated by a big box stove in

which the fire was started when the teacher arrived with the kindling. Holidays were in the winter with only two weeks in the summer.

By the way of recreation, we had various games, but the favourites were baseball and prisoner's base.

Our baseball was home made and consisted of a big cork wrapped round with store cord and yarn until the desired size — but — it bounced. Our bat was a board with a handle whittled out. However, what we lacked in equipment was made up for in enthusiasm and we whacked the ball, and whizzed around the bases. Over the space of years, more than fifty years, I hear Charlie McPhail coaching his little brother Neil; "Run, Neillie, run, run to that pancake over there."

Prisoner's base we played for days at a time, and as there was no fence to restrict us, and our school yard was literally a section of land, the ringers we took were colossal, and sometimes it took us all noon hour to free the prisoners.

So much for recreation; now just a word about transportation! We hear so much about it these days. Well, there were just two ways. You either walked on your own two legs or you drove a safe pony.

If you walked, you usually got to school in time, but coming home, sometimes you felt you could dawdle. You probably took the road by the bridge and here you lay flat down on your stomach and watched the minnows in the Creek and big green frogs hiding around the stones under the bridge, and if you were lucky, you might even see a snake swallowing a frog, and of course you saved the frog, and were glad you went that way that day. That is the way we got our science. Our grandchildren are so busy learning it from a book, they haven't time to dawdle. If it were June, you would arrive home with your lips stained red from wild strawberries and your hands would be full of wild roses. If it were September, your teeth would be black from chokecherries and your hands would be full of coloured leaves.

The other method of transportation was by pony and a whole book could be written on the school ponies of Manitoba. Whatever their other qualifications might be, a 'must' was 'safety', and usually safety and slowness went together, much to the chagrin of the young fry, who even in those days liked to make an arrival with a dash!

Down the prairie trails they came — Nigger and Nipper, Birdie and Bess, Polly, Pete, and Flirt. They didn't mind stopping while we picked a flower that caught our eye, or a handful of berries close to the road. But they got us to the place of learning, and brought us safely home; faithful creatures they were, and we remember them with affection and gratitude.

The first pony to travel to Islay School was an

Indian one called Nellie. She was housed at school in a little log barn which she eventually shared with others. Her principal aim in life seemed to be how slowly she could go between any two points and she needed a good deal of persuasion to do that. A little girl from Scotland who used to ride behind her, when asked by someone how she got to school, aptly described it thusly: "Mary MacDonald does the driving, but I do the 'leatherin'."

The first Football Team was organized in 1904 by John Adam Smith, and was called, "The Canadian Ramblers". Some of those who played on the team were Wm. J. Hamilton, Bob Cummings, Alex, Willie and George Cormack, Jack and Bob Carson, George and Jack MacDonald, and W. Halliday.

In 1908, Vista Football Club was organized, and played against Raven Lake, Shoal Lake, and Oakburn. In 1909, the League of Rosburn, Vista, Oakburn and Elphinstone was formed and the Silver Cup was won by Vista in 1912.

The first automobile, that of T. O. Miller, introduced motoring in 1916. Others followed. If you were one of the lucky ones, you bought two yards of chiffon to tie on your big hat, while you went for a spin at twenty miles an hour. If you didn't own a car, you bought your chiffon anyway, and lived in hopes.

Part Three

Pioneers of Vista District 1880

The following is a letter written by Alexander MacDonald for "Reminiscences of Rosburn Pioneers;" at that date, he was the only one of the early settlers of the immediate Vista district who still remained.

"If you will allow me to go back to my travels and ask me why I left my home in Scotland, I would tell you that I got the "sack" there. I was working in the city of Glasgow in 1877 when the city bank went broke, throwing at least one third of the population out of work. The unemployed were given work breaking stone, at eight cents (four pence) a day. For awhile, our shop was making hammer shafts for the unemployed but as time went on, they got enough handymen that could make hammer shafts, and we were let out until some work would turn up. I went home to Tiree. Neil McKinnon, brother of the late Hugh McKinnon of Shoal Lake Municipality, had come over from Tiverton, Ontario. He boasted of Manitoba with the result that quite a few families decided to try their fortunes out there, and I was among them. Mrs. MacDonald unearthed an old memorandum recently in which I had made an entry on the day we sailed from Glasgow in April, 1879. We arrived at Quebec on April 29, 1879, and then we travelled via Sarnia, Detroit, Chicago, and St. Paul to

St. Boniface by rail and then crossed the Red River on a ferry. From there, we came with oxen by the White Horse Plains (the Baie St. Paul route being impassable on account of the floods), to High Bluff, where we rented a few acres on which to sow some oats. A friend at High Bluff advised us to take up homesteads south east of where Arden now is. The next spring, that of 1880, we found that our land was too wet so I came to Shoal Lake and looked around for a homestead. There I met a man who told me that there was a good district north and west where the land was vacant. When I got here, I found that the land was not subdivided yet, only a survey made around the township.

There was neither house nor person so I started south to find out the survey lines. I came across the boundary line and from there, I ran a line up through Vista (so I claimed I was the first man in Vista who knew where he was), up to the Northwest corner of section 14. I then started to build small shanties for my father, my brothers, Donald, John, and Archie and me. I saw a gang of five men running a line up between section 11 and 12. One of them came to where I was and asked how I knew the number of the section on which I was building. I said, "I do, do you?" He said it was section 37. They had a good surveyor in their bunch. He then asked me what my name was and when I told him it was Alexander MacDonald, he told me that I was a liar, that my name was Bill Manson, and that I was laying out homesteads for the bunch of Scotsmen I had brought out from Scotland. I told him I was looking for homesteads for myself, father and two brothers. While surveying land, I made my home with my good friend, the late William McDonald, east of Rosburn. On my way home that night, I found that the shanty I had put up had been pulled down, so I told Mr. McDonald that there was no use trying to keep land alone against five, and that I would start home tomorrow and call at the land office in Odannah to find if I had any protection. Mr. McDonald said he would go with me as he was going to Winnipeg for his wife and family. The land agent told us that he had instructions from Ottawa that squatters' rights were not to be considered (these were cancelled later). While in the land office, we were told by a party from the Grand Valley, now called Brandon, that the flood at Hairs Crossing was very high, that they had to get Métis freighters to take them across. I said to Mr. McDonald, "What shall we do?" He said, "Others are getting across, so shall we," and I agreed so we set out. When we got to the crossing, there was the bridge like an egg crate in the middle of the river with seven hewn logs on stools or trestles on the one side and five on the other for travellers to walk on. We

carried our belongings over this bridge, then I drove our horse into the current with Mr. McDonald standing on the bridge saying nothing. The horse started to swim, the cart started to rock and, when I got to the bridge, I had neither axle nor wheels as they were stranded in a bunch of willows. We went in and got them over to the bridge, tied the axle to the body and got safely over the rest of the road.

Coming back with my brothers, we had about six hundred pounds of a load on the wagon and we got stuck six times and had to carry our load to dry land. I then decided definitely on 6:19:23 for my homestead where I still live after the joys and sorrows, losses and gains from frost, hail, wind, and fire, etc., through which we have gone. But if I were a young man again, I would sail from Glasgow and settle to mixed farming in the Rosburn Municipality.

In 1888, the wheat was too badly frozen to use for seed but, south of Shoal Lake, although it was frozen, it would and did grow. The government sent in seed and weeds from Ontario and the States. It would have been better for the farmers had they never seen that seed for it has kept them busy ever since fighting weeds, while before, there were no noxious weeds in the country. At that, they got along better in 1888 than in 1931. Their taxes were only about five dollars on a quarter section."

I, his daughter, remember the log house with its big kitchen, bedrooms, and sitting room downstairs. The Post Office was kept in this sitting room for my father was Oakburn Postmaster for years. The mail was brought up from Shoal Lake once a week by Mr. James Hamilton of the Wheatfield District.

Upstairs, the house consisted of one large room and a small room boarded off from it. This room more often than not belonged to the teachers for years and, when we drove the two miles to school in winter, we took the kindling with us and shivered until the fire got going — changed days now for our grandchildren.

In 1898, we moved into the farmhouse which my father had built himself with the help of Mr. Whyman. The Post Office was moved in also, but after a few years, was taken over by Tom Halliday on 6:18:24 and, when he moved into Oakburn to run his hotel, the Post Office went with him.

Shortly after the building of the house, my father went into business in Shoal Lake, but the General Store he built which was managed by his brother, Archie, was destroyed by fire, the occupants barely escaping with their lives.

In 1887, Mr. MacDonald, my father, married Flora Bell who lived nearby, having come from Islay, Scotland with her parents three years before. They

had two daughters, Mary who married Charles Johnson of Mozart, Saskatchewan and Katie who married John Reid and lives near Dugald, Manitoba. Mrs. MacDonald died in 1892, and in 1893, he married Katherine Black of Iona, Scotland. They had three children. Flora, myself, married A. A. Forde in 1916 and lives east of Vista. Christena, who married James Murray, lives near Dugald, Manitoba and Donald Archibald, who after the death of his father in 1938, took over the old farm, married Merza Halman and they had one daughter.

Donald John MacDonald had homesteaded Sect. 2:19:24, now owned by Frank Shewchuk. In the fall of 1886, he was convalescing from an injured knee when he saw a prairie fire in the direction of his homestead. Taking a sack with him and telling his mother he was going to fight it, he left home. A little later, his mother became so unaccountably anxious that to please her, my father quit ploughing and started for the scene of the fire, his mother following in the distance for she would not rest. He proceeded about a quarter of a mile from home where he found his brother's body.

In those early days my father made caskets for those who passed away and it was just one more hard thing to do — the making of the casket for this dearly loved brother who was just 27 years of age.

A few years ago, Mr. Wm. Martin at the Argyle Cemetery Bee leaned against this lad's headstone, and recalled how everyone, the day of the funeral, jumped into their wagons and raced for home to fireguard their buildings against one of the worst prairie fires they had seen.

Archibald MacDonald came to the district three different times but did not stay. He eventually settled in Seattle, U.S.A. where he lived for many years, but after the death of his wife, returned to Tiree, Scotland, where he passed away a few years later.

John D. McKinnon's family came to Ontario in 1850. His parents considered John too frail a child for the arduous trip which lay ahead for the family. They left him in care of relatives in Tiree, Scotland. In April, 1879, John left Scotland and he was now a grown man who had lived all his childhood and young adult years apart from his parents and brothers and sisters. He rejoined the remaining members of his family who had made their home at Tiverton, Ontario (Bruce County).

In 1880, he came out to Manitoba and homesteaded 4:19:24 where his grandson Hugh now farms. In 1890, he married a Miss McKinnon from Tiverton, Ontario. There were two children born to this couple. Sadness came to this family in 1893 when Mrs. McKinnon died. In 1898, Mr. McKinnon married a sister of his first wife.

John and Katie, who were the children of Mr. and Mrs. McKinnon, spent some of their early childhood, after their mother's death, in Ontario with uncles and aunts. When their father remarried, they returned to their Manitoba home in 1904 and attended Perth School. In 1919, Katie became the wife of Wm. Armstrong who had just returned from World War I. John L. McKinnon farmed at home with his father. Death came to him at a relatively early age in 1935 which was only a short time after his parents. Mr. McKinnon predeceased him in 1930 and Mrs. McKinnon in 1934.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Armstrong had a family of two sons, Hugh and John Wm. Both boys attended Perth School and John obtained his high school education at Rosburn. Following this, he taught school for one year and since that time, he has farmed at home with his parents.

Hugh is the eldest son and lives on his grandfather's original homestead which was named Argyle Farm. In 1944, he married Dorothy Breakey whose parents had come from southern Manitoba in the depression years. They have three children, Katherine, Foster and Grant. Unlike their grandfather and grandmother and their father, they did not attend Perth School. Teachers were very hard to come by and some decline in rural population was making it more difficult to have sufficient pupils. Perth School did not have a teacher after June, 1951, but it operated as a closed school until 1958. Therefore, the family of Hugh Armstrong obtained their education at Islay School.

One of the early settlers who did remain at Vista for many years was John MacPhail. He became interested in the district through Alexander MacDonald. John MacPhail was born in Tiree, Argyleshire, Scotland in 1851. While still a young man, he went to Glasgow where he worked in a wholesale dry goods store but in the year 1879, he emigrated to America, remaining for one year in Ontario and one year in Michigan. Then he came west to Vista, Manitoba, making the trip by ox cart.

He chose as his homestead S.W. 10:19:24 which is two miles southwest of Vista. The first summer, he worked on the railroad between Shoal Lake and Birtle. In the fall of 1881, while hauling logs for a stable, he got his both feet frozen which made it impossible for him to do any more work that winter.

In 1888, he married Katie Bell, the daughter of Donald Bell, who had come to the district in 1884. Within one year, Mrs. MacPhail died. Mr. MacPhail batched for a number of years, but finally he married Miss Catherine McMillan of Iona, Argyleshire, Scotland who had come out to visit her friend, Mrs. Alexander MacDonald.

Mr. MacPhail took a keen interest in Municipal

and School affairs, served a period of time as Reeve of the Municipality of Rosssburn, and was for many years a trustee and secretary of Islay School. In the year 1914, he was stricken with arthritis from which he never recovered, remaining bedridden for thirteen years. He took a lively interest in the affairs and progress of the country. In March, 1927, he passed away peacefully.

Mrs. MacPhail lived on with her family until February 7, 1952, when she passed quietly away. She was noted for her kindness and hospitality. It was truly of such as she that Robert Burns' couplet was written:

"When Death's dark stream I ferry o'er
A time that surely shall come
Of heaven, I'll ask nothing more
Than just a Highland welcome."

The oldest son, Alexander, farms the original farmstead. He married Florence Turner of Emerson, Manitoba. Their daughter, Marion, taught school for a number of years, then married Coll McCormack of Minnedosa. Tragedy struck in 1937 when the youngest son, Ian, while attending a Short Course on bees in Winnipeg, was taken ill and died. A promising young man of twenty-five, he was greatly mourned by the whole community.

1880 Mr. John Brodie's Reminiscences:

"I was born in the Orkney Islands in 1855, my father being a merchant. Although I was on the sea more or less from boyhood, I joined the civil service and went up to Edinburgh. While there, I met David Stevens with whom I became very intimate, so when he decided to immigrate with Wm. Manson, I came too. I felt I knew a considerable amount about Canada from what I had heard from the many Orkney men who were in the service of the Hudson's Bay Co. and I found the knowledge of great use to me when I arrived here. Indeed, there were twenty-four Hudson's Bay Co. men on board the ship on which we sailed to New York. I was not seasick so enjoyed their company.

Leaving New York, we stayed a short time in Ontario, long enough to buy a considerable amount of our supplies: cheese, ship biscuits, tea, sugar, fifteen gallons of syrup, mittens, moccasins and ammunition. We had brought guns from Scotland. We had also brought great quantities of clothing sufficient for several years, but no high hats or tam-o-shanters. When we reached Winnipeg, we enjoyed our ten days stay there seeing what there was of the city and, above all, the Hudson's Bay store which was full of things I had never seen before. We purchased oxen in Winnipeg, setting out with four yoke, a team of white bulls belonging to Wm. Manson, two big black oxen that Mr. Stevens and I bought between

us, a team Wm. Manson bought cheap at Portage that were no good. We also hired an Englishman to haul a load halfway. We were bringing in everything we expected we would need for twelve months, mostly food.

The trip took us three weeks as the roads were bad. There were bad snow storms and accommodations were hard to find. One night, Donald Sinclair slept out in the snow wrapped in our blankets. But we were always keen to continue. Finally, we all got to Manson's where we stayed for perhaps a week, sleeping in a tent. I located my present farm, 22:19:24, where we moved our tent and set up camp where my house now stands. We were wakened in the middle of the night once by unearthly yelling. At first, we thought it was some one approaching, then realized it was in the tent. It took a minute to find a match, but finally a light revealed Stevens waving his shirt when out fell a lizard about a foot long. As we knew little or nothing about lizards, we did not know how near death we had been but were badly frightened.

Each of us built a shack, helping each other and having a bee after we had hauled out the logs. Some of them hewed the logs first with a broad axe. We went to Minnedosa, where the railroad was, for our windows and doors. Almost as soon as we arrived, we broke a little ground as there was still time for some crop. We got our seed from Gerrand's at High Bluff. The next summer, a prairie fire swept up and burned my shack but I soon had another one built. John McPhail lost his that time, too. The fires were always a danger. I've seen them run from the river to the mountains.

What I remember of the rebellion of 1885 is mainly my admiration for the way in which Mr. Ross, Mr. Flett the missionary, and John Black influenced the local Indians to peace and peaceful ways. We never suffered any danger, but we might have."

In May of 1893, Mr. Brodie married Margaret Henery, a sister of Mrs. Alex Cumming, who was a near neighbour for many years. There were three children, twins Lillian and Jessie, but Lillian died as a child. Jessie married Duncan Menzies of Oakburn. She died in 1933, leaving four small children. The son, John, farmed the father's farm for a few years, but he died in 1937.

Mr. and Mrs. Brodie took a great interest in the community. Mr. Brodie joined the various organizations such as Grain Growers' Association, etc., and in the early years, served as Clerk of the Municipality. He was very able with both tongue and pen, and it was he and Mr. R. R. Ross who were influential in bringing the railway in to Vista and Rosssburn.

Mrs. Brodie also did her part in community work such as Red Cross, etc. On account of her husband's

poor health, she did much of the heavy farm work herself, and the work-worn hands that could drive horses on any implement could also cradle to maturity a beautiful moss rose. She was noted for her good gardening ability, and was helpful to those with less experience. She passed away in 1928.

The farm now owned by Mike Olyarnyk (14:19:24) had many owners. Among these was Charles Lamont, a native of Tiree, Scotland, who bought from J. C. Cole of New Edinburgh, Ontario who had homesteaded the same. Mr. Lamont acquired and farmed the four quarter sections running along the highway from Vista School in the west to the Greek Orthodox Church in the east.

He married Belle McArthur of Kelloe and they had a family of eight: Marion, Agnes, Maggie, Flora, Minnie, Edna, and two boys, Neil and Hector. The four eldest all attended Islay School and Argyle S.S. They participated in our school concerts of which we had quite a few at the time, John Adam Smith being the teacher. In 1905, they moved to Elfros, Saskatchewan, and later on to Kandahar. Mr. Lamont died in the twenties but Mrs. Lamont is living at Lanigan, Saskatchewan.

The next operator of the farm was the Rev. Mr. Wilkinson, a Methodist minister, who farmed for one year, and then moved to a farm near Rosburn. A son, Ernest, who was a student of theology, helped his father during the summer, and another son, Leslie, sixteen, also helped but went to our school as did two sisters, Evelyn and Ruth. The two older sisters, Addie and Ruby, also helped with farm work. They were a musical family and sang quartettes at Sunday services.

A young newly married couple next came on this farm. They were Mr. and Mrs. Wm. McNally. They were good farmers and good citizens. Mr. McNally was superintendent of the Islay School S.S. and Mrs. McNally also helped. They left in 1910 and went to Macklin, Saskatchewan where Mrs. McNally still lives. She is in good health and always is interested in news of her old Vista and Rosburn friends. Mr. McNally passed away about twelve years ago. Gordon Taylor of Rosburn then took over the farm and farmed the whole section until 1915 and the east half until 1918. Their oldest son, Harold, now in Edmonton, was born here.

In 1919, Alex Andrew moved here from his farm, 8:19:23. The older children, Jim, David, Emma and Netta, attended school here. In 1927, they moved to the valley, and the farm was rented by the present owners, Mike Olyarnyk, who has been there since 1944. He married Tena Zenchyshyn and they have two children, Robert and Olga.

Joseph Moulton came in the summer of 1880 with his first wife and settled on the land where Vista now is. He finished his homestead duties and sold to a John Armstrong, then moved to 30:19:23, the farm now occupied by Paul Zegalski. Here he lived for some time, then he built a general store in Vista and moved into the village.

There were two children by the first marriage, Annie (Mrs. Newman of Peace River) and John.

Mrs. Moulton died in 1887. Some years later, Mr. Moulton married again. He died in 1930.

Robert Moulton, a brother, came in 1881 and homesteaded 24:19:24, but as soon as he got his patent, he sold out to Hugh Glass who only stayed a few years and returned to the East.

Robert Moulton went west to Edmonton. A letter received from him in 1930 showed him still interested in his Vista friends.

James Paul came in the spring of 1880. His brother, Sam Paul, followed him in 1881. They both lived on 12:19:24, which James homesteaded and where Sam set up a general store with farm implements as well. They got their merchandise from Winnipeg to Fort Ellice by steamboat on the Assiniboine River, and from Fort Ellice to the homestead by carts and wagons. Sam Paul was the first to sell implements in the Rosburn Municipality. In 1883, he moved his business near where Oakburn now stands, and started the first store there and also the Oakburn post office. Then both he and his brother James moved to Moosomin, Saskatchewan where Sam lived until his death, but James moved from there to Fort Frances.

From a Scotch settlement in Ontario came two brothers, George and David Machann in 1880. They liked the looks of the district and in 1881 their mother, their wives, and two brothers, James and Robert, came out. They lived east of Islay School and Mrs. Machann Sr. homesteaded and patented 18:19:23. For a while, the men worked in the mill at Elphinstone, then finally, after about five years from their arrival, all of them moved to Portage la Prairie. They were remembered as good neighbours and Mrs. Machann's abilities in sickness were greatly appreciated. It is believed that they all now live in various parts of Saskatchewan.

The Taylors of Rosburn interested Alex Cumming of Ontario in the west. He had married Jane Taylor, a sister of the Taylor men, in 1870, but she died in 1875, leaving one daughter and three sons. In 1878, he married Miss Jessie Henry. By 1881, they felt the urge of the western call, and that fall, came out here. Mr. Cumming came first, accompanied by his elderly father. He filed for 16:19:24, where Paul Bilinsky now lives, and lived there for 25 years. Shortly after, Mrs. Cumming came with the three

sons and a new baby. The eldest daughter, Margaret Jane, remained in Ontario with her grandmother until she was a young woman, when they both came to live with the western members of the family. She was Mrs. Alex McNeill of Winnipeg.

Mr. and Mrs. Cumming moved to Shoal Lake where they spent the late years of their lives. Mrs. Cumming died in 1916 and he in 1929.

As to the family, son James lived south of Vista on the farm now occupied by Bill Shwaluk. His family attended Culross School. His wife was Sarah Chesney. They later moved to Shoal Lake.

Another son, Alex, was killed by a train at Forrest in 1901. George left to join in the Boer War. Later, he made his home in Toronto until his death in 1924. John, who married Eva Buchanan, farmed north of Vista for a short time, then moved into Rossburn where he died. His wife and family now live in Winnipeg.

Jessie Rose married Andrew Peden of Rossburn. Annie married Lincoln Cuntz of Shoal Lake. Lydia married A. McCallum of Winnipeg. Robert was killed overseas during the First World War. Hugh died a bachelor in San Francisco in 1930.

Early settlers were the Bells who came from Islay, Scotland. Alexander came first in 1882 and homesteaded S.W. 2:19:24. The following year, his brother John arrived and took 18:19:23. The next year, their parents and two daughters, Flora and Katie, came out. These girls later became the wives of Alexander MacDonald and John McPhail, but both died while very young.

Alexander sold his land to John MacPhail and later went west to Princeton, B.C. where he became merchant and postmaster. He was an active and interested citizen in a large number of organizations and, upon his death in 1921, was greatly mourned. He left a widow but no children.

John, his brother, farmed his original homestead for quite a number of years and built the farmhouse now occupied by Wilfred Chegwin. He was a man of sterling character, a good influence in any community and respected by his neighbours.

He moved to Birtle where he farmed for a number of years before moving finally to Winnipeg where he died in 1929.

His wife was Barbara Winder of Birtle and they had five children: Bessie and Flora in Palo Alta, California, Mary in Winnipeg, Donald farming in Birtle and Angus in Winnipeg.

After the Pauls left S.E. and N.E. 12:19:24, it was vacant for some years and went back to prairie. The south quarter was then broken by Alexander MacDonald and the north by John Bell.

In about 1885, Alexander McAinsh homesteaded

N.W. 2:19:24, bringing one daughter, Robena, with him. She, however, stayed only a short time and returned to Scotland. He died in the winter of 1906.

Frank Simpson homesteaded 24:19:24 in 1882, the place now owned by Peter Chegus.

In 1887, Mr. James Halliday Sr. and son James from Dumfriesshire, Scotland arrived in the district and located on homestead 36:18:24. They lived at first in a small house on what had been Sam Paul's, one-half mile from the homestead. Here, in March of the following year, they were joined by Mrs. Halliday and the rest of the family (seven boys and one girl) and continued to live on the Paul farm until a log house was erected on their own farm. Mr. Halliday was a man of sterling character and an excellent neighbour. He and Mrs. Halliday took a great interest in church work and Mr. Halliday rode many a mile on horseback collecting for the building and maintenance of churches built in Oakburn, Culross and Vista districts.

Mrs. Halliday, in 1903, went on a trip to her old home in Bonny Scotland. Again in 1920, she returned for another visit, but on the same eve of departure, she passed away during the night, and was laid to rest in her native town of Moffat. He passed away in 1911 at the age of 66.

The boys of the family, with the exception of John, homesteaded beside their father. Jim first took up N.W. 36, but this he later sold to his brother Tom. Some years later, Tom sold his farm to George Reid Sr., later taken over by George Reid Jr. who, after some years, moved to Kelloe. Goletz, for a time, occupied this farm, then Robert Stevenson of Shoal Lake who sold to Peter Shwaluk, and its present owner is Dan Mychasiw. Tom Halliday, after parting with his farm, moved to Oakburn taking the Post Office with him. Here, he kept a boarding house for a number of years, but later farmed near Oakburn. He then moved to his present location three miles south of Vista and is the only one of the original family still living. He is now past eighty years of age.

His wife was Christene Bennett of Montreal. They have one daughter. Mrs. Stacey is living near them as is one grandchild Loraine, Mrs. Wm. Halliday.

Jim, after selling his homestead, farmed Sunnysbrae, the farm now owned by Woychysyns. In later years, he moved to Hudson Bay Junction where he passed away suddenly while playing a game of football. He was sixty-two years old. His wife, Elizabeth Tart from Castle Douglass, Scotland, is still living. They had four sons: James, Adam, Robert, and Jack.

Robert, the eldest son, a tailor by trade in the old country, homesteaded S. 36:18:24. He married

Christina Dell of Portage. They had six children, four of whom died in infancy. The two daughters that lived were Helen, who married Wm. Brown of Rossburn and passed away a few years ago leaving a grown family of six and Margaret, who is living at Beechy, Saskatchewan where her parents died after moving from Winnipeg where they had lived for a number of years. Margaret has two sons.

Will married Margaret Armstrong, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Armstrong, Rossburn pioneers. They had eight children: John in Vancouver, B.C.; Ellen (Mrs. Martin) of Glenella; Isabel (Mrs. Baggs) of Vancouver; Lloyd and Hubert also in Vancouver; Bill in Vista; Gladys (Mrs. Lillie) in Vista; and Amy (Mrs. Murray) in Winnipeg.

Adam farmed between Vista and Oakburn. He was widely known as a Clydesdale Horse Breeder and did much for the improvement of horses near and far at a time when horses were of importance to the farmers in general. He was given a Life Membership Certificate by the Manitoba Clydesdale Club.

He married Margaret Hamilton of the Wheatfield District whose father was mail carrier for years between Shoal Lake and Oakburn P.O. before the railway came in. They raised one child, Evelyn (Mrs. Baker). He died in 1952; his wife predeceased him in 1920.

Vicar took over his father's homestead. He married Helen Muirman and they raised a family of seven: Matt, a carriage worker in Vista; John, who farms in Vista as is also the youngest boy, Cam; Tom, who, since his father died in 1956, has taken over his father's holdings with the help of his sister Nita Belle and his mother; Adam, who lives in Winnipeg; and the other daughter, Bessie (Mrs. J. MacDonald), living in Vista. John and Adam served overseas in World War Two.

When Mrs. James Halliday returned in the spring of 1903 from a trip to her old home in Scotland, she was accompanied back by a sister of Mr. Halliday, Mrs. John Young, and her two teen-age children, Will and Neil. As the boat left Scotland behind, Mrs. Young, watching the shore recede, sang softly to herself, "The Bonnie Banks of Loch Lomond." On the second day out, she was ill; in a matter of hours she died and was buried at sea. Will and Neil continued the journey with their aunt and for a few years worked in the district. Will finally purchased the south half of 2:19:24, where he lived until his death in August, 1948. He married Mary Muirman and there were three children: John of Ninette; Isabel (Mrs. McLaren) of Myrtle who predeceased her father by three months; and Robert who married Edith Miller, daughter of August Miller. Robert continues to farm his father's holdings.

The only daughter was Isabel (Mrs. Jack Peden) who lived in Rossburn. She had no family and died in 1950.

A note of historical interest may be added here in regard to the above Halliday homestead. On the east side of the original homestead, part of the old corduroy trail is over the muskeg to this day, it being the old Indian trail. A hill close by was called Indian Hill, and Hallidays were told by Alexander MacDonald that, in the early days, the Indians called this Indian Point, there having been an image erected here which has rotted away, so this historical spot was of great significance to the Indians.

Adam Muirman, a brother of Mrs. James Halliday came out from Scotland ten years later in 1897. He was accompanied by his wife and six children. They lived for two years on Jim Halliday's farm, then Mr. Muirman homesteaded and built his home on S.E. 34:18:24. On April 3, 1900, his wife passed away, leaving a young family; the youngest, an infant son James, died shortly after his mother. The other children were as follows: Jemima (Mrs. Boles) of Elfros who trained as a nurse in Yorkton; Mary (Mrs. Will Young) of Vista; Elizabeth (Mrs. John Wilson) of Vista; Helen (Mrs. Vick Halliday) of Vista; Margaret (Mrs. Roy Plant) of Glen Elmo; and William of Kelloe.

Mr. Muirman left his Vista farm and farmed for some years in Roblin. While here, he married Mrs. Grant who died in Roblin. He later moved to Kelloe where he married Mrs. Hayes. He died in 1942 at the age of 83.

Mr. J. R. McLeod, a native of Ross-shire, Scotland, immigrated with his parents to Bruce county, Ontario. Here he was educated and learned the blacksmith trade. In 1888, he came to Manitoba and took up his homestead in the Culcross district. He faced reverses and hardships, but gradually overcame them. In 1881, he married Miss Anne Shepard, daughter of a pioneer farmer of Ontario. They were parents of five children: Oscar, who died in 1908 at the age of twenty-six; Minnie (Mrs. Horace Carson) of Rossburn; Ernest who married Maria Martin, daughter of a Shoal Lake pioneer, at present living at Solsgirth; Gertrude who married Wilfred Copeland and lived in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan; Reginald who married Jennie Bardarson of Baldur, Manitoba and farms the original homestead.

Mr. McLeod was a councillor of the Shoal Lake Municipality for a number of years. He and his wife were devout adherents of the Presbyterian Church. He passed away in January, 1914 and his wife in March, 1918.

George Cormack, born June 15, 1877 at Bruan, East Clyth, Caithness, Scotland, came to Canada at

the age of 14. His father had a brother farming in Manitoba and a year earlier had made a trip to Canada to see what the prospects might be for his family. The only future in Scotland was maid service for the girls and crofting and herring fishing for the boys. The father did both and had his own boat and crew.

George's chore was hauling peat moss which was the fuel supply for the home. His highlight of the week was each Saturday when he got to go into town with his father to pay the crew members. They boarded there and the woman of the house always treated them to homemade buns and margarine.

The decision was made to move to Canada and a year later, all was in readiness. There was great interest in food preparation. His mother made up a parcel for each day (each sewn up in canvas) to be used on the train trip from Montreal to Manitoba. So far as a fourteen year old is concerned, the trip was a good one and the meals excellent. He often spoke of the "stew" on the daily menu.

Arriving in Manitoba, the conductor took one look at the size of the family and gave them a colonist car to themselves. Anytime the train stopped at a water tower, a hurried trip was made along the side of the train to the engineer who gave them boiling water for their tea. When a stop was made at a town, a quick trip allowed them to buy bread.

In 1907, he married Margaret McKinny of Colburn, Ontario. They had three children: Melville, Ruth and Doris. They farmed near Vista until 1930. After leaving the farm, they resided in Rosssburn, Vista and then Brandon where Mrs. Cormack passed away in 1938.

George moved to Edmonton, living there until 1941 when he married Miss Florence Willcock. They made their home at Wilson Creek, B.C. where he passed away on January 12, 1952 at the age of 74 years and six months. His funeral service was held in Brandon and he was buried beside his first wife, Margaret.

Robert Johnson homesteaded 10:19:24, half a mile south of Vista, the farm now owned by Willis Stitt. He built the original house now owned by Mrs. Wm. Miller.

The Chesneys became interested in the west when a brother of Mrs. Carson visited here for a year and returned to Holland Centre, Grey County.

The first of the family that came out in 1898 were two daughters, Martha and Sarah. The following year, in 1899, Mr. and Mrs. Chesney with their three daughters, Ethel, Mary and May, and their twin sons, Arthur and Albert, came west. Mr. Chesney bought the farm then owned by William John Hamilton which he farmed until his death in 1910. Mrs. Chesney died in 1921. One son, Arthur, is still farm-

ing part of the farm. Albert farmed the original holdings until five years ago when he sold out following the death of his wife.

Sarah became Mrs. James Cummings of Shoal Lake; Ethel became Mrs. Jasper Strong of Rosssburn, died in 1955; Martha became Mrs. James Brown of Vista and lives with her daughter Mrs. Vernon Hamilton of Rosssburn; Mary became Mrs. John Kirk and lives in Lintlaw, Saskatchewan; May became Mrs. Hector McPhail of Vista; Albert married Mable Hamilton and Arthur married Dora Woods of Vista.

Memoirs of M. D. Hamilton:

Daniel and Alexander Hamilton came out to Manitoba in 1880. Their brother Robert followed in 1881. His father, Daniel, settled in Rosssburn and in the fall of the same year, he walked to Winnipeg to meet his family. They reached Winnipeg by rail but to go the rest of the way was not so easy as it was a wet fall and they had only an ox and cart — not a covered one at that. Many times they had to stop, unload and pull the cart out of sloughs. This was written in 1931. Mr. Hamilton mentions the great changes which had taken place up until then. How many more since! We have the combine, the hydro, the highway — truly a world of change — all in 78 years and what a privilege to have seen it all! From flail to combine, from road to highway, but the unchangeable things are here also; our grandchildren watch for the first crocuses and buttercups in the spring, just as we did; they raise their heads at the honk of the wild geese in the spring to watch that age-old flight, just as we did. These are the unchangeable things which give us assurance in spite of Atomic threats that "God's in His Heaven, All's right with the world."

Daniel Hamilton moved to Vista in 1900 and remained there until his death in 1926. One of his sons, Matthew D., married Priscilla Strong in 1900 and farmed 23:19:24. Their family is as follows: Harvey married Allison Rutherford of Silverton in 1932 and farms 15:19:24 in Vista; Sidney married Catherine Young of Winnipeg and lives in Winnipeg; Olive Grace married A. O'Donnell and now lives in Portage; Leslie married Rachel McDonald of Shoal Lake and farms 15:19:24; Howard lives at home with his parents and helps with the farm; Vera Myrtle married Walter Taylor and lives at Ocean Falls, B.C.

Another son, William J., married Euphemia Woods. Mr. Hamilton farmed his father's farm and is still living there at this time. Their family were David, Clifford who married Anne Koloski, Dorothy who married Wilfred Chegwin now living in the old Bell farm 18:19:23, Irene who married Norman Cummings and lives in Brandon, Evelyn who married Allan Smith, Keith who moved and is living with his family in B.C., Dan who married and also lives in

B.C.; Mac Nab (Mac) who is married to Gwen Hullick and lives in McConnell; Valetta who is married and lives in Winnipeg; Jean, married, and Velma both live in Winnipeg.

One daughter, Sarah (Mrs. Sam Ham) lived in Vista.

William Robert, son of Robert Hamilton of Rosssburn, married Elizabeth Marion Stewart in the year 1893 on December 3 at Birtle, Manitoba. Their children, Eva, Willie, and Elizabeth, were born on the Chesney place, and Stewart was born on the home place Section 22:19:24. He passed away on June 17, 1913 and Mrs. Hamilton passed away on May 30, 1939. Stewart now lives at Princeton, B.C. and Willie at Kelowna, B.C. Eva married Henry Miller and lives in Rosssburn, and Elizabeth married Robert Alexander and also lives in Rosssburn.

In 1899-1900, the Ukrainians came to Manitoba and settlements were close to Rosssburn and Vista Districts. The first to move into our school district and attend our school were Mike Hrysaks on the farm now occupied by Matt Shwaluk, and George Yaskiw on the neighboring quarter. Early settlers among them were Hullicks, Bewzas, Hrysaks, Cheguses, Belinskis, Woycheshyns.

Fred Hullick and his wife, and Jacob Hullick and his wife came to Canada in 1899 from Stanislaw, Western Ukraine. Farms there were very small, living was poor, so, having heard from the priest who was the only one having a newspaper about Canada, they made up their minds to come out. The journey took them about three weeks; they were detained at Shoal Lake with a group of about one hundred and taken, under the care of an agent, in wagons to Patterson's Lake. Here, there were some tents for shelter, but as it was an early spring and snow still on the ground, comfort was sadly lacking; sickness broke out and many died, mostly women and children. Such a sad ending to hopeful dreams! A monument in memory of these unfortunate people has been erected on the south side of Patterson's Lake.

The agent placed the people on homesteads as soon as possible. Fred Hullick was settled on section 30:19:23. The farm was solid bush, and his first shelter was scrub covered with hay cut by a sickle which they were lucky enough to have with them. To make matters worse, their clothing and blankets were lost on the way and they had only 50 cents in money.

As soon as possible a log cabin was built by the united efforts of Fred, his father and Ulko Maskiw. The three men then went to work and the three women lived together.

Fred Hullick got his first job at Frank Simpsons in the Wheatfield District. After a month, he returned and told his wife there was a job for her there also, so

they worked all summer and were able to buy a cow with their wages. This was the beginning of their farm which after much clearing and hard work became a successful holding.

In 1918, they moved to a larger farm, but after a few years, went back to their original home. Here, he lived until 1940 when he retired to Oakburn. He died in March, 1950 and Mrs. Hullick in 1956.

Their oldest son, John, still farms the original homestead. He married Annie Buklaschuk and they have three children: Gwen, Mrs. Mack Hamilton of McConnell; Wilson of Edmonton; and Leonard at home.

The second son, Bill, farmed near Rosssburn. He married Katie Yaskiw. The daughters were Nellie (Mrs. Choptuik) of Kelloe, Mary (Mrs. Brodie) of Oakburn, Elsie (Mrs. Malanchuk) of Oakburn, and Jessie (Mrs. Stanley Yanick) of Oakburn.

Steve Kokorudz also from Stanislaw, Western Ukraine, came out in 1899 and settled on N.E. 30:19:23. There were six boys and two girls in the family; they later moved to the King George School District.

Ulko Maskiw came out in the same group and his farm was S.E. 30:19:23. There were four sons: Stanley, Wes, Paul, and Harry. The girls were as follows: Nellie, Mrs. Dushnisky of Oakburn; Annie, Mrs. Kiez of Winnipeg; Mary, Mrs. Butniak of Winnipeg; Jean, Mrs. Duchak of Winnipeg; and Lily of Winnipeg.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Slobodesky came to Canada from Western Ukraine also in 1899. They were detained at Shoal Lake and taken with about forty other families to Section 12, township 20, range 24 S.E. They lived in tents for about 3 or 4 weeks, then were placed on their homestead S.E. 2:20:24 and here he built his first house — logs with a sod roof, mud floor and clay oven. With the money he had left, he bought a cow for \$40 and two bags of flour. He went to work for Mr. McConnell of Hamiota. Their children were Olga, Elizabeth, Harry, and Sam. While working for his employer, he worried about his family and tried to explain it to him that he would like to see them, but Mr. McConnell couldn't understand him so he left and headed home. Then it hit Mr. McConnell what was the matter and he sent one of his boys with a democrat loaded with flour and other groceries as fast as he could across prairie trails where he finally caught up to Paul and drove him home where they found all was well.

Paul remained on this first land until 1918 and here the other children were born; namely John who died at the age of three from scarlet fever, Nick, Mary, a baby girl who died at the age of two weeks, then Bill and Nellie. They moved to a farm south of

Vista on the farm now occupied by Mrs. W. Halliday, where he died in March, 1934 and his wife retired to Rossburn where she died in April, 1945.

Mr. Constantine (George) Bilinsky, born in 1881, in Borschkiw Province in the Ukraine, came to Canada in 1902 at the age of 21. He was accompanied by his mother and sisters and brothers, Harry, now of Rossburn, and Dmytro, who died. They left a troubled homeland to settle in the district north-east of Vista. Mr. Bilinsky worked as a hired hand for farmers in the district for approximately 3 years before settling on his own quarter section, which he then proceeded to break soil.

In 1910, Mary Nadolski who was born in 1888, left the Ukraine to travel to the land of opportunity to become his bride. They were married.

Their first daughter Anne was born at their home with the help of a wonderful woman, Mrs. Paul Chegus, a capable gentle person who was a reliable midwife in the district. She ushered all 16 Bilinsky children into the world, without the presence of a doctor. When her skill seemed about to fail her, she resorted to devout prayer. She did not lose a patient from the Bilinsky family, among whom were born two sets of twins, although one child of each set passed away later. Both times, the twins consisted of a boy and a girl. The children of George and Mary Bilinsky, in order of birth were Anne, Andrew, Paul, Peter, Harry (deceased 1929), Nick and a twin sister who died later, Mike, Teenie, Lena (died July 1958), Dora, Nellie whose twin, a boy, died later, Steve, Helen who died at age 9, and the youngest daughter who is also named Helen.

Anne is now Mrs. Charles Smith of Winnipeg. Andrew married Steffie Kowal and lives in Vista. Paul married Rosie Yaskiw and lives in Vista. Peter married Mary Ellen Plumptre from Sandridge and lives in Vista. Harriet was deceased in 1929. Nick, Mike, Teenie married Stanley Pryzner and lives in Shoal Lake. Lena (deceased 1958) married Nick Werzak from Olha. Dora married Jim Semchuk of Shortdale. Nellie lived in Vista and Steve in Winnipeg. Helen married Lt. Thomas A. Blind who died in 1957. She remarried later to Stuart MacFaddyen of Winnipeg.

Reminiscence From A Farmer's Past

Translated from a poem by Pete Starenky

I've been living in Canada these 52 years, and I am bent; my limbs are full of pain. I immigrated with no knowledge of what to begin to do. And so I decided to buy a farm. I bought a farm consisting mainly of heavy bush. I began to cut cordwood, for in my pantry there was not a speck of flour left. I cut and sawed 10 cords, then set out to find a buyer. I approached an English-speaking man and told him I

had 10 cords of wood ready cut. He replied, "I would readily buy the wood, had I the money!"

Now here is a problem! If he does not buy it, what will I do? No flour in the house and no money — how will we live this winter?

Then he said, "If you must sell this wood, I might be able to spare five dollars for it."

I thought, "So be it. I will buy the flour and return home." I asked this man if he would drive me home with my hundred pound load, and he replied, "Give me five dollars, and you shall not carry the bag."

Once again a problem confronted me. I met another Englishman and asked him the same question. He replied that he would give me a ride but wanted to know what kind of a road we must travel. I told him it was not good, and very muddy. In a few minutes, we had my bag of flour in the rear of his buggy. We travelled for four hours, and the distance from Shoal Lake was twenty-two miles to my home, and we were only halfway. In the centre of dense bush, we drove into deep mud. The sun was setting. We became stuck. One horse balked, and we had to jump into the mud. The harness broke, and the buggy tipped forward, which caused my precious cargo to roll off also into the mud. From here, I had to transport my load alone. I left it there, on the buggy, mud-covered, to dry and walked ten miles home.

My worried wife cried when I told her all about the mishap. I reassured her, for was not the flour still there, even though a bit of it was spoiled? The problem was how to get it the rest of the way home. We finally devised a way. I would open the bag and carry the flour home in another bag in three portions, ten miles there, ten miles back. Sixty miles I walked before the last speck was in the flour bin. And such mud we had never seen before!

At last we knew all would be well. We had two heaped piles, one of potatoes and one of onions; we would find a cow to purchase and thus see our adversity through. With hard work, we would meet our needs, and God willing, next year would be easier.

This was the lot of all the pioneers who worked beyond measure, suffering worry and privation before they prospered a little. Those who lived to receive the pension at seventy did not struggle entirely in vain. Only now, the years are not those strong young years; those of us who survived can but reminisce on the past and prepare ourselves for the next world awaiting us.

The Browns, like the Hamiltons, were names linked with our district for more than 50 years. The older members of these families came with their parents in 1880 to the Rossburn district. Robert

Brown moved to his Vista farm 23:19:24 in 1905. He married Jean Cormack in 1900. Their family is as follows: Harold Alexander married Dorothy Stitt and farms on 3:19:24 in the Vista District; Isabel Elizabeth is a chiropractor and resides in Ottawa, Ontario; Mayzie Marjorie married Jack Flanders and lives in Winnipeg; Morley Murdock married Ethel Menzies and lives on his father's farm; Anne married Leonard Black and they live in Brandon; Roberta Jean lives in Rossburn. Mr. Robert Brown was Reeve of the Rossburn Municipality for a number of years.

Jim Brown married Martha Chesney in 1901. They moved to the Vista district and farmed 26:19:24 in 1905. He was a cattle buyer in the district most of his life. Their family is as follows: Florence Ethel married William Stitt and lived on 10:19:24 which they bought from William Miller in 1918 and is now owned by his son Willis Stitt; Sarah Martha died at age 11 years of typhoid fever; Samuel James married Lena Kowal in 1933 and lives on 9:19:24, bought from Joseph Cummings, now owned by his son Ray Brown; Mary Margaret married Vernon Hamilton and lived in Rossburn; Walter Evans is on the original farm; Alexander Arthur married Viola Dandridge of Birtle and now lives in Cranbrook, B.C.; Carman Charles married Nellie Komhyr and now lives on Willie Hamilton's farm 22:19:24; Wilton married Marjorie Macklin and is Superintendent for the United Grain Growers and now lives in Portage; Roween Charlotte married Keith Kenward and lives in Weyburn, Sask.

Arthur and Effie Williams were born in Sohagpur, India, Central Provinces, the children of Medical missionaries. When still very young, they went back to England getting their education at Ackworth, a famous Quaker school. In 1902, he came to Kelloe where he worked for various farmers and then went west to Kandahar. He served overseas in the first World War and, upon returning to Canada, bought NW 20:18:24. His sister, Effie, joined him in April of 1922, and together they made a comfortable home and successful farm. They sold the farm in 1938 and retired to Solsgirth where Arthur was interested in various projects, but particularly the Credit Union of which he was secretary since its inception. He passed away in August of 1957. The Williamses are remembered by many Vista friends for their hospitality and helpfulness during their stay with us.

Alex Black, a brother of Mrs. Alex Macdonald, came out from Iona, Scotland in 1902 and settled on S.E. 7:19:23. Here, they lived happily until 1907 when his wife went to visit friends at Pilot Mound. She suddenly took ill and died.

Some years later, he married Isa Reid of Scotland and, from this union, there were two children, Mar-

garet (Mrs. Harold Hawk) of Winfield and Donald, a R.C.M.P. of Yarmouth, Nova Scotia. Mrs. Black died in 1912 and the home was destroyed by fire in 1916. He then built the present house occupied by Mike Shwaluk. In the spring of 1916, he married Mrs. Dixon who had been keeping house for him. They moved to Shoal Lake in January, 1931 where he died September, 1946, and his wife in January, 1952.

Alex Andrew of Banffshire, Scotland, came to Canada in 1903 and worked at Sanford for eight years. He was married in 1911 and came to Vista on March 15 of that year. His farm was S. 8:19:23 where he lived for eight years, moving then to S. 14:19:24. The children, Jim, David, Emma and Netta, attended Islay School.

In 1927, they moved to the Valley to the Harry Sleigh farm where they lived for twenty years and then retired to Rossburn.

There were seven children, all born at Vista: James at Rossburn; David and Arthur of Lacombe, Alberta; Douglas of Rossburn; Emma, Mrs. Otto Elvers, of Rossburn; Netta, Mrs. Jim Smith, of Rossburn; and Agnes, Mrs. Glen Smith, of Plumas, Manitoba.

Arthur Archibald Forde was born in Fermoy, Co. Cork, Ireland in 1884, the eldest son of Major Arthur Forde and Mary Drummond Kirkpatrick. He was educated in Wellington College, Berkshire, England, and after leaving school, came out to Canada in May, 1903. After working out in this district and Minnedosa for a few years, he bought S.W. 12:19:24 in 1907. Here he built a shanty and resided in it until 1909 when his home was destroyed by fire while he was playing a League game of football in Rossburn. He then built new buildings on S.W. 11:19:24. He married Flora MacDonald in 1916 and they had one daughter, Gwen, Mrs. Frank Steel.

1905

Mr. and Mrs. William Miller came to the Rossburn District in 1900 from Ayton, Ontario. They settled on what was known as the Wiggins farm, S.E. 28:19:24. Here they lived for one year then moved to Rossburn to the T. C. Peden farm W½ of 31:19:24. After living here for two years, they moved seven and one half miles south of Shoal Lake to what was known as the Frank Miller farm. After two years here, they moved to Vista, taking over John Armstrong's farm, the property now farmed by Willis Stitt. Here they remained until 1918 when they retired to town. Mr. Miller built the Carriage Shop, the first building put up in Vista, and here he worked at the woodwork trade for many years. Mr. Miller was also Vista's first Post Master.

Mrs. Miller with her cheery, kindly personality

was "Grandma Miller" to all and as such, is still affectionately remembered.

The family consisted of six boys and one girl. The eldest son, Theodore, farmed for many years the west half of Section eleven on which part of the town now is located. He was also buyer for the Western Elevator Grain Co. for many years and sold implements from the Warehouse which is now the Miller-Rogers garage. When he left the elevator, he moved 3½ miles south of Vista into the Culross District where he farmed for many years, then moved to town residing in his father's residence. His greatest success was with hogs for which he acquired a name and sold his product all over the prairies.

He was president of the 4-H clubs for years and is affectionately remembered by leaders and members for his unselfish enthusiasm and helpfulness.

He passed away in 1950. His wife Lillian Lowe of Wellwood was one of our Islay School teachers. She also served our community faithfully giving her time freely to help with anything worthwhile. She served as President of the W.A. Red Cross, etc., was organist of the Church for many years, and her lovely voice was for long an attraction on all our programmes.

There were three children, Selma (Mrs. John Menzie) of Gimli, Robert of Peace River, and Christina of Winnipeg.

Otto, the second son, married Jennie Rush of Oakburn. He learned the carpenter trade, then farmed in the Vista District for some years, then moved to Peace River where they are successfully farming. They have four children: Aldrid of Nipawin; Carlyle of Grande Prairie, Alberta; Carman of New Brunswick; and Lorraine of Peace River.

Henry, who farmed in the Vista District and also the Valley, is now living in Rosburn. His wife is Eva Hamilton of Vista. They have eight children: Cordelia, Mrs. Bateman, of Oregon; Dolly, Mrs. Art Galvin, of Churchbridge, Saskatchewan, Marion, Mrs. John Galvin, of Winnipeg; Dorothy teaching in Winnipeg; Hazel, Mrs. Fred Plant of Brandon, Bernard married Betty Emerson and lives at Hamiota; Everett lost his life when serving overseas in World War II; Gervin, the youngest son, is attending Bible School in Saskatoon.

August William Miller, fourth son, since 1925 has owned the Vista garage. It has been the longest enduring business by one man in the town. August is also our town Cop. He married Maud Lowes of Carberry who died in 1929. They had two daughters, Edythe (Mrs. Robert Young) and Ruth (Mrs. B. Rogers), both of Vista.

Wilfred carried on the Carriage work business of his father and was also Post Master until his death. His wife was Margaret Kippen of Newdale and she

has been our Post Mistress since her husband's passing. They had four children: Helen, Anne, Duncan and Billy, all living at home.

The youngest son Jack farms near Vista. He married Isabel Smith of Birtle. They have ten children: Eileen, nursing at Shoal Lake; Charlie in Winnipeg attending Diesel School, Betty in the phone office in Rosburn, Wally, Robena, Donna, Lois, Ronnie, Freddy and Eddy at home.

The only daughter of William Miller, Selma, died at the age of 13, and one son Bernie at 4, died while the family lived at Shoal Lake.

Hector McPhail came from Tiverton, Ontario about 1906. He worked for Hector and Alex Cameron of the Culross district and then bought land south of town, N.W. ¼ 2:19:24. In December of 1908, he married Mae Chesney. About five years later, the illness which eventually proved fatal, smote her and incapacitated her to the point where she had to go to a hospital home in Winnipeg. Here she died on March 26, 1942. Blizzard conditions delayed the funeral until April 2. Hector continued farming, then left here and moved to Geraldton, Ontario.

There were three children, Archie at Geraldton, Ontario, Neil at Atikokan, Mary in Hamilton, Ontario.

Sam Ham was our first blacksmith. He moved to Vista in 1909 from Sydney where he had been engaged in his trade. Here he built his shop and his first residence, which in later years, was replaced by the home now owned by Les Hamilton. He married Sarah Jane Hamilton, daughter of Dan Hamilton, pioneer, and they had four children: Cora, Mrs. Miller of Abernethy, Saskatchewan; Melvin, station agent of Lauder; Leonard at Montreal; and Doreen.

Mr. and Mrs. Ham were interested in and helpful in community work. Mr. Ham's fine bass voice was an asset to any musical gathering, and especially useful in quartettes of which there were many during Rev. Mr. McLaren's stay here. The Ham children, also with their musical ability, especially the boys' violin playing, were helpful in all our entertainment.

George Sutherland came from Wicks, Scotland with Mr. Pete Hogg in 1910. He first worked for Reg McLeod's father. He married Anne Armstrong and lived in Shoal Lake; they were married in March, 1915. His occupation was a carpenter. He later built a home in Vista and died in August, 1932. Mrs. Sutherland died on January 29, 1939.

George Brown Shaw was born at Ballynahinch, Co. Down, Ireland, fifteen miles from Belfast. When he was eleven years old, he went to learn the jeweller's trade, it being compulsory that all boys learn a trade. After finishing, he did not like it, so he went to Glasgow, Scotland, where he worked for a

time in the gas works. When he was about seventeen years old, he came out to his brother, James Shaw, in Ontario, but was not there long when his father died leaving him the farm in Ireland. He returned to work it but, after a year, came back to Ontario where he lived for a number of years, and then came west to Solsgirth, Manitoba. Here he homesteaded in the Birtle district on the boundary of Rossburn Municipality. It was while here that he married Mary Jane Sherritt. After a few years farming, they moved to Shoal Lake where Mr. Shaw ran a livery barn. At this time there was no jeweller at Shoal Lake, so he used to fix watches and clocks for the people all around. Mrs. Shaw says, "We would have five or six clocks, cleaned and going, ready for the people to come for them. He would tear them down and I would brush them. For this we made no charge, but were glad to be able to help them out."

After some time in Shoal Lake, they moved to Russell, then to B.C., back again to Shoal Lake, then in 1910 to Vista where he bought out Alex Cumming, the farm now occupied by Paul Bilinsky. Here they remained until Mr. Shaw died.

Mrs. Shaw has interesting memories of her own move from Ontario to Manitoba in 1879.

"I came to Emerson, the end of the railway at that time, seventy nine years ago last March, then on to Winnipeg. It was just a little place — mud streets, and one-horse, two wheeled carts. Father brought a car load of our belongings with us and we came by horse team and wagons from Emerson. No roads on the prairie, no fences or anything to guide us. Portage la Prairie was nearly all water, a track in at one side of a big slough and watch for a track on the other side — had to ford the rivers. I was so frightened of the water we had to go through! Manitoba was a wild-looking country; it had been boomed so high. What a sad surprise for my parents who had left a fine farm in Huron County — orchard, maple bush, and everything they needed."

Mr. and Mrs. Shaw's family were: Agnes, Mrs. Gordon Taylor, of Rossburn; George, who married Mabel Hamilton, daughter of M. R. Hamilton, Rossburn pioneer, and now lives in Toronto; William (deceased) was married to Linda Cameron of Solsgirth; Margaret, Mrs. Albert Roney, of Brandon; Grace, Mrs. Lachlan Cameron, of Solsgirth; Lawrence, married Violet Bell; Sarah, Mrs. Alfred Mitchell, of Rossburn; Jane, Mrs. Howard; Robert married Margaret MacDonald of Kelloe.

Mr. John Chegwin and son William came to Canada from Devonshire, England in 1911. Bill worked for Alexander MacDonald and Mr. Chegwin for his countryman, Bert Lundy. Mrs. Chegwin and the family consisting of John, Frank, Joe, Wilfred,

and two girls, Flora and Emily, came out two years later in 1913. One daughter, Frances, remained in Ontario where she and her husband settled.

The Chegwin family lived about a year on the old Muirman farm, then moved to the old Bell place which Mr. Chegwin farmed until his death on December 11, 1950. Mrs. Chegwin predeceased him in 1948.

Mr. and Mrs. Chegwin, loyal to the old land and industrious in the new, are an example of what hard work could accomplish in acquiring a comfortable home which offered hospitality freely.

Two of the sons, William and Frank, served overseas in the First World War. William, the eldest son, is farming S. 13:19:25, Rossburn. His wife is Polly Mitchell. John married Annie Morrison of Strathclair and is farming near Shoal Lake. Frank married Martha Burgess of Oakburn and is farming at Crandall. Joe is living at Oakville, Ontario; his wife is Lillian Morrison of Strathclair. Wilfred, the youngest son, is farming the old farm. His wife is Dorothy Hamilton. Flora is Mrs. Wilson Eastcott of Decker and Emily is Mrs. Ira Eastcott of Shoal Lake.

Paul Chegus came to Canada in 1905 from Ternowka in the Ukraine. He worked for a farmer near Hamiota, Manitoba for about 5 years. On January 21, 1912, he married Dora Dmyterko who came to Canada from Magdaliwka in the Ukraine in 1911. She had worked on a farm in Kenton, Manitoba.

In 1912, they bought a farm 24:19:24 in the Vista district. Here they raised their family. Mr. and Mrs. Chegus were faithful members of the Greek Catholic church. Mr. Chegus was Altar man for eight years. Mrs. Chegus belonged to the sisterhood for eighteen years. They retired to Oakburn on November 5, 1957.

Paul Chegus died December 12, 1957 at age of 76 years. Their children were as follows: Stella married Myron Mitch; Bill Chegus married Elsie Wilibnisky; Rose Chegus married George Burtneck; Peter Chegus married Mary Guglick; Anne married Mike Pelechaty; Mary married Fred Twerdun; Margaret married Paddy Partridge; Tena married John Tokaryk; Nellie married Peter Sytnyk; and Mildred married Louis Golletz.

Albert Woods was born in Muskoka, Ontario in 1883. Here he received his early education and then worked at logging until he came to Rossburn, Manitoba in April, 1908. He received his experience in farming by working for Sam Warnock and William Mitchell. He married Mary Greer, also of Muskoka, Ontario. They moved to Vista in 1916 and settled one and a half miles south of town on Sec. 3:19:24. There were eight children, all of whom attended Islay School and United Church Sunday School. About

1936, they moved to Oakburn and, in 1948, to their present home five miles south of Shoal Lake. In the spring (May) of this year, 1958, they celebrated their Golden Wedding.

The family are as follows: Dora, Mrs. Art Chesney, of Vista; Gladys, Mrs. W. C. Cumming, of Brandon; Maudie, Mrs. Dan McDonald, of Oakburn; Ivan married Marjorie Stewart of Brandon; Phyllis, Mrs. Robert Olafson, of Brandon; Margaret, Mrs. Charles Turnbull, of Quebec; Lorraine, Mrs. T. Eastcott, of Brandon; Bert married Frances Mann of Elgin.

Prokip and Anna Hrysak came to Canada with his family in April, 1899. They came to Strathclair by train, then by team to the Olha district. They were left to pitch a tent on frozen ground on the Stebeleski farm. Measles broke out among other people who were put on the same land. Many children and older people died at this time. Anna and Prokip lost their infant son Peter.

The family got a homestead on the north west quarter of Section 32:19:23. Wasyl Hrysak, their son, married Mary Chwaluk in February, 1908. They farmed the homestead till April 5, 1920 when they moved with their four older children to the Vista Community. They bought a half section of land from Milton Gardener, 12:19:24. Wasyl and Mary farmed until May, 1946 when they retired and moved into the hamlet of Vista. They had seven children, five daughters and two sons.

Jessie, born May 2, 1911, married Mike Mackedenski and they reside at Vista. Margaret, born April 26, 1913, married William Wytrychowski and lives in Winnipeg. Lorne, born April 1, 1916, married Nettie Ewashko and is farming the home farm. Elsie, born March 15, 1918, married Joe Zubrack and they live at Vista. Matt, born Sept. 13, 1920, married Eva Sytnyk and farms south of Vista. Stella, born June 17, 1924, married Mike Kwiatkowski and lives in Winnipeg. Anne, born July 20, 1926, married Steve Waytowich and they are farming south of Vista.

Machko and Paraska Bewza came to Canada in June, 1899 from a village called Husiatyn near Kiev. They had two children with them: Michael, age 6, and Tom, 4. Five other children were born to them in Canada.

Machko and his wife worked for Alexander MacDonald. Here it was that their son Paul was born. We, as little girls, were so excited when allowed to go and see the new baby! Later, they moved to their own homestead, Sec. 20:19:23.

Paul Bewza married Anne Kaskiw on November 25, 1925 at Olha, Manitoba. They settled on the original homestead of the elder Bewzas. Their children were Mike, Jean, Frank and Helen.

Paul and his brother Mike also owned a saw mill in the early thirties.

Before going on with the history of the bachelors in our Community, I should speak of a man who came out to Canada at the early age of 11 years in 1887. This boy was Fred Sparks who worked for 5 years for John Bell on the farm now owned by Wilfred Chegwin. In later life Fred married, moved to Birtle and farmed there for many years.

Some mention of our bachelors in the Vista Community should be written here. One of the earliest was an Irish man named Fred Hobbs who came into the district some time around 1905 or a little later. He worked for Alexander MacDonald and also for Archie Forde. He and Archie were away playing football in Rossburn when Archie's bachelor shack burned down which was situated on the south-west quarter 12:19:24. Fred left the community before the first World War and homesteaded north east of Dauphin Lake. He left this and joined up going overseas. No one knows if he came back to Canada or not.

James Souness came from Scotland to Canada in the year 1905 and worked for Mr. James Halliday for five years. He also worked for several other farmers in the district and in Shoal Lake district. He then left here going homesteading in the Rorketon district north east of Dauphin Lake. Later he came back to our district to live in 1954.

William (Bill) Andrew came to Canada from Banffshire, Scotland in 1907. In 1910, Bill came into the Vista Community hiring out to various farmers. He worked for Bob Peden, Rossburn in 1912 and 1913. He worked for Archie Forde while he was a bachelor and left when Archie got married. In the thirties, he worked for Norman Cummings who owned the Confectionery store in Vista. In the early forties, he looked after J. D. Black's sheep. Bill returned to work for the Fordes when Gwennie was a little girl. One evening, when there were extra people in for supper, our daughter was put to sit by Bill on the kitchen bench. Her constant wriggling caused Bill to say in exasperation, "Gwennie, will you no sit at peace!" He was a very patient man and one can honestly say they never heard him swear. His only word when vexed was "Botheration!"

Have you ever wondered what could happen when two Scotchmen met with a single purpose in their minds? Bill Andrew was sent by A. Forde to Alexander MacDonald's for the post mall to fix fences. On arriving at MacDonalds, he met Mr. MacDonald who had just finished picking a large pail of berries. He said, "Bill, I want you to take some of these berries to the Fordes." "Yes," said Bill, "but I want the mall." "What, you want them all?" exclaimed Mr. MacDonald. "Yes, I want the mall,"

said Bill. "You mean you want the pail and all," concluded Mr. MacDonald.

Bill passed away March 20, 1959. Another familiar face gone from our community.

Billy MacKenzie, a cousin of David MacDonald, came out from Scotland and went into the logging camps out of Vancouver in the earlier years. Later, he came to the Vista District. He is remembered best by the community in the dirty thirties for having a fine team of horses that pulled a sleigh with engine and saw mounted on it as well as a crusher for crushing grain. With this, he made his rounds among the various farmers of the district. He had a great sense of humor and blue twinkling eyes. He was overheard one day in the town, after receiving his first old age pension cheque, saying, "Do you know, I was wondering where I'd get money enough to buy a safety-pin for my coat." He had been a sailor before migrating to Canada. He liked nothing better than to talk about ships, especially the big liners like Queen Mary and her sister ship, the Queen Elizabeth. One day, after a very heavy rainstorm, he met Frank Steel in the town and said, "You know, Frank, that was such a bad storm, I very near had to fly the Blue Peter this morning!" The Blue Peter was a ship's flag flown when a ship was about to leave port. More than once, this man would walk the mile across our fields just to ask if he could hold the new baby. A big tough old sailor with a big heart and a gentle way with little ones.

Archie Ellice came out from Scotland to Peter Dicks. He had been working on his father's dairy farm and was very good with cattle. He worked for D. J. Black of Oakburn around 1923 and 1924. He worked for three years for Archie Forde. While in our community Archie played football on the Vista Boys' team. He left the community to take up farming north of Winnipeg in the early thirties.

Mrs. Forde passed away before this history was completed. I, Gwen Steel (Forde) have endeavored to continue on and complete this history with the help of many of our friends and neighbours of the Vista community. Many thanks to all of you for your help. It was much appreciated. If I have left out anyone or any family of the district, I assure you it wasn't intentional. My thanks to my daughters and to my daughter-in-law Bernice for their help in typing, etc.

Gwen Steel (Forde)
May, 1980

In closing:

This was a verse my mother had selected for the ending of this history.

Mine is a garden of
MEMORY
Old friends, my dearest
flowers —
Past joys, my shaded
bowers —
Mine is a garden of
HOPE
That good fruits I may
bring
To God's great harvesting.

J. Rowley

Views of Vista

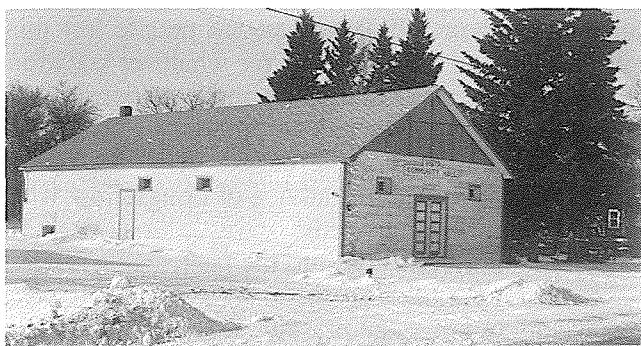
Nearly fifty years have passed since my family (Breakeys) came to this community. As one reflects on the past there is the realization that activities and services once available were numerous. Throughout the years it was our experience to go to Vista and be able to:

1. Purchase groceries in four different stores all in one shopping trip.
2. Have our car repaired at the garage.
3. Go to a two room school and later a three room school and obtain a Grade XI standing.
4. Worship in St. Andrews United Church on Sunday.
5. Take repairs to the blacksmith.
6. Deliver grain to either the U.G.G., Western Canada Flour Mills (later bought by Manitoba Pool) or the Northern Elevator.
7. Ship cattle by rail on Mondays.
8. Order a lunch in a cafe.
9. Have shoes or harness repaired at Wes Lillie's.
10. Sell our dressed poultry at the Community Hall in the early winter. The produce was graded, weighed and sold and then packed in wooden shipping boxes. Jack Miller with his team and sleigh then transported load after load to a waiting box car on the C.N.R. track.
11. Purchase dry goods, everyday clothes, shoes, rubbers etc. in two different stores.
12. Deliver cream and eggs to the local station where it was put on the train by R. J. Alexander.
13. Visit the local pool room.
14. Skate, play hockey or curl in the winter time.
15. Have furniture repairs done, get a haircut, or order a new heated winter van at Wilfred Miller's Carriage Works. The cost of ours was \$34.00. It guaranteed no more freezing trips to school and was the greatest comfort of our lives at the time.
16. Make an appointment at Nettie Hyrcak's beauty salon at the back of the cafe.
17. Borrow a book from the Extension Library in Young's cafe.

18. Have work done at Matt Halliday's Woodwork shop.

Let us now think on the social life of this small community throughout the same period of time.

Within the United Church there was a Young People's Group. Mrs. T. O. Miller gave leadership to the choir and C.G.I.T. while I was a teenager. Later an Explorers group was led by Mrs. Mary Stitt, Mrs. Velma Clayton and Mrs. Mary Bilinsky.



Vista Community Hall as seen in 1983.

The Community Hall could echo many memories of by gone happy times. There have been numerous Fowl Suppers complete with concerts following. Several Three Act Plays were produced during the winter seasons. Concerts were held at Christmas, St. Patrick's Day and other special occasions. Card parties and dances were held regularly. Wedding receptions, Anniversary teas, family reunions, and showers for many brides of the community took place here.

The Community Rink was an outdoor one. The first was located parallel to August Miller's garage. He allowed a change room and waiting room in his building. His plant also generated electricity for the rink. Later another outdoor rink was located parallel to the present curling rink. When there was an abun-



Vista Curling Rink under construction during the summer of 1959. Lunch time for the volunteers including Melville Brown, Ray Brown, Willis Stitt, Tony Barlow, Mike Baydock, Robert Young, Bob Muirman, Gordie Strong, V. Barlow, Carol Barlow.

dance of young people, Vista had its share of good hockey teams, tournaments and carnivals.

The Curling Rink was built in 1959. This was a volunteer community effort. At the time of the first bonspiel someone from a neighbouring town remarked that Vista had one sheet of ice and enthusiasm for three.

Throughout the years at different times there were as many as seven or eight different 4-H Clubs that boys and girls could belong to.

The first Scout troop was led by Wilfred Miller sometime in the 40's. Later, Frank Steele provided leadership for Scouts and I, Dorothy Armstrong, had a Cub Pack.



Vista Boy Scouts and their mothers. Mothers, left to right: Mrs. Wm. Armstrong, Mrs. Art Chesney, Mrs. Jack Halliday, Mrs. Vic Halliday, Mrs. Walter Baker, Mrs. Dunc McIntyre, Mrs. Wm. Stitt. Boys, left to right: John Armstrong, Gilbert Chesney, Cam Halliday, Allan Elder, Willis Stitt, Ritchie McIntyre, Dick Baker.

The women of the community had a variety of organizations in which they worked and socialized. During the Second World War years much work was

done through Red Cross. When women sat to rest, they knitted for soldiers. Several quilts were made in the hall for the War effort.

There were Women's Church groups and the Women's Institute which made a variety of interesting activities. During the 30's Mrs. Ames of the Extension Service organized three or four groups of women to learn crafts like knitting and crocheting. Later the Women's Institute sponsored other learning projects.

When there were enough people involved, Vista was a lively, caring community to be a part of.

A view of Vista in February 1982, is much different than the thoughts we have of by gone days.

There is a vacant lot where once stood St. Andrew's Church. It was torn down in the 70's by Ronald Hamilton. The manse beside it has been moved out to be the farm home of Bill and Loraine Halliday.

The only grain company in business is the U.G.G. Nick Morris is the present agent.

The hall is still in useable condition and hopefully it will be a welcome place for many occasions yet.

Sitko's store is empty. A few months after Adam's death in 1961, Walter Weselak bought the business. He operated a cream truck too. In 1970 when Weselaks left, it became the dwelling of Bill Martin and later John and Rose Cameron.

The cafe had been torn down and the lot cleared off. Fire destroyed the Miller-Rogers garage. The original building was torn down in 1946 and rebuilt by August and his son-in-law Balmer Rogers. The old garage had served the community well. Balmer was in business until 1961. Alex Stewart operated a garage here for a short time and the owner at the time of the fire was Joe Skavinski.

The curling rink is still here and in fall of 1981 an effort was made to once again put in ice and have a bonspiel.

Bakers have been in the general store since 1950. Since Mrs. Margaret Miller retired in 1973, the Post Office has been located at the back of the store where we continue to get daily mail. The value of a country store can be so easily underestimated. It is now the hub of our community. Through our postmaster and storekeeper we know the whereabouts and welfare of everyone. The community is grateful for the service given by Baker's store.

The Vista Carriage Works lot now is the location of Gladys Lillie's mobile home. The old building was torn down in the 70's. Robert Young and Vince Barlow were the last men to offer some garage repair service here.

Pete and Mary Bilinsky live on the lot where the fourth store was located.

Matt Halliday's work shop was moved out to the Vic Halliday farm.

A cairn is located on the south west corner of the old school location. The building was completely closed in 1968 and later moved to be a maintenance building at the rear of the Rossburn Collegiate.

A view of Vista fifty years ago compared to a view in 1982 seems to be so extreme.

What has happened?

The answer seems apparent.

Dozens of other small communities had a similar experience. Larger farms and declining population have taken their toll. Many young people left this community and after training for whatever vocation they chose, many of them have made a contribution to society of which we can be proud.

Those of us who have called Vista our home would do well to take the advice of Longfellow who penned the following words:

Look not mournfully into the past,

It comes not back again,

Wisely improve the present, It is thine.

Go forth to meet the shadowy future

Without fear, and with a manly heart.

submitted by Dorothy Armstrong,
February, 1982

Grain Elevators at Vista

No records were available to obtain any statistical information with regards to the Northern and Pool Elevators at Vista. Enquiries made of several individuals resulted in the following statements. Apology is made for any errors or omissions there may be.

The first grain elevator in Vista was built by the Northern Grain Co. about 1906.

The following list of names are believed to be men who served as agents throughout the years: Mr. Campbell, Fred Boulton, R. J. Johnson, Sam Ham, Mr. Lingfield, Lester Collins and Ernie Lillie.

The building was eventually purchased by United Grain Growers.

In 1909 another elevator was built by Western Canada Flour Mills. The first agent was T. O. Miller.

While Ronald Hay was employed by the Company, ownership changed and it became known as the Manitoba Pool Elevator.

Cliff Williams, Cecil Nichol, Vince Barlow, Bernie Clayton, Roger Mudge, Bill Driedger and Vic Penner were among those who bought grain until the elevator was taken over by the United Grain Growers.

Total elevator capacity in 1909 was 60,000 bushels at Vista's facilities.

submitted by Dorothy Armstrong



Vista elevators as seen April 1961.

Vista United Grain Growers Association

According to recollections and information that has been tabulated, The Vista Grain Growers Grain Co. held their first meeting about 1908.

However, it was not until 1913 that an elevator with a capacity of 25,000 bushels was built in the village of Vista. (I understand that this elevator had been dismantled in Shoal Lake, and rebuilt in Vista.)

On Feb. 22, 1918, a meeting of the Rossburn and Vista locals was called. At this meeting, it was decided that the two locals would join, and would be known as the VISTA LOCAL of the UNITED GRAIN GROWERS NO. 243.

The new board chosen were — **President** — Geo. Cormack, Jr., **Secretary** — A. A. Forde, **Directors** — Alexander Macdonald, J. D. MacKinnon, Alex Duncanson, M. D. Hamilton, Tom Armstrong and David MacDonald.

It is of interest to note that A. A. Forde held the position of Secretary until his death in 1964, a total of 46 years. It was then that Cameron Halliday became secretary, and he carried on until 1967, when he moved out of the community. Alexander MacPhail was the next secretary, and his wife Florence acted part-time. Then, due to ill health, he resigned in 1975. Dennis Young carried on as secretary for the next two years, resigning in 1977. It was then that Nick Lysyshin took over, and is the secretary as of this date 1981.

In 1934, the walls of the elevators gave way, and early that year, it was rebuilt. Then, in 1949 an annex with a capacity of 20,000 bushels was built.

Hydro was installed in 1957, which replaced the old gas engine, that was often very hard to start.

In 1968, U.G.G. purchased the Pool Elevator, situated directly to the south-east. The elevator had a capacity of 28,000 bushels, and the annex had a capacity of 5,000 bushels.

A residence for the elevator agents was purchased in 1946, which was sold in 1968. At that time U.G.G. bought the Pool residence. And as of this date 1981, it continues to be the residence of the U.G.G. agents.

(At the Annual Meeting held on Oct. 23, 1968, it was reported that half the crop in the area was still to be harvested.)

The Grain Buyers —

The first grain buyer in the U.G.G. elevator in the Village of Vista was Geo. Millar, who with his wife had come from Scotland. War had been declared in Europe in 1914, and, the next year Geo. joined the services. He was in Training Camp in Ontario, when he contracted pneumonia, and died.

Allan Walker, McCurdy and T. O. Miller were the next grain buyers, but we are not sure of the dates or the length of time that they carried on their duties.

Duncan McIntyre was grain buyer for a period of sixteen years, Norman Strong was grain buyer for fifteen years. Then, Nick Morris took over, and as of this date 1981, has been grain buyer for twenty-one years.

Much could be said of each of these grain buyers. They gave devoted service to their company. And, each in his own way, gave of their time toward every worthy project in the village and in the community.

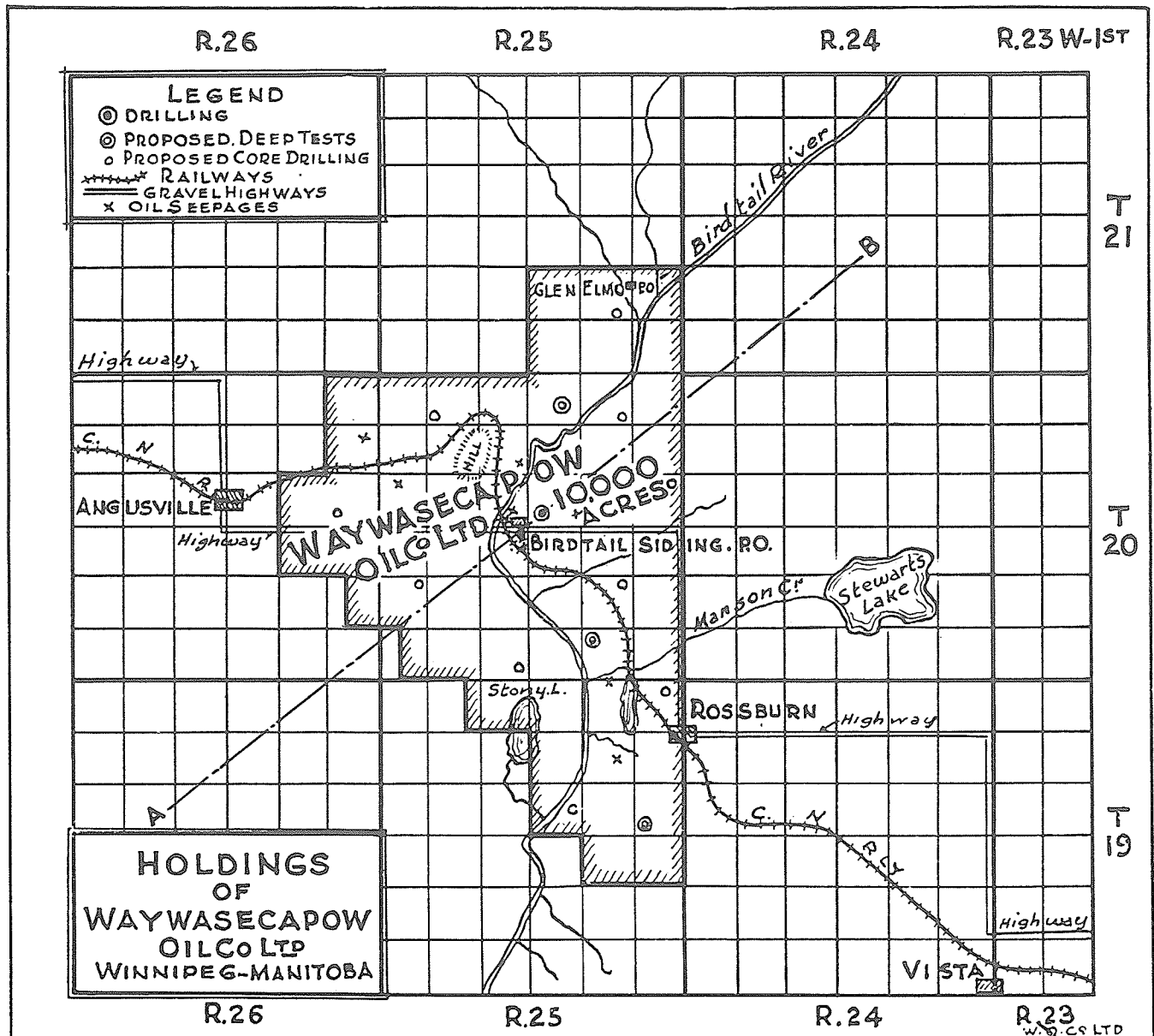
By Alexander MacPhail

Waywasecapow Oil Company Limited

The first oil exploration in Manitoba had its start in 1934. Mr. White, a postmaster who leased property on the reserve at Birdtail Siding, dug a water well about thirty feet deep, but was unable to use it due to an oil covering on the water. The news of this finding spread, and two young men from east of Winnipeg became interested and arrived to see what they could find. One of these men had done some prospecting before. By skimming oil off the water, they gathered about half a gallon and took it to Winnipeg to be analyzed. It was found to be a high grade oil. They then got J. L. Mander, an oil geologist to come out to do more analyzing of the project, which then started in a large staking of the Oil Rights within the area before anyone else heard about it. After their claims were registered many large Oil Companies followed up by leasing oil rights from many who had acquired them with their land title.

In 1935 J. Leonard Mander formed the Waywasecapow Oil Company Limited. He sold many shares or stock under this name to raise money to start drilling. He acquired a light hard core drilling machine and eventually got started to sink a three inch hole. This plant was steam operated, and not meant for this type of drilling. About the 6 or 700

LOCATION OF COMPANY'S HOLDINGS, IN MANITOBA



foot level they ran into problems and drilling came to a halt for some time.

The 1930's were hard times for everyone and it was hard to raise money. Later, William J. Holmes a well to do man, who owned the Amphitheatre Rink in Winnipeg and was also a contractor, became interested in this drilling operation.

A truck mounted drill was acquired and some test drilling was done on one or two different places. In 1938 or 39 a larger drill was bought, and work began again on drilling a new well on the same site, S.W. 1/4 22-20-25W 1st Meridian, owned by Frank Cleland. Being short of funds again, and with the war of 1939-45 in progress, the project was again halted. After the war was over, in 1946 they again got some

Americans interested in buying shares in the company. Enough funds were raised to acquire a larger drilling machine, and drilling was started again in 1948. Things seemed to go along quite well, but very slowly as this machine was really not large enough for deep drilling. They expected that they would have to go down to at least the 3200 feet level to reach the oil resources or basin. The drilling operation seemed to go quite smoothly until they got to a depth of about 3200 feet, and then disaster struck again. The drill bit became stuck, or frozen as they called it, at this depth. They tried various methods to get it released, but nothing worked. The last method and hope was "jacking", and as they put more pressure on the jacks, disaster struck. The pipes broke about half

way down, leaving a diamond bit and about 1200 feet of pipe still down there. This was actually the end of drilling on this site.

Anyone looking for references of this well, will find it registered and listed with the Manitoba Department of Mines and Minerals as Cleland No. 1. This was the first oil venture in Manitoba.

Later, other Oil Companies became very interested, and seismographic testing programs were done all around this district, and further south in the Virden area. The Virden area had been verified by J. L. Mander as the next out cropping of oil evidence, along with the Estevan area, at the time of his explorations here. He claimed that there is a large basin of oil in the area of this first well.

Since oil is being produced in these other areas, who knows, someday, this site may still be put into production.

The firm later became known as the Waywayseecappo Oil Company Ltd., and the story of that company and its problems continues — much of it is in the words of its founder, J. L. Mander.

Oil drilling efforts by the Waywayseecappo Oil Company were besieged by difficulties. A letter by J. L. Mander, published in the Rosburn Review issue of April 19, 1950, informed all who had leased land to either the Waywayseecappo Oil Company or the Lizard Point Oil Company, of these problems and plans for consolidation of these two companies into a new company, Red-man Oils Limited.

“Here I am, like a bad penny, turning up again. Although I may not have been able to keep in touch with you personally, you have no doubt known of my activity in the district. From the time we closed down our operations, due to the war, and economic conditions, at the Birdtail in 1940 and until they were resumed again in 1948, I have been camping on the door steps of the big companies, trying to get their recognition and assistance, and during that time often felt like the proverbial voice, “crying in the wilderness” although finally I was able to persuade them to make a Geological Survey in the Russell and Birdtail area in 1943-44, all as a result of the information I was able to supply them from our first exploratory drilling at the Birdtail. This, with what they learned as the result of the survey, (which they kept secret), culminated in the formation of the Brandon Exploration Company by the major oil companies, who took up the largest exploration permit in Manitoba ever taken out in Western Canada.

Last year I went back to the large oil corporation with the results of our exploration last summer, and at last they harkened to the voice in the wilderness. They sent eight lease hounds into the district in the middle of January to lease all the land they could on

the strength of our additional findings, but as far as financial assistance went, I was to receive the usual silent treatment of wearing out the small operator. This is the old technique well known to the sourdoughs fraternity of oil scouts, and accounts for the lapse that takes place from the time oil is known to exist, and the time of its actual discovery, as you will see from the historic figures enclosed, gathered from authentic sources; figures are not available for Canada, but if they were they would be very similar.

The purpose of this letter is to bring you up to date and to inform you that our two companies are still active and participated equally in the financial cost of the drilling done during the past season. Had the well in the Birdtail been completed last fall, it was planned to move a rig into the Russell area, but due to difficulties beyond our control, had to be postponed.

It is now proposed to amalgamate the Russell company (Lizard Point Oil Co. Ltd.) with the Birdtail Company (Waywayseecappo Oil Co. Ltd.) into one company to be known as the Red-Man Oils Ltd. This new Company plan to drill at Russell this year. The new company will take over all the assets and liabilities of the two old Companies, and will also carry out the policies of the old Companies, which were based on all that is best in the Co-operative movement and the corporate set up under free enterprise.

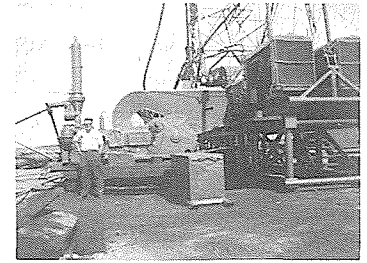
All the farmers who lease to our Companies are to have special consideration in the event of oil being discovered, in the form of a rebate on all oil purchased. The shareholders' dividend security policy provides that 25 percent of all gross receipts from the sale of oil are to be put into a reserve trust fund for the purpose of dividends. The shareholders have the right to purchase additional shares, equal to those already held at the original price of fifty cents (50¢) within thirty (30) days after oil has been discovered regardless of what the shares increase as the result of discovery.

We do not know of another Company that safeguards and protects its shareholders in this manner. We believe that our shareholders, a large proportion of whom are farmers, should be well rewarded for the sportsmanship, co-operation and patience, and should not be allowed to become the forgotten man, which is the case in most of the oil promotions, and the reason is that the vicissitudes of undertaking oil development in a virgin field are many, and I plan to discuss this with you personally in the near future, and when the roads permit. Should oil be found on any portion of the companies' holdings, you will benefit as any one of the shareholders and share in the 25 percent of the gross production, whether or not it is found on your land; and should it be found on your

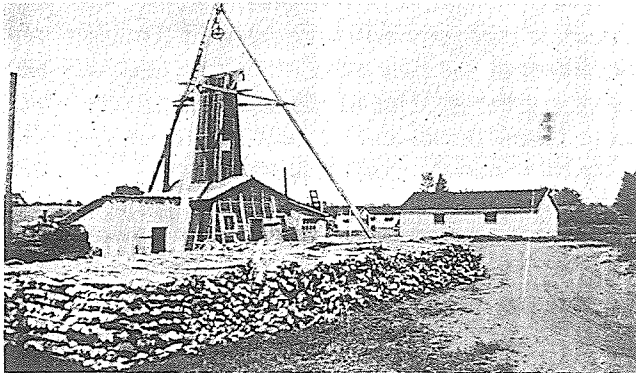
farm, you will also receive 12½ percent gross royalty specified in your lease.

Many of the leases we secured were not on a uniform rental basis, so this and other factors, such as the validity of the oil and gas rights on many of our leases, have deterred us from dealing with this question. We have talked with many of the farmers who have given us leases and they have agreed to take shares in our Company in lieu of any arrears that may be due under the lease, and put the leases in good standing on a uniform and equitable rental basis at the current rates, which prevail now that the big companies have their lease hounds in the district leasing all the land they can get on a ten-year lease at ten cents per acre. They, of course, pay only one year's rental at a time during that term, without any obligation to drill. It is obvious that they will wait to see what results we get first. We are willing to keep our lease in good standing by paying all arrears and also the ten-year term in advance, in shares in our

new Company, the RED-MAN OILS LIMITED. We are willing to issue these shares to you along with a Certificate of Rights, immediately."



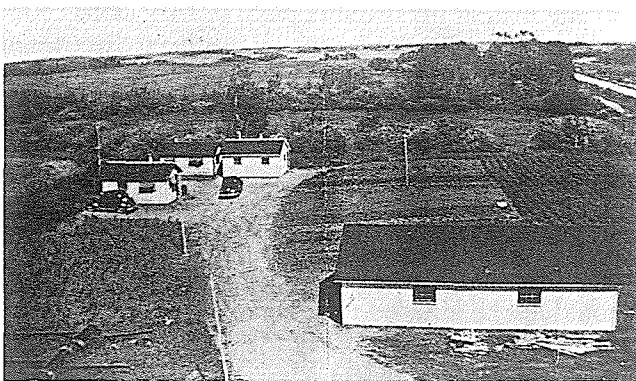
Oil Rigs in the Birdtail Valley as shown in these two photos.



Exploratory Rotary Core Drill, Enclosed for Winter Operations.



Men taking a break from the drilling at the oil rig in the Birdtail; tubular forms in the back are core drilling samples.



Prospecting for oil in Manitoba. By the Waywasecapow Oil Company Limited. Camp Buildings, Pipe and Tool Shed, Birdtail Valley, Man.

Our Representatives in Government

In 1881, the boundaries of the Province of Manitoba were expanded. This expansion took in the area now known as the Municipality of Rosburn. At the same time, the number of seats in the Legislative Assembly was expanded from 24 to 30 to provide for representation from the new territories. One of the electoral divisions so created was the constituency of Birtle which included the Rosburn area.

In 1888, the Legislative Assembly was expanded to 35 seats and a new electoral division of Russell was created in the Rosburn area. The Rosburn area remained in the Russell constituency from 1888 until 1958 when the name was changed to Birtle-Russell. At the time of the 1981 provincial general election, the constituency became known as Roblin-Russell.

A list of the MLA's who have served the Rossburn area are as follows.

Name	Party	Year	Notes of Interest
Edward Leacock	Conservative	Aug., 1882	first MLA to represent the Rossburn area
Edward Leacock	Conservative	Jan., 1883	
Edward Leacock	Conservative	Dec., 1886	
James Fisher	Liberal	July, 1888	
James Fisher	Independent	July, 1892	
James Fisher	Independent	Jan., 1896	
Henry Mullins	Conservative	Dec., 1899	
W. Doig	Liberal	July, 1903	
A. L. Bonnycastle	Conservative	March, 1907	
A. L. Bonnycastle	Conservative	July, 1910	
F. Young Newton	Conservative	Feb., 1911	Minister of Health and Public Welfare from 1935 to 1940
Donald McDonald	Liberal	July, 1914	
William Wilson	Liberal	Aug., 1915	
William Wilson	Liberal	June, 1920	
Isaac Griffiths	United Farmers Movement	July, 1922	
Isaac Griffiths	Progressives	July, 1927	
Isaac Griffiths	Lib.-Progressive	June, 1932	
Isaac Griffiths	Lib.-Progressive	July, 1936	
William Wilson	Lib.-Progressive	April, 1941	
William Wilson	Lib.-Progressive	Oct., 1945	
Rodney Clement	Ind.-Coalition	Nov., 1949	Minister of Municipal Affairs Minister without portfolio Resigned to contest Fed. election appointed speaker of the house in 1977
Rodney Clement	Ind.-Lib.-Prog.	June, 1953	
Rodney Clement	Lib.-Progressive	June, 1958	
Robert G. Smellie	Prog.-Cons.	Dec., 1962	
Robert G. Smellie	Prog.-Cons.		
Rodney Clement	Liberal	June, 1966	
Harry E. Graham	Prog.-Cons.	June, 1969	
Harry E. Graham	Prog.-Cons.	June, 1973	
Harry E. Graham	Prog.-Cons.	Oct., 1977	
Wally McKenzie	Prog.-Cons.	Nov. 1981	
Members of Parliament for our Constituency			First M.P. for Rossburn area
James L. Lynch	Liberal	March, 1871	
Robert Cunningham	Liberal	July, 1872	
Robert Cunningham	Liberal	Jan., 1874	
Joseph O'Connell Ryan	Liberal	Aug., 1874	
John Alexander McDonald	Lib.-Cons.	Sept., 1878	
Joseph O'Connell Ryan	Liberal	Nov., 1878	
Robert Watson	Liberal	June, 1882	
Robert Watson	Liberal	Feb., 1887	
Robert Watson	Liberal	March, 1891	
Nathaniel Boyd	Conservative	July, 1892	
William James Roche	Conservative	June, 1896	
William James Roche	Conservative	Nov., 1900	
William James Roche	Conservative	Nov., 1904	
William James Roche	Conservative	Oct., 1908	
William James Roche	Conservative	Sept., 1911	
Thomas Crerar	Government	Dec., 1917	
Thomas Crerar	Progressives	Dec., 1921	
Henry Mullins	Conservative	Oct., 1925	
James Glen	Lib.-Prog.	Sept., 1926	
Henry Mullins	Conservative	July, 1930	
James Glen	Lib.-Prog.	Oct., 1935	
James Glen	Lib.-Prog.	March, 1940	
Stuart Garson	Liberal	Dec., 1948	
Stuart Garson	Liberal	June, 1949	
Stuart Garson	Liberal	Aug., 1953	
Nicholas Mandziuk	Prog.-Cons.	June, 1957	
Nicholas Mandziuk	Prog.-Cons.	March, 1958	
Nicholas Mandziuk	Prog.-Cons.	June, 1962	
Nicholas Mandziuk	Prog.-Cons.	April, 1963	
Nicholas Mandziuk	Prog.-Cons.	Nov., 1965	
Craig Stewart	Prog.-Cons.	June, 1968	
Craig Stewart	Prog.-Cons.	Oct., 1972	
Craig Stewart	Prog.-Cons.	July, 1974	

TABLES OF STATISTICS

Population		
Year	Municipality	Village
1901	1,352	
1911	2,716	
1921	3,086	357
1931	3,321	421
1941	2,976	443
1951	2,054	586
1956	1,852	589
1961	1,499	591
1966	1,284	638
1971	1,077	638
1974	890	652

Religions of the People								
Year	Catholic	Anglican	Presbyterian	Methodist	Baptist	Orthodox	United	Other
1901	825	53	325	126	26	54	—	85
1921	716	119	604	195	5	1,745	—	59
1931	2,065	83	130	—	9	609	753	86
1941	2,157	97	147	—	2	304	619	21
1951	1,589	69	67	—	3	367	499	46
1961	1,238	57	29	—	11	269	434	52
1971	975	35	45	—	20	265	320	65

ORIGINS OF THE PEOPLE

Ukrai-					
Year	Anglo-Saxon	Polish	*Reserve	Native	Other
1901	473	844	—	154	12
1921	821	2,562	302	—	60
1931	814	2,870	411	—	58
1941	716	2,621	455	1	81
1951	523	2,018	—	12	87
1961	434	1,564	988	7	85
1971	315	1,300	885	45	50

*combination of two reserves

Year	Farm Operators	Farming Operations							Farm Population
		*Size of Farms					*Land Occupied		
		160 & less	161-320	321-480	481-640	641 & up	Improved	Unimproved	
1885	86	55	30	—	—	1	—	—	
1916	478	—	—	—	—	—	30,025	66,781	
1926	648	461	124	38	16	9	51,693	83,841	
1941	554	—	—	—	—	—	53,952	50,495	2,976
1946	531	—	—	—	—	—	68,193	84,017	2,574
1951	485	—	—	—	—	—	72,919	81,983	1,903
1961	389	—	—	—	—	—	83,993	68,222	1,280
1966	350	—	—	—	—	—	86,943	70,424	1,152
1976	254	11	80	70	30	63	88,096	55,332	670

*in acres

Organizations

Birdtail Women's Institute

The Birdtail Women's Institute was organized by Mrs. Belcher. The group received its charter May 23, 1923 under the original name of "Ranchvale" with sixteen charter members. When we celebrated our 50th Anniversary, eight of these charter members were still living — Mrs. May Crookshanks, Mrs. Jean Cleland, her sister Laura Veitch, Mrs. Bob Wilson, Mrs. Henderson (formerly Mrs. Wm. Craig), her sister Chrissie Smith and Mrs. Abner Joiner (formerly Mrs. Walt Veitch).

The first officers were: President — Mrs. Robert Bailey. Vice-President — Mrs. Frank Cleland (Jean). Secretary — Mrs. Bob Wilson. Treasurer — Mrs. Wm. Finch.

Meetings were held in the members' homes and according to records, were well attended. All the members were farm women. This meant they drove horses to the meetings over very poor roads. Some years later, Ranchvale and Valley Churches amalgamated through the efforts of Rev. J. J. Crookshanks. Ranchvale was a little community centre consisting of a church, barn, post office and three homes on three corners. Valley Church was situated some miles north of Ranchvale. It was moved to Ranchvale and became a community hall.

Many enjoyable events took place in this community hall. Mrs. May Crookshanks told an amusing story about her mother at one of the concerts. While singing, Mrs. Nash forgot the words. Her daughter had to whisper line after line while she accompanied her mother at the piano, — much to the amusement of the audience and deep embarrassment to her daughter. These concerts, along with teas, bake sales, and suppers, helped raise funds while bringing great enjoyment to the community.

From records we managed to locate, the highest membership in the W.I. was sixteen. The average membership for thirty-years was ten, with never more than eight truly active members. But the achievements were enormous. During the First and Second World Wars, they knitted, sewed and packed

food boxes for our boys overseas and presented medallions to those who returned. One deed in particular rates mention here. In 1927 a large family immigrated to the Ranchvale area from Scotland. The Birdtail W.I. welcomed the Maxwell family. They were given a good night's rest in a local hotel before going on to their new home. They were met at the farmstead by Mrs. Simon Crookshanks and Mrs. Sam Crookshanks. They found a clean house and a good hot meal. Mrs. Maxwell, who was already suffering pangs of homesickness and weakness from twenty-one days at sea on a cattle boat, was in tears as she thanked them for their kindness. She was so deeply touched by the thoughtfulness of these strangers who had showered them with groceries and live chickens from which she would have eggs for her family. As soon as they were settled, Mrs. Maxwell became a member of the Institute until her death in 1950.

After the second World War, it was decided to change the name of the organization from Ranchvale to Birdtail. Ranchvale had blended into the districts of Birdtail, Glen Elmo and Mears. The tiny community was a thing of the past.

Many changes in life style took place during those years. Members who once walked or drove horses to meetings, now drive cars. Coal oil lamps have been replaced by electricity. Butter is no longer churned from farm cream at home but is bought at creameries. Bread can be bought at bakeries. A farmer's wife no longer has to set hens to hatch chicks. These can be bought by the hundreds from hatcheries. Old bossy cow chews her cud contentedly while being milked by a milking machine. No longer is grain stooked and threshed. The farm wife no longer has to prepare meals for a threshing gang of 18 to 20 men. The grain is swathed and combined by one or two men.

The Institute's objectives have also changed with the times. At one time the main concerns of a member were sewing and cooking for her home and children. Now she has more worldly concerns as her

interest turns to politics and community affairs far beyond her home. At one time a mother's concern was how to provide enough food for her family, regardless of its nutritive value. Now the big concern is nutrition.

With so many women in the work force, they are striving for equality of pay. They are more fashion conscious and many make their own clothing.

But one thing hasn't changed. There still is a need to raise funds for worthy causes. So, teas, bazaars, whist drives, bake sales and raffles are still put on.

But the original objectives of the W.I. remain the same. It's still true, "A nation cannot rise above the level of its homes" and so we must raise them to the highest level possible. Our motto still is "For Home and Country."

We have had home economists give demonstrations on cooking, sewing, food storage, sensible shopping and nutrition. We have had a nurse give demonstrations in First Aid and artificial respiration by mouth to mouth resuscitation. We have had Senior Citizens speak on pioneer days and we were lucky to have one of Rossburn's first teachers, Nona Peden, as a guest speaker.

Some of our members are involved in 4-H work and we always take part in the Harvest Festival.

We give a Christmas Tea to the residents of the Senior Citizen's Home and through our Ability Fund we furnished and maintain a ward in our local hospital. We send cheer boxes to our sick, flowers to the bereaved and blankets to fire victims. In 1967 we sent a school child to the Expo '67. Donations are made to the Peace Gardens to maintain an acre near the gate and support the picnic nook and playground. Our future plan is to help with the Personal Care Home when it becomes a reality.

For a group so small (ten members over thirty years) our accomplishments are remarkable. I'm sure we stand shoulder high in the ranks of any organization. Our organization has a feeling of deep satisfaction of a job well done and is a credit to the community it serves. We had a wonderful example set for us by our pioneer members and we aim to carry on to make the Institute a living legend of Birdtail Valley.

In 1971, we made a scroll. All members' names are added to this with the Charter names placed top centre. The first record book our Charter members received, lists on the back cover twelve objectives of the institute. I believe our branch has scored nearly 100% on all twelve. Our records over the years bear this out.



Ranchvale Presbyterian Ladies Aid Society, 1913. Meeting held at the John A. Smith home, Ranchvale. Back row, left to right: Mrs. Parmelee, Mrs. D. Cameron, Mrs. D. Grant, Mrs. H. Sleight, Miss J. Beale, Mrs. Jack Plant. Middle row: Mrs. Ady Bigford, Mrs. Bert Barkley, Mrs. Veitch, Sr., Mrs. J. A. Smith with Bill Bigford, Mrs. Palmer. Front row: Mrs. Agnes Grant, Laura Veitch, Mrs. Bob Wilson, Mrs. A. Joiner with Rowatt Veitch, Annie Palmer.

Birdtail Womens' Institute Ranchvale Charter May 23, 1923

President: Mrs. Robert Bailey
Vice-President: Mrs. Frank Cleland
Secretary: Mrs. Bob Wilson
Treasurer: Mrs. Wm. Finch.

Mrs. Jim Belcher	Mrs. Charlie Brown
Mrs. Wm. Craig	Mrs. Dave Maxwell
Mrs. Sam Crookshanks	Mrs. Don Holmes
Mrs. Simon Crookshanks	Mrs. Gordon Bergeson
Mrs. Geo. Fardell	Mrs. Wm. Pidlubny
Mrs. Wm. Heffren	Mrs. Cliff Strong
Mrs. Abner Joiner	Mrs. Wm. Tanasychuk
Mrs. Wilson Parmlee	Mrs. Cliff Hamilton
Mrs. Allen Smith	Mrs. Matt Hrubeniuk
Mrs. John Smith	Mrs. Nick Morris
Mrs. Fred Veitch	Mrs. Matt Sawchuk
Mrs. Sam Veitch	Mrs. N. Baird
Past Members	Mrs. Robert Doubleday
Mrs. Wm. Maxwell Sr.	Mrs. Murray Hryciuk
Mrs. Bob Chisholm	Mrs. Rowatt Veitch
Mrs. Thorpe Brightwell	Mrs. Bert Frieze
Mrs. Gordon Kilburn	Mrs. Wm. Maxwell Jr.
Mrs. Fred Schmall	Mrs. Mary Saley
Mrs. Isaac Minuk	Mrs. Charlie Kolosky
Mrs. Alex Andrew	Mrs. Frank Butler
Mrs. Roy Plante	Mrs. Anselm Kambeitz
Mrs. Wm. Coughlan	Mrs. Frank Fiarchuk
Mrs. Lorne Plante	Mrs. Wendell Cleland
Mrs. John Coughlan	Mrs. John Kawka
Mrs. Colen Mactier	Mrs. Murray Kalyniuk
Mrs. Tom Sinclair	Mrs. John Deck
Mrs. Ernie McIntosh	Mrs. Henry Hrubeniuk
Mrs. Ed Leifer	Mrs. Mike Deydey
Mrs. Doug Davidson	Mrs. Howard McIntosh
Mrs. Clair Palmer	Mrs. Andrew Moan
Mrs. Tom White	Mrs. Lawrence Kuzenko
Mrs. John Misko	Mrs. Glen Maxwell
Mrs. Dave Cleland	Mrs. Garth Rezac
Mrs. Alex Cleland	Mrs. Ron Kostosky
Mrs. Eugene Caldwell	

Membership in 1980

Mrs. Gordon (Karen) Bergeson
Mrs. Frank (Freda) Butler
Mrs. Mike (Olga) Deydey
Mrs. Matt (Alice) Hrubeniuk (over 20 years)
Mrs. Ron (Barbara) Kostosky
Mrs. Lawrence (Evangeline) Kuzenko
Mrs. Wm. (Myrtle) Maxwell (over 20 years)
Mrs. Glen (Bertrice) Maxwell
Mrs. Garth (Eleanor) Rezac
Mrs. Alex (Mary) Saley (over 20 years)
Mrs. Wm. (Emily) Tanasychuk (over 20 years)

by Freda Butler

Lodges

Lodges were formed and men loved them. They travelled miles to attend. In 1887 the Rossburn Orange Lodge was formed. The first meeting was held in J. J. Stitt's home. R. R. Ross, Wm. Peden, J. J. Stitt, and Mr. Whaley were former members. Homes



Orangemen prepare for parade, July 12, 1921. Orange Lodge hall in background.

were used for meetings for some time, but when a house became vacant they took it over. A shanty was later built on the Whaley farm and was later moved into the village. Later when a new school was built they purchased the old one which was situated out near where Jean Lawless now lives.

This building was moved into the school grounds and used by the school for some years, before being moved into the site where it still stands just north of the Hotel. Charter members of the Lodge were R. R. Ross, Wm. Peden, A. Crookshanks, Sam Crookshanks, D. B. Maxson, and Tom Buchanan.

In 1928 some of the ladies interested in Orange Affairs organized an L.O.B.A. (Loyal Orange Benevolent Society), Easter Lily Lodge. The first officers were Jessie Buchanan, Mrs. P. McMillan, Mabel Anderson, Mrs. A. Clubley, Lottie Stitt, Mrs. S. McKinnon, Mrs. H. Alexander, and Mrs. Mathews.

In 1915 an Oddfellows Lodge was organized. The charter members were Wm. Gray, E. T. Sirett, C. D. Douglas, D. Hough, H. J. Gordon, H. P. Hamilton, T. C. Marlin, T. J. Lawless, V. W. Johnston, A. J. Hamilton, and Robert Lindsay. Others included A. A. Ford, T. A. Young, R. Carson, T. H. Alexander, and J. A. Lindsay.

In 1918 a companion organization was formed for the Women. It was known as Victory Rebekah Lodge. The first officers were Mrs. H. J. Gordon, Agnes Armstrong (Snider) and Alice Carson (Lindsay). Charter members were Agnes Armstrong, Margaret Sinclair (McDonald), Olive Irwin (Kelso), Alice Carson, and Ruby Armstrong.

These Lodges worked diligently and a lot of useful projects were built up, until war broke out in 1939 and then they were forced to close, for lack of new members. The young people were needed elsewhere.



An Orange Lodge parade in Rossburn is shown in this photo taken July 12, 1908.

Parkland Harvest Festival

In the early summer of 1970, Manitoba's Centennial Year, preliminary plans were developed for the staging of the first Parkland Harvest Festival. The event, which has become Rossburn's major event of the summer season, was held for that first occasion on the Labour Day week-end of Sept. 5 and 6, 1970.

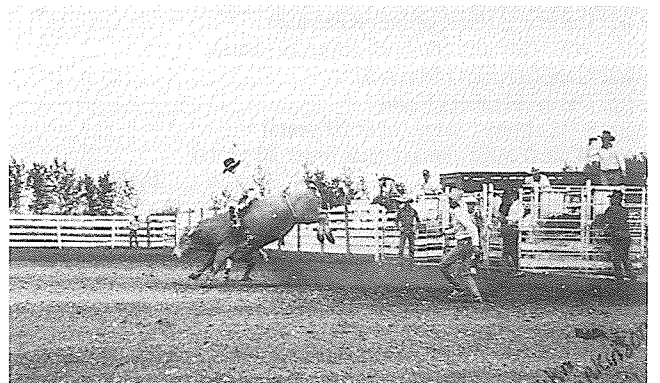
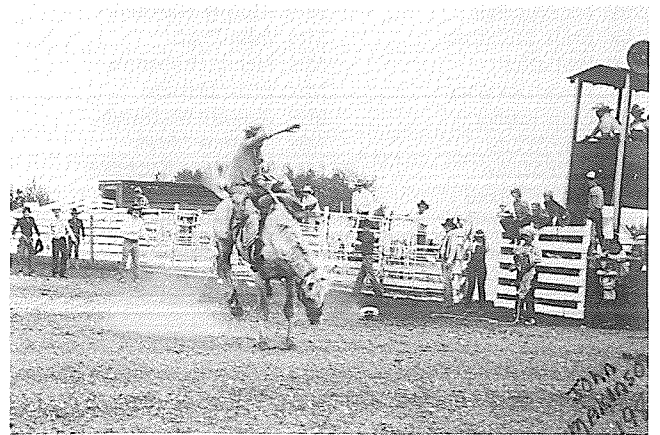
Planning for that original event was outlined in the Rossburn Review in June 1970.

"Separate and distinct programs will feature each day including special events in connection with harvesting on the old-time theme and a farmer's market place on a town square section of our main thoroughfare for vegetable products and handicraft items. Aquatic and golfing events will be held at Rossman Lake, a "rock and band festival" for the teen-agers and the young at heart, also special activities for the pre-teenagers.

Community participation, encouragement and

co-operation is vital, both in the essential planning stages and the actual work load of the planned festival events.

Hopefully, the Harvest Festival will attract a great



Parkland Harvest Festival action. This annual event features Rodeo events with the exciting action seen in these descriptive photos.

number of people, not only from the immediate area, but from the entire province, and even northern sections of the United States. Rossburn must present its finest appearance to these visitors. They must be impressed with the general beauty and outlook of the community.

What this means therefore, is an intense and concentrated effort by all citizens of this community to clean up and beautify Rossburn. Rossburn must begin to think of Clean-up Campaigns as a regular part of its life — not only as a hurried preparation for some particular event or events. In the end this will mean a more enjoyable, beautiful and safer community in which to live.

Our town council has applied to the Provincial Government to have the Main Street repaved this year, to give it the sparkling new look it needs so desperately. The council has also commenced plans for paving various other streets in Rossburn next year. This will help to provide a spic and span atmosphere we must show our visitors.

If you have any ideas for the Harvest Festival please contact Robert Stupnisky."

The Parkland Regional Development Corporation was also vitally interested in the successful development of this annual event. The general manager, Ron Kinney, expressed their interest in the project in these words, taken from his column "The Green Triangle" which appeared in the Review:

"Now and again the time is especially ripe for some sort of development. As a wise man once said, "Nothing is more important than an idea whose time has come."

Rossburn's time has come! Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of an idea. And the idea, of course, the Parkland Harvest Festival.

No one can accomplish miracles. But by hard work and a lot of fun and ideas, you might well be surprised just what can be done, that looks like a miracle. Parkland is only as good as the people it serves. In Rossburn we are trying out the idea of a Fall Festival . . . the first of its type in Manitoba. We are absolutely confident that the district can pull it off with some help from the rest of the region . . . IF they want to.

Will the Fall Festival be a success? Well, that mostly depends on whether or not you, yourself, are willing to help."

In the summer of 1970, the usual annual events were still carried on as previously. The Rossburn Sports Day and Rossburn Fair continued to be held in June and July respectively, as previously.

Through the years, however, numerous changes resulted from successful operation of the Parkland Harvest Festival. The annual Sports Day is no more

(as far as Senior Baseball is concerned), and the Rossburn Fair has been amalgamated with the Festival. The Sunday events at Rossman Lake have been moved to an earlier date and held in conjunction with sporting events featuring minor baseball and fastball.

Horse racing has become a feature of the annual Harvest Festival. An excellent race track for Quarter Horse Racing has been built. Facilities for this, in addition to facilities for Rodeo and Gymkhana events, have been provided through much community involvement. Pari-Mutuel betting has become a feature of the Race Card since 1982, and a building has been constructed to enable orderly wagering to take place.

The Parkland Harvest Festival, without doubt, has gone far towards achieving the original objectives.

Rossburn Agricultural Society

On May 10th, 1910 at Johnston's Hall in Rossburn, an Agricultural Society meeting was held, with Wm. Young in the chair, and Wm. Thompson, assistant manager director of the Agricultural Society of Manitoba.

The Rossburn Agricultural Society was then organized.

The first board of Directors elected were: J. J. Stitt, Robert Carson Sr., J. A. Smith, John McPhail, Wm. Strong, V. W. Johnston, H. R. Ross, Peter Black, Dave Hough, Doctor Evans. May 16, 1910 Directors held a meeting at the Bank of Toronto, election results: J. A. Smith — President, V. W. Johnston — 1st Vice-President, Wm. Strong — 2nd Vice-President, J. A. Burnie — Secretary-Treasurer, John Brodie — Auditor.

The first fair was held October 4, 1910, east side of town, next to the school grounds. The exhibits were horses, livestock and hall items.

September 10, 1910, thirteen acres of land was purchased from Jasper Strong at \$60.00 per acre, which is the present Agricultural Society Grounds.

An exhibition hall was built in 1912. The barn was started in 1914 and finished in 1915. This was named the Warnock Barn, after S. S. Warnock who died in 1914.

Additional land was purchased on the south side of the Agricultural grounds on October 29, 1926 from Hugh Warnock.

On June 29, 1965 lots #37, 41 and 43 plan 659 were purchased from John Collins.

At that time the Rossburn Agricultural Society sold land in the southeast corner of the grounds to Pelly Trail School Division, where the Collegiate now stands.



Rossburn Fair was the occasion for this photo depicting a horse class being judged at the second annual event on October 5, 1911. Part of the crowd is seen in the background. The Fair was held on property located behind the present Rossburn Elementary School site.



Rossburn Fair, 1914.



J. L. McKinnon and John McKinnon in wagon at the show ring in the horse class.

In 1972 the fair was held in conjunction with the Parkland Harvest Festival.

The two organizations continue to work successfully together with the fair and rodeo.

1910-1980 Presidents of the Rossburn Agricultural Society.

A. J. Smith — 1910

V. W. Johnston — 1911-1915

George Cormack Jr. — 1916-1918

W. J. Crowe — 1919-1920

J. W. Cormack — 1921-1922

James Armstrong — 1923

Wm. Mitchell Sr. — 1924-1926

Tom McDonald — 1927

J. W. Cormack — 1928

William Mitchell Sr. — 1929-1937

Alex Sinclair — 1938-1942

Bert Mitchell — 1943-1956

Ed. Shust — 1957

L. C. (Pat) Johnston — 1958-1980



Tom McDonald and "Angel" at the Rossburn Fair in the early 1920's. This beautiful horse is still remembered by old timers.



Samuel Warnock donated the stable at Rossburn fair grounds that was used for the annual Fair for many years.

Rosburn Boy Scouts

Of the Boy Scout movement in Rosburn in the early days, little factual information is known as records of the Boy Scouts and Wolf Cubs from those times are unavailable. It is, however, recalled by some, that the Scouts, Cubs and Girl Guides were a prominent force amongst the youth of the community in the 1920s and 1930s.

Prominent amongst those involved in Scouting were Rev. Sparling and Rev. Onions, amongst others who were leaders. It is also recalled that Ed Harris was amongst those who assisted with the instruction of the boys.

The Scouting movement in Rosburn then underwent a period of relative inactivity for a number of years, following the earlier interest in this group. In the 1960s, a need was again felt for the guidance and leadership qualities that Scouting provides the youth of our community.

Following re-organization of the Cubs and Scouts, camping expeditions became a matter of great interest to the leaders and the entire group. The first expeditions were made to Deep Lake and to Lake Audy in the Riding Mountain National Park. The leaders at that time, Harris Huston and Ernest Stefanuk, indeed had quite a challenge in introducing the local troop to the fun and rigors of camping.

The first Camporee attended by the Boy Scouts of this era, was at the Peace Gardens in the early 1960s which was attended by 31 members of the local Boy Scouts troop. The local group in addition to regular meetings, instruction and other activities, attended a number of Camporees at Lake Laurie in the Duck Mountains — led by Ernest Stefanuk and Corp. Herb Fink. The Cubs, meanwhile, attended local Camporees in the area. On the first Camporee trip, the boys were accompanied by their leader, Ernest Stefanuk. On their second trip to a Camporee, Jack Brignoly was the assistant Scoutmaster also accompanying the group.

Prior to this, Cuborees were held on the east side of Rossman Lake, north of the golf course.

In 1970, it was felt by the Scout leaders, parent group and the Scouts, that a Camporee, hosted by Rosburn, would be a welcome challenge. Mrs. Mary Komhyr was chairman of the active parent group for many years. Her husband, Harry, was always actively involved in assisting the Scouting movement.

The first and second Camporees, sponsored by the Rosburn group, were held on Nick Hrycak's property, in a sheltered Birdtail Valley location.

A bigger area and more permanent location was needed for Camporees. The Rural Municipality of

Rosburn agreed to provide a 27 acre site on the west side of Rossman Lake.

The third annual Boy Scout Camporee was held in 1972 on the north-west side of Rossman Lake. A fourth Rosburn Camporee was held once again on the same site. Patrols in attendance on this occasion came from Strathclair, CFB Portage la Prairie, Oakburn, Dauphin, Grandview, Virden, Brandon, Roblin, Man., Yorkton, Kamsack, Bredenbury and Esterhazy, Sask. 275 boys were in attendance.

This campsite was located on the property provided by the Rural Municipality of Rosburn. Entry to the campsite was accessible only by crossing private farm property. A well was drilled, assisted by a government grant obtained largely through the efforts of the R. M. and Reeve John Mitchell, in 1970. The first marquee was built the same year, which was quite an improvement over the army marquee which CFB Shilo had previously co-operated by making it available. This site proved to be appropriate for this event as it contained 27 acres of land, largely covered with fair-sized trees, providing an excellent setting for the dozens of tents set up by the various patrols. The lakeshore, bordering this campsite, provided a wide range of water activities and added to the scenic beauty of that location.

Amongst other local Scouters who assisted during this period of great scouting activity in the community were: Rick Plaisier (later leader of the active Venturer group — a marathon canoe expedition from St. Lazare to Winnipeg was among their highlights in August — September 1972); Ronald Hamilton (who was also active in all phases of Scouting); Nick Morris, Mike Antoniow (who led the Cubs for a number of years), and numerous others.

Without the aid of the Venturers and Rover Scouts, hosting of these events would not have been possible.

At the present time, the scouting movement is still active in the community.



This Rossman Lake Camporee was attended by 474 Cubs, Scouts, Venturers, Rovers and Scouters.

Rosburn Game And Fish Association

Our association was first formed on the 28th day of April, 1947. Thirty-three interested sportsmen made the start, with first officers as follows—

President — W. J. Brown

Vice-President — Dr. Ward Shaver

Secretary-Treasurer — Lloyd Duncanson

Finance Committee — Bert Mitchell

Upland Game — Jack Lindsay

Big Game — Alex Cleland

Fish — Maron Slon

In 1948 and 1949, our members took on a project of buying land and improving the beach area for the use of a place to land boats. This was on the S.E. $\frac{1}{4}$ of 23-20-24, from east to west four hundred feet and in length, from main road to water's edge, approximately six hundred seventy feet. This land was bought from John and Nick Klym. The above area was all heavy bush. The R.M. of Rosburn bulldozed this and made a favourable area for cabins and trailers. They also filled in and levelled the area for a boat dock.

Everything was proceeding at a good rate and it was necessary to purchase additional land. In 1950 and 1951, a further two hundred fifty feet west of the present site were bought from Nick and John Klym. It was during this time that John Klym bought an old portable granary from Alex Kitlar and remodelled it for a snack bar, supplying lunches and confectionery to campers and fishermen.

James Andrew built the first cabin at the resort. Dave Cleland brought a building from the Birdtail oil well property as no further drilling was planned. This building was remodelled for a cabin. Alex Cleland also hauled in a building from the Birdtail oil well property and remodelled it as a cabin. Later on, Maron Slon built a new cabin. This trend has continued on through the years, and a new section was developed for more cabin space. All during this time, we sponsored raffles and held outdoor bingos, which were played in cars, and on tables set up for this purpose.

In 1953, we sponsored Red Cross Water Safety classes. Dennis DeRoo was the first swimming instructor. He batched in James Andrew's cabin, several ladies supplying his meals. Brian Brusegard was our next instructor over a number of years. Since then there has been a continued effort in keeping up the swimming classes. Many young people as well as adults have learned to swim.

In 1959 and 1960, more land was purchased, this time from Alex Maryniuk — approximately ten acres on S.W. $\frac{1}{4}$ of 24-20-24. A new beach area was developed. All swimming classes were moved to this area. A lot of sand was hauled in and spread along

three hundred yards of this beach. It is still in use all during the summer by all swimmers. In 1962 we again purchased land from Alex Maryniuk, the balance of S.W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 24-20-24, approximately sixty acres, which was made into a nine-hole golf course. In 1963, the golf course was in full swing, and is enjoyed by old and young golfers alike.

As the time was fast approaching Canada's Centennial, we formed a committee and worked in earnest laying plans for the big event. In 1967 the committee sponsored a Name-the-Lake contest. The original name of Fishing Lake was changed to Rossman Lake. Contest winner was George Phelps of Rosburn. A change-house, kitchen and toilets were constructed and in readiness for the celebration. As we had a good water well at the original site at the west end, plans were set up to have a pit barbecue close to the old kitchen and well-house. Sam Oryniak built a clay oven and many ladies baked delicious bread in it. Canada's one hundredth birthday was a very successful event at our resort. Numerous ladies' groups took charge of preparing salads, etc., for a delicious meal. A large crowd of approximately fifteen hundred people attended, and parking cars was a big chore.

We continued operating until 1970 when we again sponsored Manitoba's one hundredth birthday. Again a very successful event was enjoyed by all. But this project was becoming too large for our Association to maintain, so we turned over all our assets to the R.M. of Rosburn. They in turn have maintained this popular resort since 1970 and it has almost outgrown the whole area. From a meagre beginning, the resort has grown to about a \$500,000.00 asset.

Footnote —

In 1955, we affiliated with the Manitoba Wildlife Federation. Paul Murphy, manager of Manitoba Wildlife Federation, attended a meeting of our Game and Fish Association. President was Harry Drosdoski and Secretary was Lawrence MacMillan when our Association was accepted into the Federation.

Dr. Frank Ward was also in attendance. He was a great conservationist who really knew all about wildlife. Many of our members attended conventions, which were held each year at Clear Lake, in the old museum building until a new place was found at a hotel there. We also attended some of the conventions in Brandon. Also many angler awards were taken from Rossman Lake for Walleye, Perch and Northern Pike.

submitted by Otto Elvers
Secretary, Rosburn Game
and Fish Association
Rosburn, Manitoba

Rosburn 4-H Calf Club

The Rosburn 4-H Calf Club was first organized in 1946.

Mr. Bert Mitchell was the leader. He was the leader for a long time, receiving a plaque from the club on his retirement.

He was joined by Mr. Harris Huston as assistant leader.

In 1955 L. C. (Pat) Johnston acted as assistant leader on Mr. Mitchell's retirement and became the leader, 1955 until 1970.

The first year, Aberdeen Angus calves were purchased by the members. Later each member chose his breed.

The Club became a Beef and Dairy Club for ten years.

The Club was re-organized on October 24, 1979.

There are fifteen members. The 4-H Calf Club members attend the Brandon Winter Fair for a day.

The present leaders are: Bob Olyarnyk, Len Goletz, Glen Maxwell, and Walter Shwaluk.

Rosburn 4-H Home Economics Club

In 1951 a 4-H Sewing Club was organized with the following leaders: Mrs. Stefan Ukrainetz, Mrs. Wes Williamson, Mrs. Wilson Stitt, Mrs. Frank Cleland.

The club operated for about five years.

Mrs. Frank Cleland and Mrs. Marion Crookshanks continued giving sewing instructions, in their home, to a few interested girls.

In 1960 the Rosburn 4-H Sewing Sisters was organized with over forty members. Miss Kay Batho was the first home economist. The first club leaders were Mrs. Bertha Johnston, Viola Stitt, Lily McKnight, Marion Crookshanks, Jean Cleland Sr., Sylvia Brown, Dora Verbowski, Dora Sawchuk, Ethel Scarrow, Teenie Marynuik and Helen Aylwin.

Over the years the Club has been very fortunate to have the assistance of a number of other ladies' skills.

Leader of the club at present is Alice Hryciuk.

The following have served as club leaders as well as Unit leaders — Jean Michalchuk, Vi McKietruk, Marion Antoniw, Marion Radford.

Thanks to the dedicated leaders, the girls' hard work, and parent support, the girls have learned the arts of sewing, crafts, public speaking, knowledge of our country and people through 4-H camps, 4-H bonspiels, and trips won on merit awards.

Rosburn Hospital Auxiliary

The organizational meeting of the Hospital auxil-

iary was held on November 30, 1949. The first executive was:

President — Mrs. Jack Stitt

Vice President — Mrs. Bill Kachan

Sec.-Treas. — Mrs. Steve Ukrainetz

Other committee members were: Alice Lindsay, Roby Mitchell, I. Murray, R. Piekoff, A. Slon, N. Peden, Mrs. Karmazaniuk, Jessie Caldwell, D. Miller, L. Alexander (Vista), Mabel Armstrong, Mrs. Chopp, Mrs. J. Sherritt, Mrs. O. Menzies, Mrs. Holmes, Mrs. G. Taylor, Mrs. McIntosh.

Some of the duties the aid worked toward then were: Mending for the Hospital, Pantry Showers, Painting, Treats for the patients, furnish Nurses residence, buying sheets, rubber sheets, draw sheets, pillow cases, first baby of the year gifts, gowns, slippers, pyjamas, bed pans and urinals, dishes, cutlery, operating stockings, T.V. for residence, serving trays, water jugs and sewing machines. In 1957, Miss Scollie (matron) asked us to help have oxygen piped in to the hospital. It was decided to go ahead with this project. \$700 was raised.

The members also bought seeds and the caretaker planted a garden. Then the members went to the hospital and canned the vegetables, also canned fruit, and paid for a locker box to freeze fruits and vegetables.

Some other equipment bought through the years were — laryngoscope, electrocardiograph, child's table and chair set, food mixer, deep freeze, window shades, vacuum cleaner, fans, vaporizer, radios, electric fry pan, air-conditioner, positive pressure breathing machine, portable suction machine, five hi-low beds and furniture to match, T.V. for children's ward, humidifier, child's crib, wheelchair, toys for children's ward, Mechin-Aide (lift), Entonox Machine, lawn chairs, two bassinets for nursery, toy box and medicine table. We also helped the Board buy the X-ray machine, and made a donation towards the purchase of a mannequin which is used to teach a coronary Pulmonary Resuscitation course. We also recently gave \$500.00 to update the medical library.

Other projects undertaken by members were — Polio Clinics, Blood Clinics, T.B. Clinics, Meals on Wheels, Serving for Ambulance drivers, Bursaries for students going in for nursing or medically related fields. We also pay for Brandon Sun, Tribune and Rosburn Review for the hospital. In recent years we have gone to the hospital one night a month to take lunch and serve it to the patients usually on special days such as Easter, Mother's Day, etc.

I think it is worthy of mentioning that two of our members today were members since 1949, the inception. They are Jessie Caldwell and Ann Slon. Thanks ladies for thirty-one years of service.

Through the years we have also had one or two members of the auxiliary serve on the Hospital Board. As far as we can find out, Mrs. Eileen Stitt and Mrs. I. Holmes were the first Board members. Others later included: Nancy Andrew, Mabel Armstrong, Mrs. McIntosh, Isabel Huston, Jean Lawless, Sonia Melnyk, Vi McKietiuik, Lois Melnyk, Rose Stefanuk, and Sandi Shtykalo. Mrs. McKietiuik and Mrs. Shtykalo are our current members on the Board.



Rosburn Lions Club received its Charter Nov. 17, 1960 at Charter Night ceremonies in Rosburn Town Hall. The first president, Lion Charles Kester is holding the Charter with District Governor E. F. "Buster" Taunton (left).

Rosburn Lions Club

The organization of the Lions Club to serve Rosburn and the community filled a long felt need for a local community service club. The Rosburn Lions Club, since its formation, has accepted the responsibility for many worthwhile projects that have aided the entire community.

To fill this need for a service club in Rosburn, the Erickson Lions Club became the mother club as they strived to spread the work of the organization that proved so important in their community, which had similar needs. As a result, a special representative, Mr. A. T. Holcomb of Lincoln, Nebraska, chaired the first organizational meeting on September 29, 1960, with the following officers named to head the new club:

President — Charles Kester
1st Vice President — Earl Moffat
2nd Vice President — Matt McKietiuik
3rd Vice President — Norman Major
Secretary-Treasurer — Jim Olson
Lion Tamer — Rae Walter
Tail Twister — Harry Aylwin

The directors: appointed for a one year term:

Ernie Stefanuk and Dave Cleland, for two year term:
Harris Huston and Orest Smycnuik.

Charter members:

Harry Aylwin,
Matt McKietiuik
Dave W. Cleland
Walter Perchaluk
Harris T. Huston
Maron Slon
Charles Kester
Marvin J. McDonald
James Carson
James A. Olson
Cecil V. Gunn
Edward Shust
Nick Karmazenuk
W. Ernest Stefanuk
Kenneth Caldwell
William McKietiuik

H. Norman Clubley
Norman K. Scarrow
Russell N. Hutton
Orest Smycnuik
Clarence H. Langridge
Michael J. Tokar
George Lazaruk
Mike Verbowski
Earl Moffat
George Lawless
Harry Verbowski
Norman Major
Peter Wladyka
W. Arnold Tweed
John Macyshyn
Rae Walter

The many projects successfully completed by the Lions Club vary from very large projects involving many thousands of dollars to smaller important items that reflect the every day needs of our community.

Major Projects: Centennial park, wading pool, playground, Lions' Manor, dinette suite for Manor, Meals-on-Wheels, \$4,000.00 donation towards ambulance, P.A. system for Town Hall, Resusci Annie for C.P.R., aid to pharmacy, telethon gift to hospital, library — Senior Citizens' complex, Arena fund (waiting room and concessions, \$13,700 from weekly bingos), donation to curling club. \$10,000 donated for land purchase for hospital personal care home. Lions turned over to hospital board \$34,550.48 that has been held in trust from the elderly citizens housing project trust fund, established by the Lions' Club from phase one, Lions' Manor, (for a total of \$75,-762.56).

Community donations: Minor hockey, baseball, volleyball, liniment league, figure skating, Boy Scouts, Cubs, Venturers, school patrol (parkas), R.C.I. student council, Elementary school science fairs, R.C.I. drama club, R.C.I. dances, Nursery school, fire department, recreation commission, sponsored a Leo club member to Chicago, Ill. and a local girl who joined Up With People. (for a total of \$7,341.45).

Others: Retarded children, dental clinics, CNIB, Children's Aid Society, Marquette festival, Blind golfers, Lions Hearing Foundation, Lions eye bank, Lions telethons, Leader Dog, RCMP recreation fund, Strathclair Band, Easter Seals, Heart foundation. A donation was made to Regina Lions Junior Band to help pay expenses to go to Pasadena, California to participate in the Rose Bowl Parade. A donation was also made to Rivers Lions Club to help finance band to go to New Orleans. (for a total of \$4,635.00)

The Lions Club has sponsored: talent nights,

amateur nights, Hunter Safety courses, Defensive Driving courses, Spring ice carnivals, Boxing Day hockey tournaments, baseball tournaments, chaperoned high school dances, they looked after the fund raising campaigns for: the CNIB, Easter Seals, and Heart foundation, Dental clinic (picked up the deficits), Bingo games (weekly), Annual Kiddies' Christmas Party, Community Christmas card.

In January 1978 the Lions Club sponsored a Leo Club in Rossburn.

submitted by George Phelps

Rossburn Leo Club

The Leo Club is a youth group consisting of young people of the community ranging from age 13-18. This is an international organization. The local club is sponsored by the Rossburn Lions Club. At the time of chartering, the Rossburn Leo Club was the only such club in Manitoba. Some activities they sponsored and organized have included: annual Christmas concerts, broomball tournaments and Junior High fastball tournaments. Many fund raising projects were done in order to raise money for the children's section of the Rossburn library and to make a donation to the Rossburn Arena.

Recently the group has been raising money for a patio bench for the new hospital. Several charitable canvasses were also conducted including the Heart Fund and the Canadian Cancer Society.

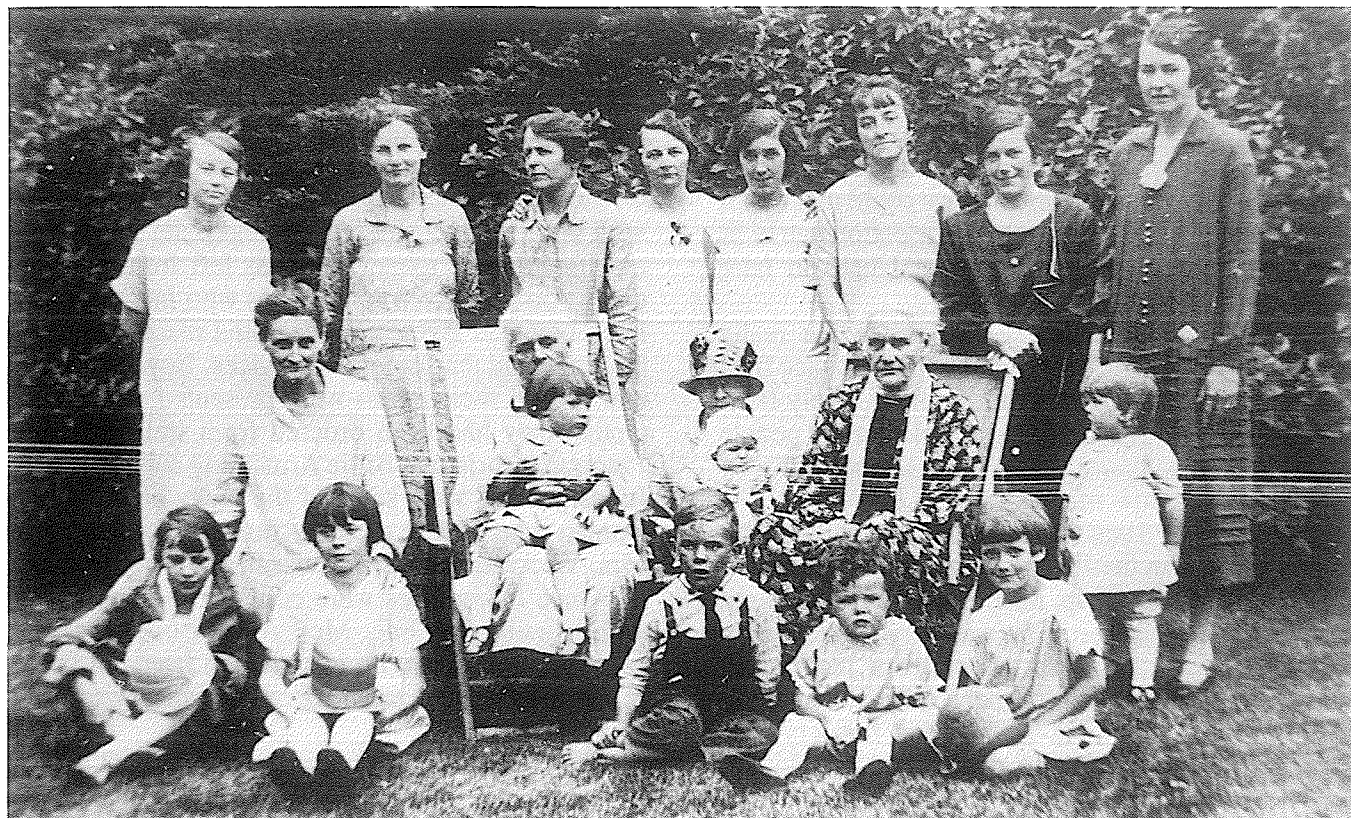
The original charter members were — Audrey Aylwin, Debbie Danyluk, Charlene Gensorek, Sharon Kreshewski, Terry Luhowy, Tina Luhowy, Evelyn Mitch, Margie Mitch, Chris Radford, Rhonda Smycnuik, Wanda Smycnuik, Mark Stitt, Dwayne Swintak and Noreen Swintak.

The Leo Club advisors have been Les Andrew (1978), George Phelps (1978-79), Bruce Lyman (1979-80) and Dennis Kaskiw (1980-81 and 1981-82).

At present the Leo Club executive includes Val Tanasychuk as President, Denise Caldwell as Vice President, Roxanne Caldwell as Secretary, Karen Kalyniuk as Treasurer, Bev Peleshok as Leo tamer, and Blair Lonsberry is the Leo Tail Twister.

Rossburn Women's Institute

The Rossburn Women's Institute held their final meeting in 1973. This organization had served the community for 48 years since its organization in Rossburn during 1915.



Women's Institute Meeting at Mrs. Armstrong's, 1926. Back row, left to right: Agnes Snider, Mrs. Snider, Mabel Armstrong, Ruby Armstrong, Alice Lindsay, Kate Armstrong, Ida McDonald, Florence Johnston and child. Middle row, left to right: Belle Armstrong, Mrs. Armstrong and Winnie, Francis Armstrong and Lorraine, Mrs. R. Carson Sr. On ground: May Armstrong, Beulah McDonald, Wreaford Armstrong, Beth McDonald, Eleanor Lindsay.

At the closing meeting in 1973, Mrs. Alice Lindsay gave a talk in which she reviewed the history of the organization locally since its formation. This history is taken from that talk.

"By 1915 a number of pioneers had moved to town and the sons had taken over the farms. This meant more help and more leisure time for the women. The Agricultural College had been opened in Winnipeg and several farm students had attended. Through the influence of Alex Sinclair and William Stitt and other students, an Ag. Society had been formed and shows were held for some years. They also brought news of different projects to women and "The Women's Institute" was one of these.

An interested group held a meeting and organized the Rosburn Women's Institute. Belle Armstrong was president and Mrs. D. Hough, Sec.-Treas. Belle was very interested in gardening and their yard and flowers on the farm were a picture to see. So naturally any information that could be obtained on "better gardens" was certainly put to good use.

Mrs. Watt of Birtle was an island of information and helped during these years. She put the women in touch with good courses which they would never have heard of otherwise. One I remember very well was held in the old hall upstairs. It was "sewing" and it lasted several days. Long enough for even me to make a green serge dress; peg top with pockets. But the main item was how to adjust patterns to fit. We could buy them but they seldom fit. She showed us how to fit a cotton pattern to our particular figure — then we laid it on the bought one; we could make it fit too. We helped each other getting the cotton one to fit properly. They certainly were a real help in later years.

Another was a Millinery Course. It was really something. We made the hat and hoped the face fit. I remember Mrs. Spearman Sr., an older lovely lady, saying "It's all right for young people but old people cannot take the chance. They need all the fixing up they can get." How true she was.

By 1915 WWI was taking its toll. Second generation boys were in the "Khaki" and the women realized everyone must help. Mrs. Evans' aunt came out from Winnipeg to visit. She was very engrossed in Red Cross work. Mrs. Evans called a meeting of women, which she held on her verandah, now the Caldwell home, and a Red Cross Society was formed. Mrs. Evans was president and Mrs. Hough, sec.-treas. They became very busy but soon found that the Red Cross was just not what they wanted as all work done or money collected in the Red Cross name had to be turned into that Society. They decided to turn the Institute into a "Soldiers Aid" and went to

work with Mrs. Evans and Mrs. Hough as officers. When the Doctor went overseas in 1916, Mrs. Evans went east; Mrs. J. H. Gordon became president and Mrs. King and Mrs. Beirnes were in the quilting committee. They certainly made a lot of quilts. By this time the churches had united and the Presbyterian church was used as a Club Room. There was room for six quilts and these were held once a month. Woe betide anyone who reneged — or laid on the quilt. Everyone must work. They paid 75¢ a month and the Country women donated the Sunday Eggs. They brought them to our house and my mother sold them in the stores. This paid for the postage to send the monthly parcels to our boys overseas.

A Junior Red Cross was formed and I was president and Olive Irwin, Secretary. Our job was to address the parcels which were rolled in cotton, sewed on tightly and very hard to write on. We also copied the addresses of all our boys overseas, into little books purchased for this purpose and sent each boy a book. In this manner each boy knew where to find the other one. It was our task to keep them up to date, as they were being transferred to different units.

The women knit sox — many of them knit a sock a day. Later they purchased a knitting machine and Mrs. Young knit the leg then it left only the foot to knit in, which made it much quicker. Helmets and scarves and gloves with the first finger left out were later called for.

This with baking for all those monthly boxes meant an awful lot of work.

When the war ended in 1919 the Soldier's Aid was disbanded and once again it was the Women's Institute with Mrs. Young, Mrs. Hough and Belle Armstrong as officers. The money that was left from the Soldier's Aid was given to the boys who had returned. Each boy was given a handpainted plaque, bearing his name and thanks for his services. Boys who were married on their return were presented with tablecloths; they had been ordered from Ireland. Billie Finch and Christina; Billie Armstrong and Kate; Jack Lindsay and I were some of the lucky ones. Young women who joined the new Institute to help were Mrs. Wickett, Mrs. Spearman Jr. and Mrs. Cossett.

Once the courses were continued, "First Aid" with Nursing was one. Mrs. Ames from the Dept. spent time coming with information from the Dept. of Agriculture and teaching crafts which we really enjoyed.

Our first convention was held in the Old Hall upstairs. Esther Thompson from the Dept. attended and spoke to us. Members attended from the neighboring towns and all found it very interesting.

I gave my first talk at Shoal Lake in 1928; my topic being "Organized Playground Activities."

Mrs. Drew (nee Annie Sinclair) from Binscarth, was president of the district. We held Baby Clinics where Doctors from Winnipeg examined the babies and gave instruction to young mothers. These were free and very much appreciated. Dr. Hinds visited our group.

Mrs. Watt of Birtle still visited our meetings and on her retirement Mrs. Simmie of Solsgirth took over and visited us whenever she could.

Just after the war the Institute was split over the sponsoring of a Maternity Hospital in town and when it did not materialize they lost some good members. However, they felt as Dr. O'Brien had a good hospital that another would not succeed.

During the 1918 flu, the W.I. gathered bedding and other supplies for makeshift hospital in the R. Johnson Boarding House. Mrs. Pete Black's sister who was a nurse took over. This place had several boarders who had no home and a great deal of help was needed. Soup was made and volunteers delivered it day after day. Dr. O'Brien's hospital was full and no place to take these very sick people. Three deaths took place there, Hugh Johnson (son of the landlord), Thomas York and Mr. Lang, a traveller.

In 1931 the members of the Institute decided as so many old timers were slipping away that unless something was done about it, the history of the past would be lost. Mrs. Reita Sparling, wife of the United Church minister, Doug Sparling, offered to

write the book if she could find someone to care for her home while she collected the information. The Institute decided to procure a housekeeper and Mrs. Eleda Palmer (nee Crookshanks) offered her services, and Mr. Sparling did the driving. Mrs. Rae McKinnon did the typing of the Reminiscences of the Rossburn Pioneers.

During the 30s the Institute opened a Rest Room on Main Street. They rented a building and hired Mrs. Jessie Peden to live right there and care for it. There we carried all our used clothing and whatever other articles we could spare. Jessie patched and pressed the clothing and stored any food such as vegetables and kept them handy for needy people and there was a lot of them without income. The building was old and the roof leaked. Mrs. Peden had quite a time operating. We held our meetings there and one day a terrible storm came up and the rain came in on us. Mabel McDonald suggested we close with "Showers of Blessing" and do you know I think they were. Things began to improve and the rains came. Mrs. Weatherley, Principal's wife, was our president during this time.

The W. I. also sponsored the Musical Festivals through the years and new appreciation of good music was aroused in the district but both Festival and Field Days (another project) had to be dropped because of lack of gas. Another war was upon us.

Again in 1939 the Institute became the "Soldier's



Rossburn Women's Institute, 1963. Standing, left to right: Mrs. R. Plant, Mrs. J. Sherritt, Mrs. M. Joiner, Agnes Snider, Agnes Taylor, E. Miller, J. Taylor, B. Williamson, L. McKnight, Lizzie Alexander, E. Stitt. Sitting, left to right: M. Palmer, L. Sisson, Mabel Armstrong, Martha Peden, Mrs. J. Stitt, A. McIntosh, M. Huston, E. Alexander, G. Cleland.

Aid" and once again the boys were leaving. This time the third generation were called to make the sacrifice and mothers who had sent husbands or boyfriends to World War I were now sending sons, third generation.

Things were not so tough this time, no trenches, no sox. Our boys were not wet, freezing and lousy and when we closed our eyes at night we did not see the misery — just the danger. It was a different war but if possible more terrible and let us all pray that our grandsons and granddaughters will never know the horror of it all.

After the war the W.I. was re-established with Mrs. McIntosh as president and has carried on since that time. Few of the older members are around but those who are, still enjoy the social part of the organization but feel that unless the younger women are interested enough to join and take over the responsibility to make it a useful Society and reap the full benefits of what the Dept. are offering our community is not gaining all that it should from such an organization so we are closing."

Boys and Girls Agricultural Clubs Vista, Manitoba

It was one sunny afternoon in about 1938, that Mr. T. O. (Tator) Miller walked into the school grounds at the Islay School and interrupted a ball practice to tell us about the "Boys and Girls Agricultural Clubs". He gave us a brief introduction and said there would be meetings later to organize. He suggested that we could begin with a colt and calf club and then include other things. Listening to Mr. Miller was a very new experience for me. I was still learning to speak English, I found it very difficult to understand most people that I did not associate with closely. I laugh about it now, but at the time, all that I was able to make out was that Mr. Miller wanted us to organize a cap and coat club. I just couldn't see why we needed them.

Not long after that I became involved in the seed club and was elected secretary. Through the years we grew the latest varieties of cereal grains available. Plush barley was one of the greatest improvements in the feed barley. Mr. Tom Stitt was our leader and the Agricultural representative was Mr. Gorby. Very few farmers with children had cars in those days. A great asset that Mr. Stitt had, was a half-ton truck. He provided our club with transportation and that really was something.

There were not many things going on in those days besides ball in the summer time and hockey in winter, so, the clubs were a very interesting thing. Every boy and girl wanted to get into the act. We soon

had pig and poultry clubs too. Thus, along with all the calves and horses there sure was a lot of action.

In the beginning, the fairs were held just on the east side of the road across from the Community Hall which served as the head quarters. Later, this was moved to a little pasture just north of Mr. Miller's home. This was an ideal location as it was well sheltered from the wind and there was room for everything and for parking as well. Being a member of the seed club did not take up as much time as showing a calf, so I was given other duties. Someone had brought an enormous turnip to one of these fairs. It was my job to go around with this turnip selling guesses as to how much this turnip weighed. If I remember correctly, the money was to go to the war effort.

During the winters, besides regular meetings we got together for other entertaining activities such as concerts, dances and public speaking. Mr. Gorby was a high-light when he sat down at the piano. The funny songs he sang went very well with his attractive appearance and the crowd just roared. However, we lost Mr. Gorby to the war effort when he went to join the armed forces. There was a time that war effort occupied a lot of our time and energy, so the club activities slowed down a great deal and the enthusiasm took quite a dip. But we soon got used to it and also learned to accept the ag. rep. who followed Mr. Good and Mr. Fletcher, I can recall quite well. One afternoon, Mr. Fletcher came to see me just as McDonald, our neighbour, was cutting a field of rye. You can imagine my first impression of Mr. Fletcher as an ag. rep. when he said to me that McDonald had a good stand of durum wheat. As time passed, Mr. Fletcher proved to be a great ag. rep. and he had a heart of gold.

The boundaries of our activities broadened as we took part in district rallies and the Brandon fair. By now the war effort was easing off. Of very great significance was the fact that an army barracks at Brandon was taken over by the Department of Agriculture to become what we now know as the Brandon Agricultural Center. We were billeted in these vacated barracks for a few days when our seed club took part in the Clubs program at the Brandon Fair. The change-over was so rushed that there was no hot water, no electrical outlets and no light switches. We had to join up wires to turn on the lights. Life in the barracks and meals at the fair was a sensational new experience. By the time the whole event was over, I was so sick of the noise, the dust and all the people at the fair that to this day I hate fairs. But what a great growing up experience, I wouldn't have given it up for the world.

Throughout all the years, my greatest achieve-

ment and most treasured reward was when I won a week long trip to Winnipeg. We were billeted at the United College. We spent two days touring the Manitoba University. The rest of the week took us to many parts of the City including the Canada Malt plant, Christie Biscuits, The Board of Grain Commission, the Winnipeg Grain Exchange and the Legislative Building to mention a few. The meals were fantastic and the entertainment beyond our wildest dreams. There was no better way for a farm boy to see Winnipeg for the first time.

As the years passed, we learned a lot from our leaders and the ag. reps. Most of all, we got to rub shoulders with some great agronomists, university professors and politicians. The executives and fieldmen representing the grain trade, frequented our little community. All this added to give us a purpose in life. Life became a challenge, I felt ready to help Mr. Stitt as assistant leader. The name of our club at this time was, "Stubble Jumpers". Those were fun years. We put on some really good all boy performances for entertainment. Wilton Brown, with his charm and falsetto singing was a regular "Gomer Pyle". We wore dresses and make-up to act out girls' parts. Music for our dances was supplied by the local young talent. We got terrific support from the community, so were quite successful.

Without the Boys and Girls Clubs, life would have been quite dull. The most important aspect was that we all became better citizens.

submitted by Bill Shwaluk

Vista Boys and Girls Agricultural and 4-H Clubs

The first Clubs were known as Boys and Girls Agricultural Clubs and according to available records they were known as 4-H Clubs by 1953.

In 1924 Iain MacPhail was involved in Club work. That year at the Boys and Girls School Fair in Rossburn he showed vegetables and poultry. Earlier in the year as a club member he had received a setting of eggs from which his chicks were hatched at home. According to records kept by his brother Alexander MacPhail we learn that the same year he purchased, raised and showed a pair of pigs for which he received 1st prize. He was awarded an all expense paid trip to Winnipeg.

In 1930 there was a Colt Club.

Tom Stitt provided leadership for a Seed Club in 1932. Some of the members at that time were Bob Young, Howard Hamilton, Ivan Woods and Iain MacPhail.

Club work became popular in the Vista Community. The idea was born about 1939 or 40 that a

Senior Executive Committee would be elected to oversee the Club work in general. It is believed that Vista was the only place in Manitoba that did Club work in this manner.

Alexander MacPhail was the first president of this committee for one year then T. O. Miller served for many years. Others who held this office in later years were Alexander MacPhail, Melville Brown, Mrs. Gladys Berney, Wally Miller and Tom Stitt.

First secretary of the Senior Committee was Wilfred Miller. Other people who acted in this capacity were Wilton Brown, Mrs. T. O. Miller, Matt Hrysak, Archie Forde, Mack Hamilton, Lyall Brown and John Armstrong.

The following is a list (which may not be complete) of clubs and people who provided leadership:

Beef Club — James Brown, Wilton Brown.

Colt Club — Adam Halliday, Bob Muirman.

Swine Club — T. O. Miller, Carman Brown, Lyall Brown, Jack Miller, Wilfred Chegwin, Ray Brown, Wally Miller, Robert Young, Mack Hamilton, Harold Brown.

Seed Club — Tom Stitt, Bill Shwaluk, John Armstrong

Poultry Club — Mrs. Flora Forde, Mrs. Nettie Hrysak, Mrs. Dora Chesney

Food Club — Mrs. Harvey Hamilton, Mrs. William Stitt, Mrs. Nettie Hrysak

Garden Club — Mrs. Nettie Hrysak, Mrs. Dorothy Chegwin, Mrs. Ruth Rogers, Mrs. Jessie Mackedenski, Mrs. Mary Bilinsky

Sewing Club — Alice Sydor, Olga Michaluk, Mrs. Nellie Brown, Mrs. Isobel Miller, Amy Murray, Marie Woycheshin, Mrs. McNulty, Mrs. Berney

Tractor Club — Percy Chegwin

About 1960 the decline in rural population had a serious effect on the 4-H Club work in Vista Community. After that time some interested members were involved with a combined Rossburn-Vista Beef Club. Some of the girls also worked and participated in the Rossburn Sewing Club. It is difficult to evaluate the effects of Club work amongst the youth of this community but I think we can declare with certainty that many young people became better citizens because of the effort of the people who cared enough to provide leadership.

submitted by Dorothy Armstrong

Vista Women's Institute

The task of writing a history of the Vista Women's Institute brings back many memories. It is with a feeling of sadness that one remembers what was once a thriving active community. The years have taken their toll of the population, and organiza-

tions such as the Women's Institute fell from the lack of support.

Records are not quite complete, but there is information to show that the organization was issued Charter Number 216 on April 15, 1956. The first president was Mrs. Florence Stitt. Various people took responsibilities as officers throughout the years until 1967. Mrs. Florence MacPhail was secretary for at least seven years. It is from her records that the following information has been taken.

For several years an Extension Service Library was kept at the local cafe, then operated by Robert and Edythe Young. Books would be exchanged about twice a year.

We sponsored the organization of the Boy Scouts and the Cubs and we bought the leaders their uniforms.

Two different years, cash prizes were given to the pupil in each grade, who had made the greatest improvement in that particular year.

On many different occasions someone attended Leadership Schools, District, and Provincial Conventions.

We encouraged, and tried to assist, Mrs. Flora Forde, with her writing of the community history.

A Career Night was sponsored at another time. Several people spoke at the community hall in order to give the young people an idea of the work of various professions.

The Winnipeg Art Gallery obliged us on another occasion, by shipping out one hundred and thirty five pounds of Artwork. A lecturer was also in attendance. The community and the students of the three room school had an excellent Art Appreciation Day.

Charity projects such as Cancer Research, March of Dimes, Red Cross, Children's Aid Society, and Unitarian Service Relief were supported financially.



Cairn to mark site of Mears Hall.

Educational demonstrations such as cake decorating, making Ukrainian foods, and courses on dressmaking and leather gloves were courses which proved beneficial to women of the district.

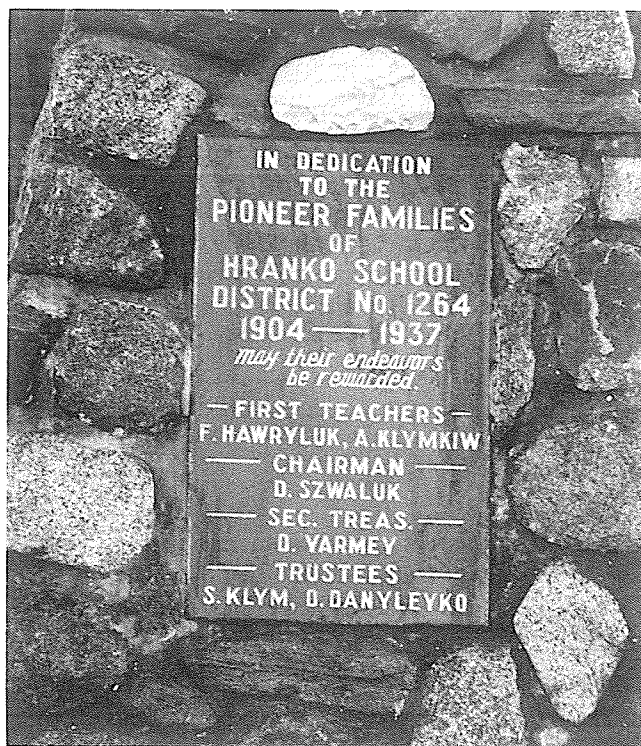
Locally, we assisted the 4-H Clubs, the skating and curling rinks, and also three different families who were victims of fires. We assisted with Rossburn Hospital mending. Chairs were bought, and some decorating done in the community hall.

Many good speakers attended special meetings from time to time. Some of these events were shared with the Women's Institute members from Rossburn and Birdtail. We usually had a special Tea each year to honor the grandmothers of the district.

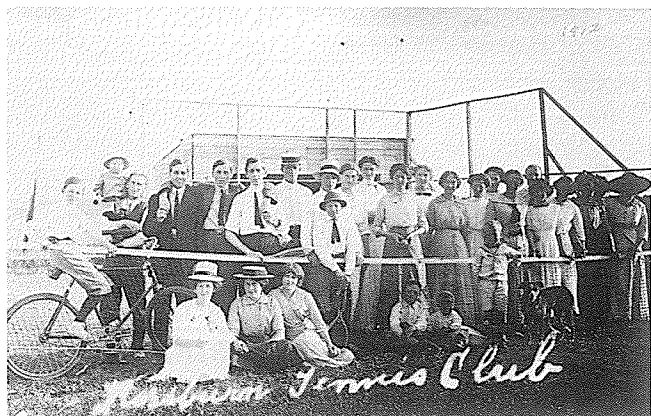
In 1967, permission was received from the Canadian National Railway to plant an ornamental tree on the station grounds at Vista. This is like a miniature park directly in front of Baker's store. At that time, it was maintained by the late Mr. Walter Baker. It is presently cared for by his son, Dick Baker.

The last meeting of the Vista Women's Institute was held at the home of Mrs. Nettie Hrysak. Nita Belle Halliday was the president.

From the Rossburn Review of November 30, 1967 the following quote was taken, "Since December, 1955 in an effort to live up to the Women's Institute motto, 'For Home And Country,' we have sponsored many worthwhile projects in the community, and have donated to worthy causes both at home and farther afield."



Hranko School District Cairn.



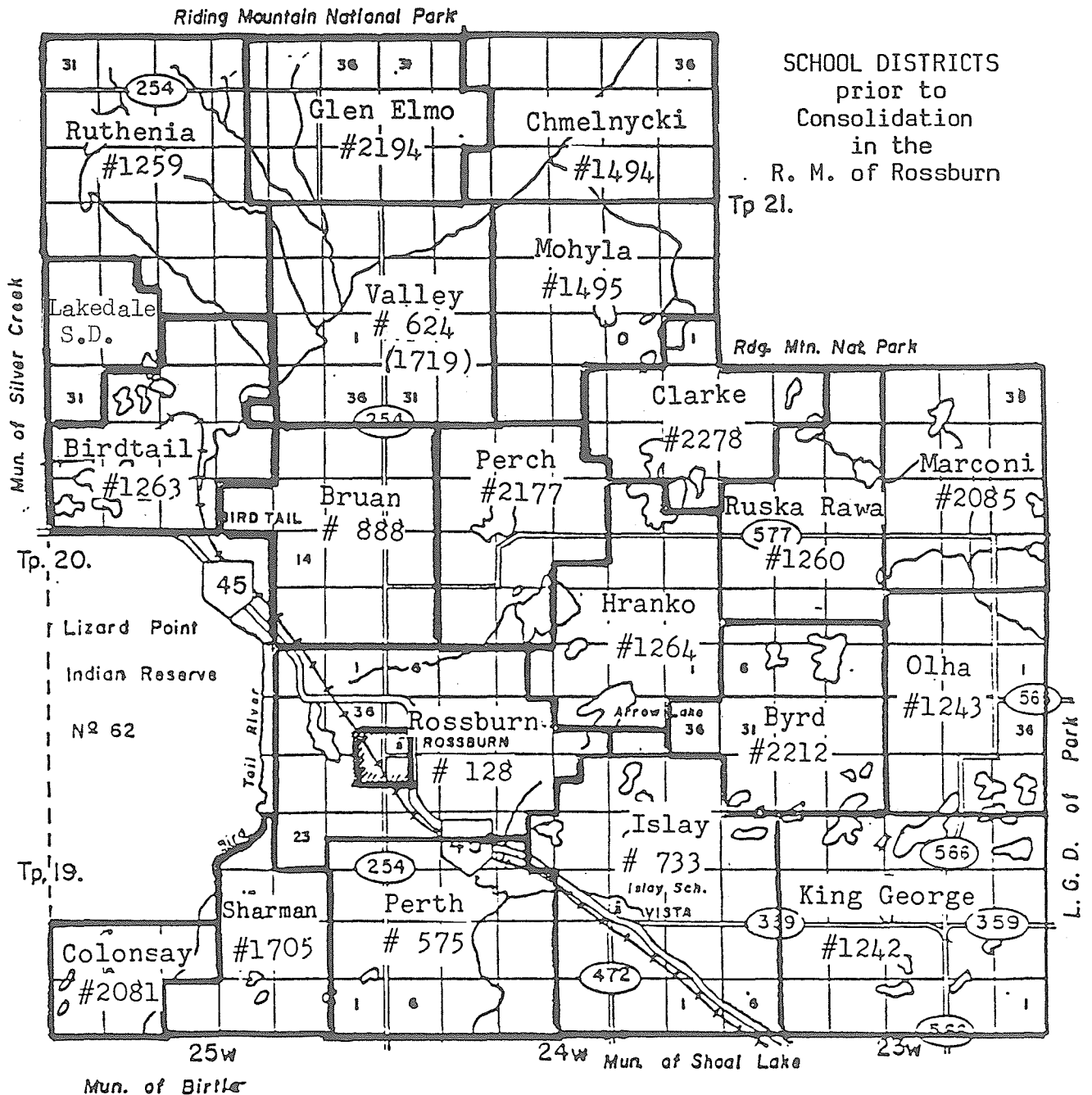
Rossburn's 1912 Tennis Club. Left to right: Fred Hook, D. Hough with Bill, Orville McFeetors, Gordon Lang, Tom Menzies, ?, Bert Hook, Mrs. Hough, ?, Hope Barber, Mrs. Evans, Margaret Duncanson, Gertie Hallows, Mrs. Wickett, Jean Duncanson, Mr. Tucker, Maude McKee, Cassie McKee, Marion Burbank, Mary Ross. In front: Lila McFeetors, Gertie Warnock, Mrs. Tucker, Paddy Evans, two boys not known.



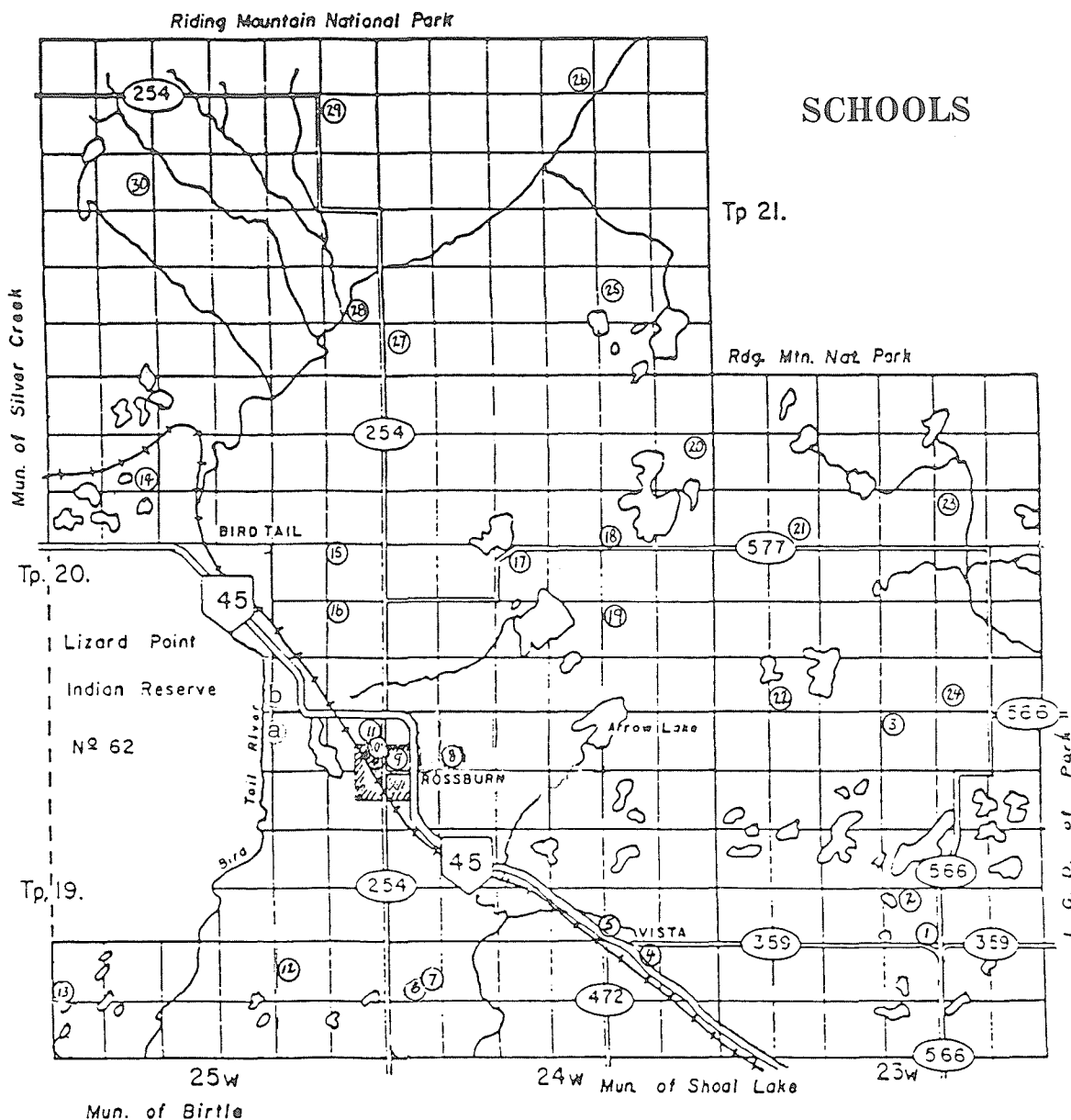
Uncle Peter's Peterkins Club, Rossburn, were winners of a prize given to the club with most members. Group is pictured at the opening of the "Slide" made for the "Peterkins" by E. J. Wilson.



West end Senior Citizens 1929. Left to right: Mrs. A. Young, Mrs. T. Buchanan, Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Lindsay (Shelbourne, Ont.), Mrs. Carson, Mrs. Williamson.



Schools



1. King George School #1242
2. St. John Kant School #1242
3. Olha School #1243 (1912-1930) also site of former Boleslaw S.D. #1743 (1907)
4. First location of Islay School — Vista, #733
5. Second location of Islay School — Vista, #733
6. First location of Perth School #575 (1889)
7. Second location of Perth School #575 (1914)
8. Rossburn School #128 — Site #2 — 1896
9. Rossburn Public School — Site #3 — 1908 — Rebuilt in 1959
10. Rossburn Collegiate Institute — built in 1965-66
11. Rossburn School — Site #1 — 1882
12. Sharman School District #1705 (1948-67)
13. Colonsay School District #2081
14. Birdtail School #1263 — 1917-58
15. New Bruan School #888 — 1918-58
16. Old Bruan School #888 — 1896-1918

17. Perch School #2177
 18. Hranko School #1264 — Site #1
 19. Hranko School #1264 — Site #2
 20. Clarke School #2278 — 1937-60
 21. Ruska Rawa School #1260 — 1911 — first known as Budz, then Stanislaw
 22. Byrd School #2212
 23. Marconi School #2085
 24. Olha School District #1243 — 1930-64 — Site #2
 25. Mohyla School District #1495
 26. Chmelnicki School #1494
 27. Site of original Valley School #624 (later changed to #1719)
 28. Site of former Valley School #624 (later changed to #1719)
 29. Site of Glen Elmo School #2194
 30. Site of former Ruthenia S.D. #1259 (1904-68)
- Note: Earliest Rossburn Schools located in the Ross home (a.) in 1880, then the Broadfoot home (b.) — prior to construction of the first Rossburn School.

Education

Education was amongst those thoughts uppermost in the minds of the early pioneers. Schools and school teachers held a place of high importance in the thoughts and plans of our fore-fathers.

It is now over 100 years since Rossburn School District No. 128 was formed by the Board of Education (Protestant Section) on October 17, 1881. July 29, 1881, a letter was written to the Protestant School Board of Education informing them that a public meeting had been held at Rossburn at which it had been decided to request that a school district be formed and that it be known as the Rossburn School District. Amongst those who signed the request that a school district be formed were: Wm. Peden, R. R. Ross, John Broadfoot, George Manson, Daniel Hamilton, Donald Sinclair, Alex Hamilton, Robert Murray, Wm. Manson, Alex Brown and Mathew Whaley.

The decision to form Rossburn School District was made when it was realized that there were thirty-seven children of school age in the neighborhood.

A large area was included in that original formation of Rossburn School District. Is your land in that original school district? Sections 1, 2, 11, 12, 13, 14 in Township 20, Range 25; Sections 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 16, 17, 18 in Township 20, Range 24; Sections 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33 in Township 19, Range 24; Sections 25, 26, 35 and 36, Township 19, Range 25.

No records of the school operating before 1883 remain. However in 1883, D. Hamilton was the secretary-treasurer and Thos. Young, the teacher, with

an Interim Certificate. The next year, 1884, Wm. McDonald was secretary-treasurer and Angus Sellers, teacher, also with an Interim Certificate. By the spring of 1885 the school registration consisted of 25 boys and 17 girls. Three years later, in 1888, enrollment had reached 40 boys and 20 girls for a total of 60 students.

Thirty years later there were less students at Rossburn School than there were in 1885, as in 1915, it is recorded that total enrollment was 35. The teacher was Jessie Nickel. The school contained one map and one globe!

In 1915, the most common family name was "Peden". Six of the 35 students were Pedens. Hamilton was the next family to be the most common among the students. There were five Hamiltons.

An interesting note in connection with Rossburn's school history is that which is included in a letter to the Board of Education written by John Broadfoot Aug. 29, 1881. We quote: "Last March we organized a school and engaged a teacher, Mr. Gerand," and it was expected that "expenses would be defrayed by the Manitoba fund from the time of this section becoming part of Manitoba. . . . We have the walls of a school 18 x 24 ft. built. It was before we knew this would be in Manitoba". Thus it was that Rossburn's first schooling took place in the North West Territories before the boundaries of Manitoba were extended far enough west to take in Rossburn.

The story of the various schools within the municipality follows.

School Districts

Name of School	Year District Formed	Year Dissolved
Birdtail #1263	Jan. 11, 1904	Jan. 1, 1964
Bruan #888	June 30, 1896	Cons. to form Cons. S. Dist. of Rossburn No. 2358, Jan. 1/58
Byrd #2212	Nov. 23, 1929	Dec. 29, 1966
Chmelnicky #1494	March 31, 1909	Aug. 5, 1964
Clarke #2278	Feb. 3, 1937	May 7, 1964
Colonsay #2081	July 1, 1921	Sept. 1, 1966
Glen Elmo #2194	March 6, 1929	Jan. 1, 1967
Hranko #1264	Jan. 11, 1904	Jan. 31, 1963
Islay #733	Feb. 4, 1893	Jan. 1, 1968
King George #1242 (Originally St. John Kant S.D.)	Aug. 19, 1902	Amal. Jan. 1, 1959 to form Oakburn Cons. #255
Marconi #2085	Oct. 1, 1921	May 27, 1965
Mohyla #1495	March 31, 1909	Dec. 21, 1964
Olha #1243 (Originally Boleslaw S.D.)	Dec. 8, 1902	Oct. 29, 1964
Perch #2177	Feb. 13, 1928	Sept. 13, 1960
Perth #575	April 11, 1889	Cons. to form Rossburn Cons. #2358, Jan. 1, 1958

Rossburn #128	Oct. 17, 1881	Cons. to form Rossburn Cons. #2358, Jan. 1, 1958 May 27, 1965
Ruska Rawa #1260 (Originally known as Budz S.D., then Stanislaw S.D.)	Jan. 11, 1904	
Ruthenia #1259 (Originally Gorna S.D.)	Jan. 11, 1904	Jan. 1, 1968
Sharman #1705	Nov. 20, 1913	Dec. 29, 1966
Valley #624 (Re-organized as Valley S.D. No. 1719)	Jan. 6, 1891	Dec. 8, 1959

My Story of a One Room School

On January 4th, 1905, my mother and I left Birtle, Manitoba, the town where I was born, by railway for Solsgirth, a little village ten miles away. We stayed there all day and night in a little hotel, from where the next morning I left by stage for Rossburn (a distance of approximately twenty miles) in a howling blizzard. I was met by Margaret Duncanson who had come two miles and a half, with a horse and cutter, through huge snow drifts. She took me to the farm home to board.

Next morning her brother Laird mounted a horse and made a track for his two sisters, four Sinclairs (who lived half a mile away) and myself to follow in. We had to go down a very steep hill and up the side — a total distance from my boarding house of one and a half miles. At the top of the hill stood just such a little School as you have pictured — BRUAN SCHOOL, No. 888, named by the Sinclairs for some place in Caithness, Scotland.

On arrival we lit the fire; and by the way, that was part of our daily routine, even at 40 below zero. We took our physical exercises, sang songs and moved around until it was warm enough to sit down. No complaints — we took it all in our stride. In winter we melted snow for drinking water, and in the summer the boys took turns, in pairs, at carrying beautiful spring water up the long hill from Bruan Creek. Added to that, we took turns at keeping the school clean.

When spring came considerable water found its way down the Creek, and I was the only one who had rubber boots, I carried five young folk over the Creek twice a day; Alec Sinclair being almost as tall as I was.

Outside the School there were flower beds, so we spent Arbor Day planting our flowers. Prior to my being there the School yard had been plowed and the teacher, Miss Crissie Kelso, and pupils had planted potatoes, hoed them, picked them and sold them to start a School Library.

I had seventeen pupils and eight Grades — some grades had only one pupil, and during the winter months I assisted a Grade IX pupil. My pupils were

very well behaved, so my discipline problem was a minor one; and as for the strap — I did not have one.

Regarding recess — I was always on the playground. One of our Normal School Principals of 1904 had taught us that if we could not be on the playground, to dispense with recess. "Remember, said Mr. Lang, play needs far more supervision than work — and seventy-five percent of the crimes of the day are hatched on a playground at School." Perhaps that teaching might still have food for thought.

My salary was \$45 a month, for some reason \$5 more than some of the neighbouring schools. Any extras, such as a basin, a jug, a wash stand, etc., came out of my salary. However, board was only \$10 a month, so that helped.

There was a little social life in connection with the School. Of course, at the end of the term we had a picnic on the school grounds for parents and pupils. In 1905 we had the pleasure of all coming to town one afternoon to see the first train arrive.

In those days a teacher had a busy life, as we were expected to take part in all community affairs. This I tried to do to the best of my ability. Sometimes I played the Church organ, sang in the Choir, taught in the Sunday School, sometimes led the Young Peoples Group — in short did everything I could find time to do, that I was capable of doing. And remember, in those days we walked most places. I recall going home from school several times with the Finch family, helping with the milking and chores so we could go to the Village to Young Peoples Meeting. Now, that entailed walking a distance of ten miles that day for the Finch's and seven miles for me. What a far-cry from today when people step on the gas to go a block.

However, it is not all as bad as it sounds. Meantime, I met Robert Peden, whom I later married, and my means of transportation was frequently in a rubber-tired buggy drawn by a beautiful horse.

Regarding Christmas entertainment, Bruan joined Islay School of Vista (a little Village seven miles from Rossburn) and Mr. Smith, the teacher from there, and I prepared a program. The entertainment was held in Rossburn. It entailed a great deal of work as we had to drive miles to practice. We were

complimented on our program which consisted of choruses, recitations, marches, a dialogue, a drill and club swinging, done by five girls from Bruan.

In those days, the teacher and pupils were like a large family, you visited every child's home frequently, and the hospitality shown you was second to none.

Our amusement was largely dancing, mostly on a Friday night. If by chance a dance — perhaps a wedding dance — was on a school night, you never got home until morning; and more than once I changed my clothes and went right to school. Unbelievable, but true!

There are a number of other things I might tell, but I must not make this too lengthy. The little School I taught in was drawn into town a number of years ago and still sits here on a back lot. No doubt many wonder why it is not wrecked, but when I look at it, I have nothing but fond memories of the wonderful boys and girls it was my privilege to have taught.

My congratulations to you for your wonderful endeavour; and the best of success.

Truly, out of the Little School House — Red or White — came the back-bone of this great country. May we ever keep green the memory of the men and women who endured the hardships of pioneer days and made it possible for us to enjoy the luxuries that are ours today.

Very Sincerely,
Winona Peden

Phyllis Chopp: Life of A Country School Teacher

Many events in my life have been determined by my teaching career. When my thirty years of teaching are added to the fifteen years of pioneer teaching by my father, and the current services of my daughter, there's almost sixty years of combined teaching service over three generations in my family. The nostalgic past has gripped me. Good heavens, I've made history for half a century!

My father, Alexander Klymkiw, was born in 1885 in the village of Khorostkiw, Western Ukraine. Delicate of health as a child, he was given an unusually good education for a peasant boy, and completed his higher education in Ternopil. Fluent in Ukrainian, German and Polish, he also studied Latin. In 1902 he emigrated to Canada and settled in Manitoba. In Winnipeg in 1905, he attended the Ruthenian-Ukrainian School, a special teacher training course designed for young immigrants who would teach in rural Manitoba. Many who attended this school used teaching as a stepping stone later to become lawyers, doctors and members of parliament.

After completing this short course my father

taught first at Hranko — 8 miles northwest of Rossburn. Two years later he taught at Seech School in the Oakburn area. In January, 1910, he married Katerina Stupnisky of Seech and moved to King George School — four miles north of Oakburn.

I was their first-born child in the Anthony Shurgot house where my parents boarded four miles from the school. A year or two later he moved to the Dauphin rural area, teaching at Lemburg and Keld schools for four years. His last school was Horod, 12 miles north of Elphinstone. It was the end of the First World War and he ventured into the business world.

In 1920 my family moved to Winnipeg where I received my public school education. Upon graduation from St. John's Technical School, I attended Normal School, then situated on William Avenue. I completed my training in 1932, but the Depression — the "Dirty Thirties" — had set in and there was an overflow of teachers. Familiar with the Rossburn area, my dad encouraged me to submit several applications. At that time, each school board received piles of applications from eager teachers. Not waiting for an answer, my father took matters in his own hands. He drove me by car to Rossburn and I was successful in signing my first contract at \$650 a year (\$65 a month) with Hranko School District. Unfortunately, the municipality was financially in the red and for the last three months I received a wage of \$40 per month. I boarded at Sam Klym's — one and a half miles from the school at \$15 a month. For this I received special treatment — the best room in the house and meals brought on a tray! Everyone walked to school including the teacher, unless there was a blizzard, and then the teacher got a ride by horse and sleigh. There were about 30 children in my first class, grade 1 to 8, ages 7 to 14. The curriculum consisted of Reading, Arithmetic, Handwriting, Spelling, Science, History, Geography and Art. The teacher was responsible not only for the curriculum but also in such matters as heating the school, teaching recess games and planning lunch-hour activities. School supplies were meagre. Parents were required to buy the school books, scribblers and writing equipment for their children. There was only a \$20 yearly grant for the library.

My knowledge of the Ukrainian language was an asset for the position as I was required to teach Ukrainian for one hour each day after school. The children were very eager and learned quickly their extra lessons. This was their first formal training in the Ukrainian language. Our concerts from then on were bilingual — singing and reciting in both English and Ukrainian.

Mr. Beecher was my first school inspector. He lived in the village of Rossburn and visited the

schools regularly. He was encouraging and helpful to me as a young teacher.

My permanent roots in the Rossburn district were established when I married Nicholas Chopp, a farmer's son from Mohyla School District. As a married teacher I needed to find another teaching position with a teacherage. I was grateful in obtaining the position at Flower School District not far from my maternal grandparents' farm. The school was 3 miles from Seech Post Office and 10 miles from the shopping centre, Oakburn. By this time my teacher salary had dropped to \$450 a year, but I doggedly hung on to the profession.

When all the farm work was completed, house-keeping kept my husband busy during the winter months. We bought a second-hand battery-operated cabinet radio and that was our entertainment. Being the first one in the district, however, it attracted frequent company. In one instance a certain visitor came every Sunday enjoying two meals along with the music programs.

As my husband still worked his father's farm, we left Flower S.D. after 2 years and moved to the Chopp farm. My next contract was with Mohyla S.D., three miles away.

In 1937 Nick bought a poolroom with living quarters from Malick Peikoff, a Rossburn merchant. This was the beginning of Nick's long service as poolroom owner and operator interchanged with farming.

I took a brief rest from teaching. It was during the Second World War and teachers were less scarce, but I was called upon to fill vacancies several times; the reverse trend of the 30's. Our only child, a daughter, was born on December 26, 1944, in a Winnipeg hospital. I was obliged to stay with my parents, as at that time Rossburn had no hospital or drugstore. With a small child, I continued to teach — taking a position at Perch S.D., where a teacherage was available. We hired a babysitter as my husband commuted daily to his half section farm four miles away. He sold the poolroom and bought the farm across the road from the Chopp farm now being run by his brother, Andrew.

At Perch S.D., one week-end, we had an unusually terrifying incident. A loud noise awakened us and a bright light indicated that the schoolhouse was on fire. My husband ran out but it was too late to save anything. The ceiling and walls were already falling. In a short time the school was burned to the ground, and the neighbours who were summoned could only watch helplessly. The school was rebuilt several months later but we carried on our education in the Ukrainian People's Home situated just across the road. It was a great inconvenience to say the least,

with poor lighting, benches for desks, and no library books. A neighbouring school sent us a few textbooks. To raise money a raffle was held and we raised a total of \$40 for school supplies for the 25 pupils. When the brand new school was ready with modern single desks the children and teacher cheered.

Now my three year old daughter, Lesia Donna, became acquainted with the school desks, the blackboard, and the skills of learning. This was the beginning of her long career in the classroom, as she followed her mother's and grandfather's footsteps into the teaching profession. Little Betty, Andrew Chopp's daughter, stayed with us at the teacherage for two years to attend school, completing three grades for an excellent beginning in her education which culminated in a nursing career.

Disappointed with crop failures due to hail and unpredictable weather, my husband's yearnings for the poolroom returned. Andrew had left for Sudbury and the Chopp farm was sold to Mike Pawluk, so we moved to Rossburn.

Following the 1952 major fire in Rossburn's Main Street, Nick bought the lot where Paisner's store once stood. Under contract with Harry Komhyr, a poolroom with an adjoining two bedroom house was built. The poolroom had two Snooker tables, two Boston tables and a barber shop. John Maydaniuk rented the barber shop for several years.

Nick and John became close friends and often fished together in an old rowboat they bought together. Other times Nick would grab his waders, and go out for a couple of hours, alone or with Lesia, for fish "for the cat." He knew all the lakes and rivers for miles around but had a special feeling for "Fish Lake," having grown up on its shores.

The poolroom was a favorite gathering place where the townsfolk socialized. Weekend and holiday visitors to Rossburn made a point to come to Nick's Billiards Room. At one time, there were as many as three poolrooms in the village, but Nick remained competitive, keeping his prices low. To his customers and friends, Nick was an important part of the poolroom.

Having been a trapper in the past, Nick enjoyed the hobby of dealing in pelts of muskrats, mink, weasel and squirrel. He also bought seneca roots. For many years he was an active curler and brought home many prizes from bonspiels.

Because of the distance between our two places of work, I stopped teaching for three years. It was a pleasant rest, but sensing my continued interest in schools, my daughter encouraged me to accept a teaching offer. I signed the contract with Ruska Rawa S.D. It was 1957 and my second return to this district. A new, smaller school had been built because

enrollment was declining in country schools. It resembled a dollhouse. First I had 8 pupils in four grades — a treat! — but soon Marconi S.D. consolidated and 7 new pupils joined us producing eight grades. This was the beginning of a new trend of transporting children great distances to school. The school inspector visited twice a year, and reported to the school board. Nick transported me the 28 miles, twice daily for six years. In extreme winter weather, I boarded with families near the school.

By this time my daughter was attending United College in Winnipeg. Considering a family move to the city, I accepted a teaching position in North Springfield S.D. near Winnipeg. Here I shared a teaching assignment with the principal of a two-classroom school. Because Nick preferred the country life style, the next year I returned to Rosburn and began teaching at Stratford S.D. near Silverton. This time Nick drove a distance of 40 miles, twice daily, to provide my transportation. It was a prosperous farming community and the children here had many advantages. One day I casually asked a six-year-old child about her vacation activities. Her reply took me by surprise: she had travelled to Disneyland by airplane. I later learned that her father owned a private plane and operated machinery for road construction. I was facing here a new generation of children who brought to the classroom a wide background of experiences and information. Modern methods of farming and population patterns affected us further: in two years the school closed and the children were transported to consolidated schools in town.

The Little Red Schoolhouse was now extinct in the Rosburn area and I was obliged to teach in the modern technical system. I was hired by the Pelly Trail School Division. School inspectors were replaced by Superintendents of a School Division serving a hundred classrooms. Teachers chose fields in which to specialize. I, too, attended summer school in Winnipeg to enhance my knowledge in Special Education. After two years in this complex system I reached my retirement and my professional services came to an end. I became a nurse to Nick and operated the poolroom as Nick's health began to fail.

I've now outlived him for six years. Selling the poolroom, I chose to live in Winnipeg close to my only daughter. My teaching and my life in Rosburn have come to an end, but this past has been impressed on my memory. I have spent my life well to have been a participant in the history of teaching and in the history of Rosburn.

School Converted To Hall

The building that for a number of years served as the Rosburn Legion Hall and in recent years has

been used by Scarrow's Hardware for storage and furniture warehouse purposes, has an interesting history.

It was originally situated on the south-west corner of SE¼ 31-19-24 near the location of Ben Cormack's house and adjacent to the road directly east of Rosburn.

The building served for several years as a school. This school building was built in 1898 by the late Wm. Taylor (father of Gordon Taylor, now deceased). Jas. Dewar assisted in the school's construction. The foundation was laid and the chimney built by the late Wm. Collins, who also did the plastering of the interior. The lumber for the school was brought from Shoal Lake.

The building was used as a school until the first portion of Rosburn's large frame school was constructed in 1907. This later building, erected closer to the expanding townsite, on the present site of Rosburn Elementary School, was demolished in the late 1950's after completion of the present building.

The original school that had been located further east of Rosburn was sold to the Rosburn Orange Lodge (no longer active) and moved to its present location. The Orange Lodge sold the building to the Legion in May 1946.

Birdtail School District No. 1263

Birdtail School District No. 1263 was formed on Jan. 11, 1904. However it is believed to have been 1914 or 1915 before a school was built.

The carpenter in charge of construction of Birdtail School in 1914 or 1915 was Bill Buchanan. The lumber was obtained from Peden's Mill with Frank Cleland bringing the material to the school site.

A rather indistinct copy of a 1915 attendance report shows Lillian D. Ferguson was teacher. Stu-



Birdtail School and students as seen in 1944-45.

dents were: Katrina Tanasychuk, Flora White, Alvira Huston, Mary Tanasychuk, Mabel White, Alice White and Mary Wyness.

In 1916 the half-yearly attendance register shows Louise Taylor was teacher for that school year, with Joseph I. Huston as Secretary-Treasurer. School Trustees were: J. McIntosh, T. R. White and J. I. Huston.

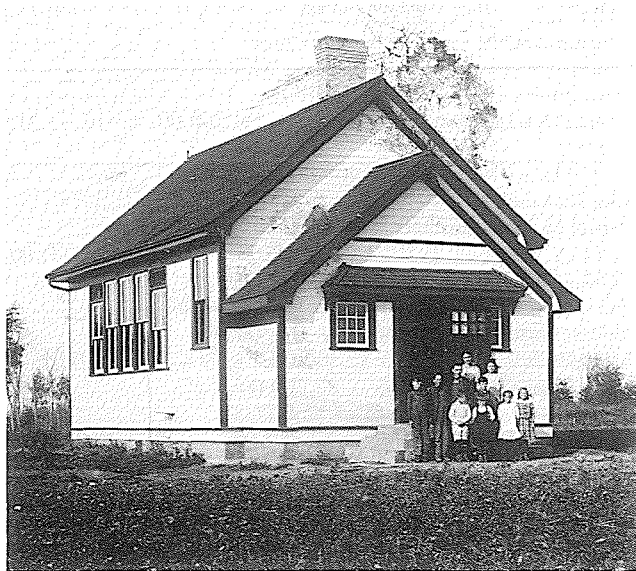
Among other teachers who are recalled include: Miss Cassie McKee (1916-17-18), Mrs. Belcher (1920), Mrs. Crook 1922, Ann Snider (Mrs. Tom Sinclair) 1929, Viola Rowe (Mrs. Jack Stitt) 1934-35, Andrew Palmer (1935-36), Ann Pradinuk (Mrs. Harry Pawluk) 1936-37. From 1937 to 1942, teachers included: Miss Roblin, Miss Simms, Miss Cassie Pawluk (Mrs. Pete Misanchuk), Miss Jess Peresky. Adam Juce taught in 1942-43, Adam Chuchmuch 1943-44, Miss Maria Michalchuk 1944-1945, Miss Helena Hrubeniuk (Mrs. Metro Zink) 1945-46, Miss Sophie Horoshko 1946-1947, Miss Nellie Drozda (Mrs. Bill Gapka) 1947-1948.

With the closing of Birdtail School, the building was sold to Mike and Russ Tanasychuk who converted it for seed cleaning purposes.

Long-time residents recall the joint annual picnics held by Birdtail, Bruan and Valley schools for many years. However, these happy annual events are now but memories of the past.

Old Bruan School #888

Old Bruan School #888 was built in 1896 on Donald Sinclair's farm, N.W. 12-20-25. It was



Bruan School and students — 1918. Back row, left to right: Dean Grant, Kay Barkley, Lorne Plant, Annie Barkley, Roy Bigford. Front row, left to right: Alex Cleland, Billy Bigford, Violet Crookshanks, Louise Bigford.

named after a school which he attended in Scotland. The lumber used to build the school was rafted down the Birdtail River from Gunn's Mill.

The first trustees were: — Tom Buchanan, Alex Hamilton and Donald Sinclair. The first teacher in 1897, was William Dugan and his salary was \$350.00 a year. There were thirteen children that year, namely — Alexander, Thomas and Maggie Duncanson, Mary E., Jessie, Stanley and William Buchanan, Maggie and Alexander Sinclair, Thomas Hamilton, Fred, Georgina and Walter Veitch. Their ages ranged from five to fourteen years.

The following teachers were: — Catherine Wood, Bertha Stewart, Hugh Ross, James Potter, Chrissie Kelso, Marion Storey, Winnona Easson, Gertie Winston, Georgina Crowe, and Louise Beal.



Old Bruan School Class, 1914-1915. Back row, left to right: Maynard Crookshanks, Ray Grant, Tom Sinclair, Mary Sianchuk, Helen Grant, Cona Sinclair, Hildred Plant, Jeanette Crowe. Front row: Elmer Grant, Paul Sianchuk, Bill Bigford, Ray Barkley, Lorne Plante, Bert Barkley, Emma Sinclair, Eleda Crookshanks, Roy Bigford.



New Bruan School #888 (1919). Back row, left to right: Ray Barkley, Lorne Plante, Dean Grant, Roy Bigford, Lyle Robertson (teacher). Front row: Violet Crookshanks, Alex Cleland, Louise Bigford, Bertie Bigford, Annie Barkley (in front of teacher).

New Bruan School #888 (1918-1958)

New Bruan School was built one mile north of Old Bruan on N.W. 13-20-25, on land owned by Donald Sinclair. The first teacher was Lyle Robertson.

The late Mrs. Margaret Joiner boarded most of these teachers. She was a good match-maker, and very few of the single teachers escaped the eligible bachelors of the district. As we do not have the records, the following teachers may not be listed in the correct order. Other teachers were: — Vera Foster (Mrs. Bert Barkley), Mrs. Hefferen, Dorothy Todd (Mrs. Mel Greenway), Cassie McKee, Miss McLeod, William Peden, Miss Perch, Miss Thompson, Louise Ayers (Mrs. Gordon Kilburn), Elliot Crowe, Ann Snyder (Mrs. Tom Sinclair), Marjorie Stevenson, Doris Broadfoot, Louise Short (Mrs. John Carson), Miss Geekie, Helen Zink, Mary Komhyr, Mike Tokar, Jerry Matiation, and Jean Melnyk (Mrs. John Mitchell).



Travelling to school by horses and van — winter 1947.

The early schools did not have the conveniences of the modern schools, such as in-door plumbing and central heating. Two discreetly placed out-houses served the purpose. A large upright furnace heated the poorly insulated building. Usually on a cold day, it took two or three hours to heat the classroom.

It was a hardship travelling to school as compared to the present time where there is a warm bus driving into the yard to pick the children up. Some children had to walk over two miles. However this was the way of the times and it did not deter the enthusiasm in studies or recreation. We can still recall the Christmas concerts and school picnics with the neighboring schools.

Due to declining enrollment, in 1958, Bruan was closed and joined in Rosburn Consolidated School District. Matt Hrubeniuk bought the property. He

moved the school to his farm N.W. 14-20-25 and he remodelled it into a modern home.

By Rowat Veitch

Byrd School

Byrd School, #2212, was built in the year of 1930 on N.W. ¼ section 5-20-23. It was named after Richard Byrd, the first man to reach the South Pole. The first trustees were Mike Woychyshyn, John Choptiuk and Alex Matskiw. John Hullick was the Secretary Treasurer and Ann Antonichuk was the first teacher. There were fifty-three pupils attending school that first year and here is the list of names: — Mike Antonyshyn, Mary Antonyshyn, Walter, Jack, and Margaret Belinsky, Roy Budz, Harry, John, Peter and Paul Chegus, Anna, Walter, Anton, Pauline, Mike and Joe Drozda, Dmytro and Adolph Hrankowski, Melfort Luhoway, Metro, Mary and William Michasiw, Staffie, Nickie, Metro and Mary Werzak, John Ostash, Mike Swizinsky, Nellie Woychyshyn, Joe, Polly, and Mary Radilniski, Martha, Annie, Nettie, Stanley and Alex Matskiw, Peter and Pearl Makar, Jessie, Jennie, Lena and Frank Budz, Mike Zegalski, Willie and Steve Bilinsky, Mary Baubie, Joe Trach, Mike and Harry Kolenich, Peter Baubie, Helen Zegalski and Nellie Matskiw.

The names of teachers and their salary per annum from the year of 1930-1962 are: —

Ann Antonichuk — 1930/31 — \$900.00, 31/32 — \$800.00, 32/33 — \$700.00, 33/34 — \$600.00,
Michael Tokar — 1934/36 — \$500.00
Marie Lesiuk — 1936/37 — \$425.00, 37/38 — \$480.00, 38/40 — \$500.00,
Mary Chwaliboga — 1940/41 — \$550.00,
John Penonzik — 1941/42 — \$600.00.
Adam Juce — 1942/43 — \$800.00,
Oral Antonichuk — 1943/44 — \$750.00,
Bernice Kwiatkowski — 1944/45 — \$850.00,
Joyce Sitko — 1945/46 — \$825.00,
Bernice Kwiatkowski — 1946/47 — \$1,250.00, 47/48 — \$1,350.00,
Amy Zink — 1948/49 — \$1,100.00,
John Kowalchuk — 1949/50 — \$1,500.00,
Muriel M. Zepa — 1950/51 — \$900.00,
Anthony Peech — 1951/52 — \$1,900.00, 52/53 — \$2,000.00,
53/54 — \$2,350.00, 54/55 — \$2,450.00,
Mrs. Jean Michalchuk — 1955/56 — \$2,400.00,
Melfort Swidinsky — 1956/57 — \$2,500.00,
Mary Budz — 1957/58 — \$2,500.00, 58/59 — \$2,650.00
Joyce Zegalski — 1959/60 — \$2,500.00,
Sonia Posmituck — 1960/61 — \$2,800.00,
Shirley Luhowy — 1961/62 — \$2,850.00.

In 1962, Byrd School district consolidated to Rosburn and to Pelly Trail School Division. The pupils that attended Byrd School in the year of 1961-62 were — Grace Mychasiw, Edward Budz, Donald Swidinski, Eugene Zegalski, Josephine Budz, Robert Lepischak, Evelyn Mychasiw, Linda Zegalski and Phyllis Mychasiw.

Byrd School was sold to a farmer. It still sits on the original site, and is now used for storing grain in 1981.

By Stanley Leschasin



Byrd School in 1941. John Penonzek was the teacher. Students, Front Row, Seated: Steve Mychasiw, Harry Mychasiw, John Swidinsky, Bill Ostash, Philip Hrysak, Wilson Hullick, Tony Woychyshyn, Walter Werzak, Melford Swidinsky, Joe Swidinsky, Orest Mychasiw. Second Row: Lovie Drozda, Walter Mychasiw, Robert Swidinsky, Sonia Hullick, Gwen Woychyshyn, Leonard Woychyshyn, Melvin Woychyshyn, Archie Drozda, Walter Zegalski, Roy Berehulka, Tony Swidinsky. Third Row: Jean Wozney, Irene Swidinsky, Mildred Werzak, Joyce Werzak, Wozny, Sophie Drozda, Helen Ostash, Margaret Woychyshyn, Stella Swidinsky, Gwen Hullick, Nell Budz. Back Row: Pearl Ostash, Mary Mychasiw, Anne Mychasiw, Nell Drozda, Anne Baubie, Mary B. Budz.

Chmelnycki School District No. 1494

Chmelnycki School District No. 1494 was organized to fill the educational needs of school age children of the new families in that area.

The school site was selected on the NW quarter of 28-21-24 and in 1909 the school was built by Tom Craig. The property on which the school was located is now owned by John Kawka.

The school was opened in 1910. First teacher was Michael Nowosad, with over twenty pupils enrolled. Some of the first pupils were: Wasyl Bereza's family, Mike Kawka's family, Fred Malaniuk's family (Matt, Mary, Annie, Zelma), Mike Hasiuk's family, Woyko Maydaniuk's children, Tom Bradshaw's children (Archie, Emily, Alec and Roy), Alex Oryniak's children and Roman Dychakowski's family.

The school was moved in 1929 to SE 34. These school sites can be identified as being Steve Verbowski's, Mikita Kawka's and Mike Silewich's farm locations.

Some of the teachers at Chmelnycki School were: Michael Nowosad, Elias Mykichuk, John Hykaway, Metro Wowk, Jacob Matusky, Mr. Cozoris, Michael Nowosad (after marriage), Ivan Storozuk, Basil Trakalo, Nick Nazarish, Miss Tommick, Dorothy Bugera, Ivan Storozuk (after marriage — taught 75 students grades 1 to 8), Lillian Gregorash, Paul Fostershank, Nick Yarish, Peter Yaskiw, Peter Cher-



Chmelnycki School Students, 1926. Back row, left to right: Mary Maydaniuk, Annie Obedniak, Sophie Sawchuk, Dora Kawka, Anne Verbowski, Alex Dychakowski, Nick Hryciuk, Roy Hasiuk, Martin Maydaniuk, Peter Kawka, Sophie Derlago, Annie Saley, Harry Melnyk, Nick Kawka, Alex Pawluk. Middle row: Warwara Saley, Mary Obedniak, Sophie Komhyr, Mary Derlago, Teenie Baydock, Annie Maydaniuk, Mary Saley. Front row: Annie Deydey, Nellie Derlago, Katie Deydey, Olga Derlago, Sophie Derlago, Murray Hryciuk, Bill Korolyk, Mike Pawluk, Steve Maydaniuk, Mike Kawka, Stanley Maydaniuk, John Kawka, Harry Malaniuk. Teacher was Ivan Storozuk.

kas, Joe Borody, Nick Odaisky, Marie Mychasiw, Allan Wagner, Theresa Michalchuk, Maria Michalchuk, Eugenia Pawluk, Alex Sabeski, Mrs. Stan Malchuk, Vi Matiwosky, Mike Dunits, Nick Kalyniuk, and Miss M. J. I. Gunn, who was the last teacher.

The last secretary was Walter Pawluk.

A new school was built in 1951. The first teacher was Joe Borody. Chmelnycki and Mohyla School Districts had both been originally organized by Theodore Stefanuk.

Among some of the last pupils were: Doreen, Elaine, Calvin and Carol Pawluk; Kenneth, Lorne and Paulette Pawluk; Lynn, Ryan and Pat Fowler; Donnie Shewchuk; Ollie, Judy, Diane and Verlène Kozun; Alice, Taras and Janet Maydaniuk; Kenneth Maydaniuk; Betty Shmyr; Verne, Doreen and Janice Kawka.

Clarke School

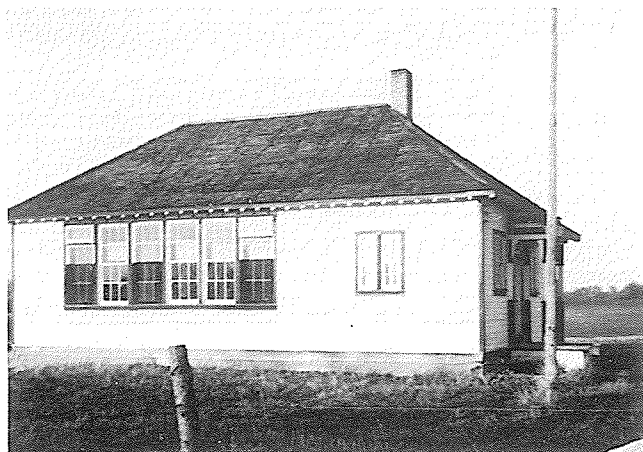
Clarke School District #2278 was formed when old Hranko School closed and the district was split up.

Clarke School was built in 1937. Head carpenter was Mr. Maydaniuk. With volunteer help from neighbours, the school was completed and ready to open. But it still had no name.

Soon after, school inspector, Mr. Clarke, visited the school. Then and there, the trustees decided their school would be called Clarke School.

The first teacher was Miss Bugera. The enrollment in the first few years was as high as forty pupils.

Other teachers who taught in Clarke School were: Miss Polka, Mr. Halas, Miss Lesiuk, Miss N. Ponchuk, Miss J. Rudneski, Miss J. Matiwosky, Mr. Zatylny, Mr. E. Trakalo, Miss E. Shmyr, Miss R. Melnyk, Miss Chastko, Miss Dutkiewich, Mrs. E. Pawluk, Mr. Zurbyk, Mr. B. Betz and Mrs. McNulty.



Clarke School.

Throughout the years, the teachers and pupils enjoyed parties, Christmas concerts, picnics and ball games.

Year by year, the enrollment dwindled down to eight-ten pupils. Finally, in 1960 a decision was made to close the school and consolidate with Rosburn.

Colonsay School District No. 2081

On July 22nd, 1921, a group of people from the surrounding area got together at the home of Bion Copping with the object of forming a school district. The district was to include sections 5-6-7-8 and W½ 9-19-25W, Section 36 and the N½ 34, 35-18-26W also sections 1-2-11-12 and S½ of 13 and 14-29-26W.

Interested persons were: Tom Bowen, Harry Smith, Bob Major, James Stainer, William Moulson, Alex McTavish, Bion Copping, James Dunbar, Ernest Scully, Oscar Copping, Fred Dickinson, Robert Mountain and Percy Mountain. The name of Bondary School was chosen, however, the Department of Education gave it the name of Colonsay.

The first ratepayers' meeting was on October 8th, 1921, at which time they elected William Moulson as Chairman, Percy Mountain secretary-treasurer, Bion Copping and Fred Dickinson as trustees. The school was situated on the SW corner of Section 7-19-25W. Debentures of \$3000.00 were held by Mrs. E. Tormey of Regina. Plans were obtained and approved, and tenders let for lumber and construction. J. J. Crowe Lumber Co. supplied the material while B. Copping resigned as a trustee and took the contract to build the school, barn and outbuildings.

School opened in September of 1922 with nine pupils which included the children of Wm. Moulson, B. Copping, Percy Mountain, and Isaac Murray families. They were joined by three more of Arthur Smith's, and as the younger children of these families grew up they joined the group and the older ones left. In this period Walter McTavish was a pupil for a short time. In 1929 R. Campbell moved into the district and the three younger children attended. In the early 1930's the Alex McTavish girls began their education. In 1933 Albert Ament and family moved to the district and three more children were added to the roll.

For a short time the Smith children from the Indian Agency at the Waywayseecappo Reserve attended. The Clement Dunham children and Walter McTavish's children all started school at Colonsay.

In the summer of 1940 the school closed due to lack of pupils but reopened in the Fall of 1944 and was able to remain open through the use of permit teachers, as the teacher supply was very short at the time. The pupils at this time included the children of An-

drew Moan, Tom Davison, Jim Irwin and Fred Copping. Around 1950 Mel Reaney's children started attending. In 1952 something new was tried, as pupils were needed to keep the school open. Indian children from the Oudie and Longclaws, Mentuck and Cook families began attending. In the later 1950's the Mervin Kalyn children and the Leonard Wonitoway children became pupils, along with the Gordon Ament children. Rudolph Kotelniski's children started just prior to the school's closing.

Colonsay closed its doors in the summer of 1960 with the Ament family moving to Rossburn to live, and Copping, Davison and Kotelniski children going to Foxwarren to continue in elementary and high school. This came about as the Indian children were to integrate into the classes at Rossburn.

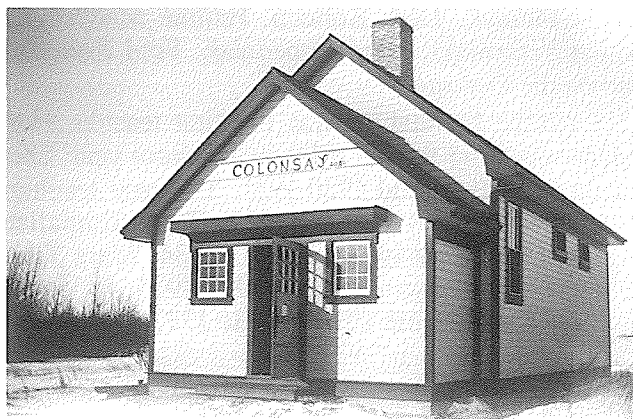
It is interesting to note the change in salaries over this period, starting at \$70.00 a month in 1923 to a high \$85.00 in 1927. In the depression and drought years, everyone's finances were at a new low and teachers' salaries also, at \$40.00 a month with a record number of applicants. Our school closed from the Fall of 1940 to '44 for lack of pupils. When it reopened, the board was only able to obtain untrained teachers, but these girls did their best and started a good number of students on the paths of learning. In 1948-'49 they got their first qualified teacher since prior to the Second World War, the salary, \$140.00 a month. In 1960, when the school closed, the salary was \$310.00. It is interesting to note here that the Income Tax deductions and the teacher retirement fund deduction was \$43.00 per month, \$3.00 more than the salary paid in the thirties.

During the 1930's a community club was active. Dances, card parties, plays, etc., were regular features through the winter months on alternate weeks with Lansburn School.

As of January 1st, 1967 the school district of Colonsay is no more. The district has been divided up. All the lands in the Rossburn Municipality have gone to Rossburn Consolidated School District. The remaining lands were transferred to the Foxwarren Consolidated School District, and the pupils travel to school in buses now.

It is fascinating to look through the old school register and see the names of pupils' families, some of which are still in the homes of the originals who started our school, and others who are scattered right across Canada from Vancouver to Prince Edward Island. It has seemed that whenever the pupils from the one-room school entered the large classes, after the first shock, they seemed able to make good grades. This must prove that the one-room rural school had something going for it, and the pupils were not too handicapped after all!

The building is still standing on its original site but in a sad state of decay. It belongs to the Pelly Trail Division since it was closed.



Colonsay School, 1923.

Teachers of Colonsay School

1922-25 Miss Marion McKee; 1925-26 Miss Zelma Peden; 1926-29 Miss Dorothy Mitchell; 1929-30 Miss Edna Gallop; 1930-31 Miss Marion Barton; 1931-32 Miss Vida McDonald, Miss Hazel Cochrane; 1933-35 Miss Betty LePage; 1935-38 Miss Anne Campbell; 1938-40 Miss Gladys Dunkin, then the school was closed for four years.

1944-45 Miss Rose Drozda; 1945-46 Miss Fern Lock, Miss Helen Chobatuik, and Miss Betty Jake-man; 1946-47 Miss Nydia Wonitoway; 1947-48 Charles Buchanan; 1948 Lloyd Sulymka; 1948-52 Mrs. Eugenia Pawluk; 1952 Mrs. Catherine Ament; 1952-53 Miss Enid Butler; 1953-55 Mrs. Catherine Ament; 1955-56 Mrs. Ellen Carscadden; 1956-57 Mrs. Ament, James Norrie; 1957-60 Mrs. Gladys Berney.

Glen Elmo S.D. No. 2194

Glen Elmo S.D. No. 2194 was formed on March 6, 1929. The first trustees of this new school district were: Stanley Korolyk, Leonard Plant and William Derlago. John McKietiuik was the new school district's first secretary-treasurer.

Students attending Glen Elmo school the first year were: Mike Brykaliuk, Mary Brykaliuk, Polly Obedniak, Daisy Bilawka, Polly Prodan, Mary Kuzenko, Daisy Korolyk, Mike Verbowski, Alex Kohuch, Sophie Piasta, Boris Derlago, John Macyshyn, Lily Bereza, Thomas Obedniak, Teenie Korolyk, Mary Macyshen, Mike Belbas, Harry Kuzenko, John Obedniak, Clement Derlago, Lucy Bereza, Alex Oryniak, Harry Verbowski, Annie Bilawka, Kate Macyshyn, William Belbas, Michael Derlago, Henry Piasta, Mary Obedniak, Dora

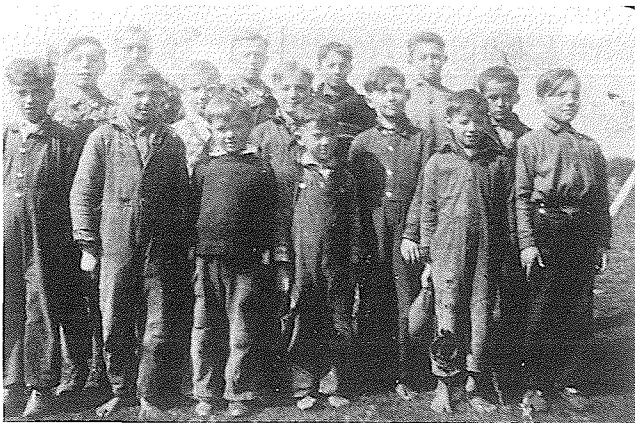
Melnyk, Anne Kohuch, Peter Kuzenko, Wm. Obedniak, Fred Kuzenko, Sophie Derlago, Olga Derlago, Anthony Derlago, Mike Piasta, Annie Kostiuk, William Korolyk, Helen Korolyk, Annie Belbas, Harry Melnyk, Dora Kohuch, Pauline Macyshyn, Annie Verbowski, Annie Obedniak, Fred Kohuch, and Nellie Derlago.

Caroline Shumanski was the first teacher. Her salary was \$765 for the 1929-1930 school year. She taught 1929-1930 and 1930-1931. The next teacher was Nydia Nedley in 1931-1932. Tony Simbalist taught during 1932-1933 and 1933-1934. Mary Tanachow was the next teacher in 1934-1935, followed by Peter Bugera from 1935-1936 to 1937-1938. Ann Chornomoz taught in 1939-1940.

Other teachers included Lena Kuzyk, Caroline Parobec, Archie Fiel, Stanley Malchuk, Emily Rubeniuk, Mrs. Mortimore, Ellen Ternowski, Kay Spence, Florence Danylyshyn, Alex Kreshewski, Miss Shwaluk and Miss Lindsay, Miss Parypa, Ms. Helen Chorneko, Rhea Simmard, Ann Woroniuk, Joe Zatylny, Helen Komher and Margaret Yanchycki. The last school teacher at Glen Elmo school was Mrs. Mary Komhyr who taught for the last five years that classes were held there. A declining enrollment finally resulted in school closing.

School Trustees in 1933-34 as recorded in documents from that era were: Harry Belbas, William Brykaliuk and George Hlagie.

While the complete list of those who served as secretary-treasurers is unavailable it is known that amongst those who served in this position during the early years of the school district were: John McKietiuik, Darcy Karmazenuk, Harry Verbowski and Mike Verbowski.



Glen Elmo School — boys' class about 1934. Teacher — Miss Tanachiw. Back row, left to right: Roy Kohuch, Harry Kuzenko, Alex Kohuch, Mike Deydey, John Hlagy. Middle row: Steve Kuzenko, Nick Brykaliuk, Joe Bilawka, Willie Kaban. Front row: Angus Derlago, Peter Deydey, Matt McKietiuik, Bill Bilawka, Freddie Deydey, Nick Kohuch.

Glen Elmo School was built during 1929 and was ready for the 1929-1930 school year. The location was on NW¼ 25-21-25 and remained there until the present time.

The school district was dissolved Jan. 1, 1967.

Hranko School District No. 1264

Hranko School District was officially created by By-law No. 211 of the Rural Municipality of Rossburn on January 11, 1904. The district consisted of sections 1-2-9-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29 in township 20, range 24W.



1st Hranko School, 1924, SW 23-20-24.

The school was built by Bill Taylor in 1906 for the sum of seven hundred dollars. Total expenditures that year were \$800.00 — \$700.00 paid to the builder and \$100.00 for miscellaneous expenses. Receipts for 1906 were made up of: sale of debentures — \$600.00 and \$200.00 borrowed from the Union Bank.

The school site was at the extreme southwest corner of the SW ¼ 23-20-24, one mile west of Rossman Lake.

The first recorded minutes that are still in possession was of a board meeting held on March 9, 1907 which was chaired by Dmytro Yarmey and the minutes recorded by the teacher, Fred Hawryluk. Danylo Czwaluk was elected chairman for 1907, Dmytro Yarmey, secretary treasurer, at a salary of \$15.00 per annum and Fred Hawryluk, teacher, at a salary of \$480.00 per annum. The total budget for the year was \$696.00.

The school inspector at the time was F. H. Belton who resided in Roblin.

It is said that Hranko school derived its name from the Hrankowski family. The school inspector

visited several homes in the area and asked the people for suggestions for a name for the School District. He did not like several names that were proposed, and when he dropped in on the Hrankowski family, he asked them their name. "Hrankowski" they said — the name obviously pleased the inspector for he said — that will be the name of the school.

The school register of 1907-08 contained the names of the following students:

Antoniw — Andrew, Palahna and Stefan
 Abranchuk — Wasyl
 Bayurak — Yalas
 Cycay — Ruth and Yaga
 Czykaylo — Justina and Paraska
 Czwaluk — Annie
 Dutkewich — Magda and Stefan
 Danyleyko — Andrew and Fred
 Genoway — Wladimir, John, Joe, Blazek, Martin, Nick and Michael
 Hrankowski — Kornel and Michalina
 Iwanyshyn — Maryna and Stefan
 Kitlar — Nastia, Annie, Mary, Michalina and Stefan
 Kozak — Nastia
 Kiez — John
 Klym — John
 Luhowy — Anton and Dmytro
 Loshka — Ewdocha
 Shmyr — John
 Slobodeski — Zacharko, Jack and Sam
 Sidlar — Annie and John
 Sheremata — Wasyl and Annie
 Tomchyshym — Nick
 Todosiew — Theodore and Nazarey
 Yarmey — Mary, Nick and John
 Zawerucha — Yalas and Nykyfor

The trustees for the year 1907-08 were: Dmytro Yarmey, Danylo Czwaluk and Semko Klym; Secretary Treasurer — Dmytro Yarmey; Teacher — first term — Fred Hawryluk; second term — Alex Klymkiw. The school budget for 1908 was broken down as follows: Salaries for teachers and officers

	\$515.00
Sinking fund or debentures	120.00
Interest on debentures	70.45
Buildings and repairs	85.00
	<u>\$790.45</u>

It was agreed that when school opened in 1907, every ratepayer who had a child(ren) attending school would donate a half cord of firewood for that year.

In 1909, Macko Cycay agreed to supply ten cords of wood for \$25.00.

The minutes of 1912 contain two interesting motions:

- 1) that Fed Antonow be school caretaker at a wage of \$2.00 per month;
- 2) that a stable, 16' x 18', be built beside the school; this was amended in 1913 to a 16 x 12 size stable.

At an annual meeting of 1913 a vote was taken

whether to purchase a "Smith System heating"; this motion was defeated by the rate-payers.

At a special meeting on April 17, 1914, the board decided to clean out the school grounds and break a piece of land for a school garden.

A Memorandum of Agreement made between the trustees of Hranko School District and A. Klymkiw, a teacher, on June 29, 1908 contained the provisions of Mr. Klymkiw's contract with the School District. His contract was for a one year term beginning July 1, 1908 and expiring July 1, 1909 and called for an annual salary of \$500.00 to be paid at least quarterly. Mr. Klymkiw was the holder of a third class bilingual (Ruthenian-English) diploma of qualification as a Public School Teacher in Manitoba.

In 1918 two trustees, Peter Dutkewich and Florian Hrankowski, died of the "Spanish flu"; their places were taken by D. M. Yarmey and Anton Gray.

In 1921 "John Yarmey agreed to deliver to school six cords of green poplar wood at five dollars a cord. Wood to be cut, split and piled at school. Fred Antonow agreed to take care of the school for the term the school is open. He agrees to fire, sweep, and scrub floor in winter once a month, and in summer, twice a month, and to clean pipes once in two months. Salary, \$7 per month."

On May 28, 1925 a meeting was held at the home of Dmytro Gawryliuk for the purpose of discussing the matter of re-organizing the School District and building a new school house. A motion was passed to do this and the secretary was instructed to write a letter to the inspector advising him of the decision.

At the meeting of January 15, 1927 the trustees passed a resolution to divide the school district into two districts and to build two new school houses. It was agreed to ask the Municipality for their advice in the matter and also for assistance in the formation of two new districts having at least twelve sections in each district.

A special meeting was held on September 21, 1927 for the purpose of considering division of the school district. H. Connolly (school inspector) acted as chairman and Jas. Dutchak (teacher) as secretary. In attendance were Mr. Brown, Reeve of the Municipality, D. Yarmey, secretary-treasurer, two trustees, D. Gawryliuk and M. Zborowski, and nine ratepayers.

Mr. Connolly explained to those present the necessity of providing better accommodation for the children pointing out that upwards of 70 children in the district — who should attend school cannot be comfortably housed in a 19' x 25' classroom. He then explained the diagram drawn on the black-board showing the proposed division which was as follows:

The District was to be divided into two, and these

were to be completed by adding to them parts of the neighbouring districts. Thus the Western District would include sections 8, 9, 15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, 26, 27, 28 and 29 of townships 20, range 24, in all twelve sections with the school site on the southeast quarter of section 21. The Eastern District would include sections 1, 2, 3, east half of 4, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 23, 24, 25 of township 20, range 24 and section 36 of township 19, range 24 (12½ sections in all) with the school site to be on the SE¼ of section 14.

Following discussion the proposal was put to a vote; all those present who were included in the western district voted in favor of the proposed division; those present from the eastern district opposed the proposed division by a majority vote.

The total property assessment of the proposed districts was: Eastern district — \$60,240; Western district — \$61,580.

However, the split of the school district was eventually agreed to and on March 6, 1928 trustees and ratepayers met for the purpose of electing school boards for the two newly formed districts. Hranko School retained its name and number while the western district was assigned the number 2177 (later to be named Perch).

For economic reasons the new Hranko School board decided to maintain the present building and site. The first members of the new Board were Mike Zborowsky, John Klym and Wasyl Sidlar.

Christmas concerts that were put on by the teacher and the students were one of the hi-lites of a school district for the entire year — one such concert was held at Pete's Lake hall on December 19, 1930; the admission was .10 per person and the Board allowed \$3.00 to be spent for the children's Christmas Tree.

An indicator of the hardships during the Depression Years was the school budget: in 1930-31 the budget was \$1220.00; in 1933-34 the budget was sliced to \$650.00, with most of the reduction taking place in the teacher's salary.

The decision to build a new school was made in April, 1936 with the construction to begin in 1937. The Board agreed to request the Municipality to levy a special tax of \$10 per quarter section which would be turned over to the district that fall. Alex Kitlar, John Klym and Stanley Lepischak agreed to cut eleven thousand board feet of spruce lumber in the Riding Mountain National Park for \$18.00 per thousand. The permit for this lumber cost \$34.03. A motion was also passed that a Special District tax of \$300 be levied by the Municipality for labour costs in the construction of the new school.

A meeting was held on May 25, 1937 with 42 ratepayers in attendance as well as School Inspector Clarke. The purpose of the meeting was to select a

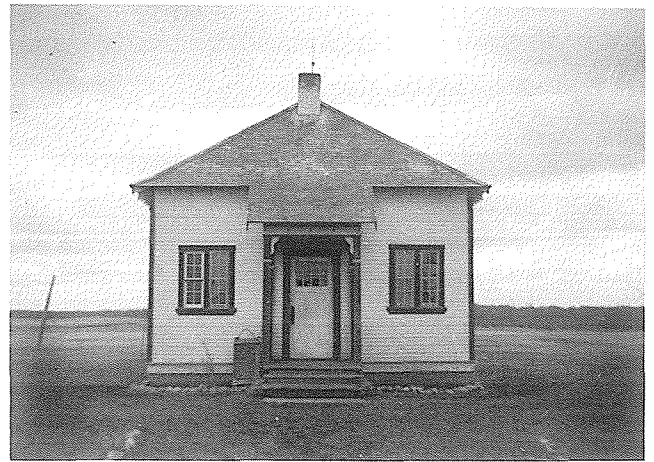
new school site. After much discussion and debate, two locations were given consideration:

- northeast side of the northwest quarter of section eleven;
- east side of southeast quarter of section eleven.

Locating the school on the southeast quarter was defeated by a vote of 30-8; the northwest quarter was approved by a count of 29-5. The building of the school proceeded on the site selected, one mile south and half a mile west of Rossman Lake.

Bill Hyra was employed as the carpenter with many of the ratepayers helping with the construction. The wages paid to the ratepayers were .20 per hour and .35 per hour with horses. Part of the wages earned was paid in cash and a portion was credited to the ratepayers' property taxes.

The old Hranko school was sold to Semko Klym for \$50 and an auction sale of the items in the school netted \$76.60.



2nd Hranko School, 1955. NW 11-20-24.

Hranko School operated at its new location until June, 1954 when, due to low enrollment, the school was closed and the remaining students then attended either Byrd or Perch schools.

On January 1, 1964 the school district became part of Rosburn Consolidated School District and the Hranko School District was officially dissolved.

The school building was tendered for sale in 1965 and was purchased by Pete Pomehichuk for \$400.00. The building was eventually moved away and now, the only reminder to those that attended Hranko school, is a row of majestic spruce trees along the north and east boundaries of the former school yard. The three acre school yard has been turned into a field forming part of a larger field within the quarter section.

So ends another segment of our historic past and only nostalgic memories remain.



Hranko School Students as seen about 1918 to 1920. L. to R.: Front Row: Jack Mitchell, Tom Mitchell, Casey Genovey, Stanley Lepischak, Fred Fostakowsky, John Antoniwi, John Panas, Metro Zaverucha, Nichola Ewanyshyn, Barbara Shwaluk, Annie Genovey, Annie Panas. Middle Row: Rosie Dutkywich, Mary Lepischak, Maggie Lepischak, Winnie Lepischak, Cathrine Ewanyshyn, Annellia Slobobdeski, Annellia Hrankowski, Pauline Yarmey, Annie Antonichuk, Martha Shermeta, Annie Yarmey, Mary Antonichuk, Nellie Shermeta, Catherine Mackedenski. Back Row: Caroline Shmyr, Catherine Panas, Tekla Hrankowski, Mary Antoniwi, Mary Yarmey, Irene Antonichuk, Nellie Gurnick, Barbara Hrankowski.

Hranko School Teachers

1907 (spring term)	Fred Hawryluk	1931-32	Phyllis Klymkiw
1907-08	Alex Klymkiw	1932-33	Phyllis Klymkiw
1908-09	Alex Klymkiw	1933-34	Phyllis Klymkiw
1909-10	Jaroslav Koltek	1934-35	Harry Pinuita
1910-11	Jaroslav Koltek	1935-36	Harry Pinuita
1911-12	Jaroslav Koltek	1936-37	Nellie Dunits
1912-13	Harry Golets	1937-38	Nellie Dunits
1913-14	Harry Golets	1938-39	Nellie Dunits
	Mike Wonitoway	1939-40	Nellie Dunits
1914-15	Anthony Martyniuk	1940-41	Michael Mazier
	Henry Gushe	1941-42	Jennie Polischuk
1915-16	Henry Gushe	1942-43	Jennie Plante (Polischuk)
1916-17	Henry Gushe	1943-44	Stella Hrysak
1917-18	Nicholas Bilash	1944-45	Ollie Kowal
	George Hutzal	1945-46	Maurice Chomica
1918-19	George Hutzal	1946-47	Jeanette Derkach
1919-20	George Hutzal	1947-48	Maurice Chomica
1920-21	N. Podworney	1948-49	Kay Rubeniuk
	Basil Trakalo	1949-50	Helen Peterson
1921-22	Basil Trakalo	1950-51	Mike Sitko
	Joseph Dutchak	1951-52	Mary Kotyk
1922-23	Joseph Dutchak	1952-53	Jean Matiowsky
1923-24	Wasył Yarmey	1953-54	Jean Matiowsky
1924-25	Wasył Yarmey		
1925-26	Andrew Danyleyko		
1926-27	Andrew Danyleyko		
1927-28	Joseph Dutchak		
1928-29	Zelma Peden (one month)		
	Lillian Cole		
1929-30	Cassie McKee		
	Lillian Cole		
1930-31	R. Nitchuk (one month)		
	Anna Neydli		

Islay School District No. 733

Once the people were settled in their new homes, one of their first concerns was the education of their children. The result of this was the formation of the Islay School District, No. 733 in 1893.

The first ratepayers' meeting was held at D. B. Maxsom's house, for the purpose of electing a board of trustees, and choosing a site for the school. The trustees elected were — Alex McDonald, Joseph

Moulton and R. J. Johnson. John MacPhail was chairman and Alexander Bell was Sec.-Treas. of this meeting. The site decided upon was the N.E. corner of 11-19-24. The schoolhouse was to be built in the spring. In the meantime, G. A. Machan's house would be used.

By 1894, the school was built at a cost of \$625.00, and in operation. (The money was borrowed, and the rate of interest was 6%). The first teachers were Mr. Bruce and later Miss Ross. The first pupils to attend the school were: Geo., Fred, Clara and Rosie Whyman, Mary Whyman, Hugh and Anna Johnson, John and Annie Moulton and Mary McDonald.

There is no record in regard to choosing a name for the school, but I would presume that since the majority of these people came from the west coast of Scotland, and, many in the area from the Isle of Islay, it would seem only right that their school would be named Islay.

As a rule teachers were hired by the calendar year, although changes sometimes occurred oftener. Salaries seemed to have been paid irregularly — probably when the school district received a grant. During the first years that the school was in operation, it was open for the summer months only.

The school was made available for church services, and other social events as well. The Christmas concert was a high-light of the year. Every pupil had a part in the program, and much credit must be given to the teachers and to the parents, who worked so hard to make this event a success.

As the years passed more people settled in the area, the Canadian National Railway was built. The village of Vista became a reality, complete with a station, a Post Office and a store. As happened in many school districts, there was some agitation to have the school building moved to a new site in the village. Many meetings were held, and finally when the vote was taken, it was in favour of the school building being moved to a new site in the village, namely the S.W. corner of Sec. 14-19-24.

The school building was moved during the month of February in 1910, by Wm. J. Hamilton, and he was paid the sum of \$90.00 for the job. I note from the Minutes that the moving was very successful, and there was no damage to the building.

May I take the liberty of adding some experiences of my own, that might be of interest.

I started to school in 1908, and I must say it was a long tramp for me, although I did meet up with other children about a mile from the school. My first teacher was Miss Bates, (Mrs. M. C. Markle) Shoal Lake. Our parents supplied us with our slate and pencil, later notebooks, books, pencils, etc. The

only playground equipment needed in those days it seems was a football. Usually it was only the boys who played, and each boy was required to pay 10¢ toward the purchase of a football. Sometimes the girls played, but not too often. Of course, we (boys and girls) played other games such as "Prisoners' Base", etc., as well. Since the school (before it was moved) was situated on a hill, much fun was provided during the winter months, as we used the hill for a slide. I attended Islay School until June 1915, when I completed Grade VIII. The teacher in 1915 was Miss Maude Lowes, (Carberry) later Mrs. A. Miller. The pupils: Mary Brown, Melvin Ham, Leslie Hamilton, Margaret Black, Joe Chegwin, Olive Hamilton, Isabel Brown, Sam Brown, Martha Raymond, Flora Raymond, Alfred Raymond, Cora Ham, Harold Brown, Marion MacPhail, Florence Brown, John Miller, Sidney Hamilton, Harvey Hamilton, Stuart Hamilton, Alexander MacPhail.

The trustees: Jim Brown, Matt Hamilton, Alex Black.

Sec. Treas.: S. J. Ham.

Teachers' names taken from minute books from 1894-1910 are: Mr. Bruce, Miss Ross, Annie Shannon, Margaret Tulley, Mary Osborne, Adam Smith, M. Hagerman, Helen Winstone, E. L. Bates, Bessie Lawson, E. McManus.

From 1910 with approximate dates of their ser-



Early in 1947 or thereabouts, this group of girls who were school friends, decided to keep up their friendship by means of a round-robin letter. In 1968 they held a reunion at the home of Hugh and Dorothy Armstrong. In 1983, this correspondence still goes on by the same method. Left to right: Edythe Young (Miller), Eleanor Leckie (Stitt), Dorothy Armstrong (Breakey), Margaret Hay, Verna Hay (McIntyre), Mary Doucet (McPhail). Missing: Doreen Ham (McCarvel).

vice: Arthur Lee Jones — 1910; Daisy Monnington — 1911; Lillian Lowe — 1912; Marjorie Broadworth — 1913-15; Maude Lowes — 1915-16; Margaret Parker — 1916-17; Robena Fusee — 1917-19.

In 1920 a new school was built on the site, and the original building was used for school parties, etc., but, during the next few years the enrollment became so large that the School Board decided to engage two teachers. (Grades I to IV were taught in the new building and Grades V to X were taught in the old building.) The enrollment continued to increase, and in 1950 an addition was built on to the new building. In 1953 another class-room was added. Now, Islay had three class-rooms, where Grades I to XI were taught. The original school had served the community well, and now it would be demolished.

However, by the early sixties, the enrollment began to decline, and in 1963 there were only two rooms in operation.

The larger school area had been discussed throughout the province for some time. And, on June 30, 1968, it became a reality. The Islay School would be closed.

Following is a news item from the Rossburn Review, July 11, 1968.

"Former Trustees of Islay Honored:

A very enjoyable evening was spent in the Islay School on Saturday, June 22nd, when the last board of trustees entertained former trustees and their wives to a turkey dinner.

During the evening Carman Brown, chairman of the Board called on Alex MacPhail to do the honors as Master of ceremonies, saying that although he was not the eldest member present, he had served the longest term — a period of 30 years. He paid tribute to Alex for his interest in education for the children of the district and the many trips he had made over good roads and bad to keep the school in operation.

Alex thanked him for giving him this honor and said that although this was a happy occasion, he felt a little sad to think the school was being closed when it served the district so well for 73 years. It was true he said that he had been a member of the school board longer than most but he felt that others had also contributed a great deal during their term of office, especially those who pioneered the beginning of our school and district, and he said he would like to ask for a minute's silence in tribute to those who are no longer with us.

Alex then presented each trustee with a silver tray suitably engraved with their name and term of office. The ladies were given corsages. Lorne Hrysak replied on behalf of the trustees and Mrs. Wm. Stitt for the ladies.

The taking of pictures and renewing acquaintances brought a very pleasant evening to a close.

Those receiving trays were: W. J. Hamilton, Wm. Stitt, R. J. Alexander, Morley Brown, Donald MacDonald, Lorne Hrysak, Harvey Hamilton, Mike Baydock and Alex MacPhail."

We were now a part of the larger area, known as Pelly Trail. The children would travel by bus to school in Rossburn.

The passing of the smaller school was the passing of an era in the history of the west.

On the S.W. corner of the school grounds (14-19-24), a cairn has been erected to mark the site of the Islay School, No. 733.

A partial list of the teachers who taught at Islay from 1920 to 1949. (Registers were not available).

Cordie Peden, Ester Birch, Elsie Greer, Weston Sweet, Mrs. Todd, Myrtle Rusenel, Eva Astrope, Marion MacPhail, Ella Hensler, Catherine Young, John Menzies, John Young, Isabelle Young, Grace Brown, A. Chuchmuch, Margaret Kippen, Dorothy Wherrett, Mr. Bruce, Ina Johnson, Mrs. Jorgenson, Noreen Snider, Harold Walker, Bill Hay.

The following list of teachers who taught at Islay from 1949 to 1968, was taken from the registers.

Eugenia Glasman 1949-50, Marcia Ewashko 1950-52, Ester Johnson 1951-52, (2nd term), Isobel Nickolson 1952-53, Muriel Zeppa 1952-53, O. M. Borodie 1953-55, J. Borody 1953-54, Henry Jones 1953-60, M. Munday 1954-55, Margaret Hay 1954-55, O. M. Susky (Borodie) 1955-56, A. Mushumanski 1956-57, Jean Munro 1956-57, E. A. McShane 1957-58, Jerry Matiation 1957-58, Olga Michaluk 1958-59, Alice Sydor 1958-60, Olga Kalynuik (Michaluk) 1959-60, Gladys Berney 1960-65, Ethel McNulty 1960-63, Mrs. Madill 1960-61 (1st term), Paul Rudiak 1960-65, Sonia Silewich 1965-66, Ella Hazelhurst 1965-67, Jean Michalchuk 1966-68, Phyllis Chopp 1967-68.

by Alexander MacPhail



Islay School, Vista, 1911. Back row: Harold Brown, Sid Hamilton, Stewart Hamilton, Tennie MacDonald, Jack Brodie, Selma Miller, Lizzie Hamilton, Maggie Shaw, Harvey Hamilton, Christina Johnson, Alex MacPhail. Front row: Marion MacPhail, Jack Miller, Florence Brown, Cora and Melvin Ham, Sarah Brown, Grace Shaw, Florence Johnson, Lawrence Shaw.



Islay School, Vista, as it appeared in the early 1950's. After the school was closed in 1968, the building was moved in about 1970 by Pelly Trail S.D. to the school grounds behind Rossburn Collegiate, where the building served as Maintenance Depot for the school division.



Islay School. This class of high school students in the late 1940s is seen with their teacher, Adam Chuchmuch, standing against windows in centre of picture. Included in the group (L to R seated at desks) commencing from back desk: Viona Chesney, Dean Hamilton; Velma Hamilton, Charlie Miller, Gerald Brown (standing); Rose Mitch, Lorne Mackedenski; Sylvia Shwaluk, Elgin Brown; Adam Chuchmuch, Teacher (Standing); Ann Zenchyshyn, Kenneth Brown; Mildred Chegus, Ron Ewashko; Marie Shewchuk, Bobby Brown.



Islay School (Grades 7-11) (1941-42). Back row, left to right: Glenn Breakey, Gordon Breakey, Stella Hrysak, Stephen Waytowich, Ruth Miller, Wilma Alexander, Mike Bewza. Middle row: Ernie Chesney, Lionel Yaskiw, Bill Shwaluk, Marie Gregorash, Connie Hay, Roween Brown, Cam Halliday. Front row: Willis Stitt, Natalia Glushka, Annie Hrysak, Valetta Hamilton, Joyce Sitko, Rita McIntyre.

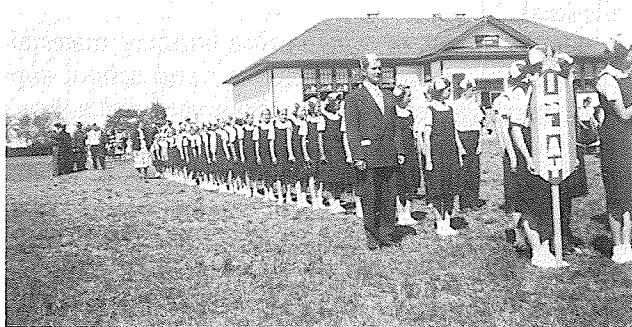


Islay (Vista) students, Room 2, May 1958 —

Back Row — (L to R) — Dennis Matiowsky, Katherine Armstrong, Phyllis Bilinsky, Robert Olyarnyk. Third Row — (L to R) — Dennis Young, Leonard Bilinsky, Mike Klym, Ray Brown, David Woychyshyn, Jackie Halliday, Floyd Rogers, Jerry Matiation (teacher). Second Row — (L to R) — Noel Steel, Donna Miller, Robeena Miller, Ann Miller, Patricia Mackendenski, Shirley Bilinsky, Lynne Barlow, Norma Strong. Front Row — (L to R) — Jerry Zentner, Sam Chegwin, Leonard Hullick, Margaret Young, Carol Barlow, Loretta Hrysak, Diana Shwaluk, Ford Steel, Nestor Zemliak, Duncan Miller, Ross Lillie.



The original Islay School (Vista) is pictured as it appeared in 1952. The building was demolished by Wilfred Miller who used the lumber to build the Vista Post Office. Robert Muirman, who had been school caretaker at one time, is standing beside the school. He had been a pupil at Islay School, fifty-five years earlier.



Islay (Vista) School students at Oakburn Field Day in about 1950. Vista took first place in the field day events on that occasion.



Islay (Vista) School No. 733 students standing with school signs prior to marching in Track and Field Day Parade in about 1950. L to R: Eileen Miller, Velma Hamilton, Viona Chesney, Faye Chegwin.



King George School, 1945. Standing in front are: Roxy, Phyllis and Elsie Yarish.

King George S.D. No. 1242

When St. John Kant School became overcrowded in 1916, a larger facility was necessary, so after a series of meetings a new school was decided upon.

In 1917 on the SE portion of Section 14-19-23 a new school was constructed. In October of 1917 D. M. Wowk continued his teaching at the new King George as it was then called. The enrollment was 41 pupils. The school board consisted of: Greskoe Skavinski, Paul Yanyk and Nykola Glushka, with D. M. Wowk as Secretary. The auditors were Stefan Nychuk and Dmytro Glushka. The teachers' salary was \$750.00 per annum.

The teachers were as follows:

Miss Emily Bilinski — Jan. 1920-June 1921, salary \$1300.00
J. Nazarewich — September 1921-June 1922
Irene Waluk — August 1922-June 1923

In 1923 the attendance soared to 86 pupils — 42 boys and 44 girls. One can imagine the difficulty in instructing such a large class. Discipline was no problem during those years.

J. W. Melowsky — 1923-July 1924
J. M. Panisiak — September 1924-February 1925, salary \$950.00
J. Nazarewich — February 1925-July 1925
Miss Mary Toponicky — August 1925-June 1929, salary \$1000-\$1050.00

With the high enrollment another school room was added on, thus making King George a two-room school.

Miss Marcia Korol — 1929-1931
Miss Mary Perch — 1929-1931
Miss Anna Gregor (Primary teacher) — September 1931-1936
Miss Anne Bosiak (Intermediate class) — 1931-1933
Steven Hyrtsak — 1933-1934
Miss Dorothy Bugera — 1934-1937
John Tutkaluke — 1936-1937
A. E. Presley — 1937-1938

In 1938 it was decided to close one class room as the enrollment had dwindled down, so once more King George School became a one class room school.

Miss Rose Zubrack — 1938-1939
Mrs. Rose Kondra — 1939-1940

Mrs. Mary Ewashko — 1940-1941
Mrs. Marcia Ewashko (Korol) — 1941-1942
Mr. Dan Stasuik — 1942-1943
Mr. Bill Raginski — 1943-1944-1945
Miss Olga Hersak — 1945-1947 (Living quarters were provided in closed classroom)
Mrs. Olga Yarish (Hersak) — 1947-1950
John Kowalchuk — September 1950-December 1951
Mrs. Mary Matiation — January 1952-June 1953
Joseph Zatylny — August 1953-December 1953
Mrs. Helen Antonation — January 1954-June 1954
Jerry Matiation — August 1954-June 1955
Mrs. Jerry Matiation — 1955-June 1958
Zane Matiation — 1958-1958

The era of King George School ended by consolidation with Oakburn.



Class of King George School (1945): First Row — John Peech, Lionel Kotyk, Bill Peech, Zane Matiation, Ernie Maduke. Second Row — Lydia Stebeleski, Lawrence Stebeleski, Walter Kowal, Phyllis Kowal, Stella Kondrat. Third Row — Nadia Wasilka, Ann Pohanyko, Myrtle Wowk, Anne Peech, Lesia Kowal, Elsie Matiation, Ann Kondrat, Frank Bewza, Elsie Maduke, Ernest Kurchaba, Ernie Antonation, Harry Peech, Alex Kotyk. Fourth Row — Margie Drozda, Mary Kowal, Mary Peech, Jean Bewza, Roxy Yarish, Elsie Yarish, Jean Maduke.

Marconi School #2085

Marconi School was built in 1922 on N.W. ¼ 23-20-23. It was named after Guglielmo Marconi, the radio inventor. J. J. Crowe Lumber Co. of Rosburn supplied the lumber and erected it for the sum of \$3201.28. Frank Kennedy was the carpenter. The lumber was hauled out to the school site by the surrounding farmers of the district with horses and wagons. They were paid \$6.00 a trip for a fifteen mile haul.

The total cost of transporting building material, school desks, furnace, teacherage and school supplies, painting, fencing the school yard and a year's supply of fire wood was \$918.14.

There were sixty-nine pupils attending school that first year of 1922-1923. The names were: Ludvina, Matt and Steve Stech, Mary and Tinnie Herchak, Mike Mychasiw, Ann Juba, Stanley and Mike Swyryda, Lena, Rose and Tinnie Kaskiw, Bill, Annie and Tinnie Kryshewski, Bill, Nick, Peter and Mary Stebeleski, Harry, George, and Bill Matskiw, Mike and Mary Chegus, Mary, Frank and Stanley

Topolniski, Jack and Isador Twerdochlib, Danylo and Nickola Slon, Ann Myts, Rose and Mike Zamonski, Lena, Matt and Kate Komaranski, Mike, Mary and Harry Komaranski, Peter, John and Mike Pachorka, Tinnie Dmyterko, Joe Howryshok, Ann, Tinnie and Carol Topolniski, Myroslaw, Stanley and Tinnie Dutchak, Nellie Chomica, John Kokurudz, Matt, Elsie, Nell, Thelma and Stanley Leschasin, Mary, Wasyl and Myron Leschasin, Mike Tomchuk, Annie and Peter Stech, Bronko Wawryk, Peter Zenchyshyn, Rose Antonyshyn, Bill and Tony Raginski, Anne Herchak and Antoshka Bobinski.

The teachers who taught in Marconi School and their salaries per month from the year of 1922 till the year the school was closed in 1958 are as follows: —

Stephan H. Bellinsky, September 1922 at \$100.00 per month.
 Jacob Hlady, October 1922-June 1923 at \$100.00
 Peter Mitenko, September 1923-January 1924 at \$100.00
 John Nazerewicz, February 1924-February 1925 at \$100.00
 Basil Lazaruk, March 1925-June 1927 at \$100.00
 Mrs. Edith Bowman, September 1927-February 1928 at \$75.00
 J. S. A. Thomas, March 1928-June 1928 at \$85.00 per month.
 Ronald Simpson, September 1928-June 1929 at \$85.00
 Oliver Clayton Bricker, September 1929-June 1930 at \$85.00
 Miss Laura Randall, September 1930-June 1931 at \$80.00
 Miss Caroline Shumanski, September 1931-June 1932 at \$70.00
 Miss Caroline Shumanski, September 1932-June 1933 at \$65.00
 Miss Caroline Shumanski, September 1933-June 1935 at \$55.00
 John Parsons, September 1935-June 1936 at \$45.00 plus janitor work
 John Parsons, September 1936-June 1937 at \$48.00
 John Parsons, September 1937-June 1938 at \$60.00
 Mrs. Helen Antonation, September 1938-1940 at \$50.00
 Fred Letwin, September 1940-April 1941 at \$45.00
 Miss M. Radley, April 1941-June 1941 at \$50.00
 Joseph Haluschak, September 1941-June 1942 at \$65.00
 Milton Chuchmuch, September 1942-June 1943 at \$60.00
 Mrs. Caroline Leschasin, September 1943-June 1944 at \$95.00
 Natalie Glushka, September 1944-June 1945 at \$80.00
 Audrey Kowalchuk, September 1945-January 1946 at \$95.00
 Natalie Glushka, February 1946-June 1946 at \$80.00
 Mary Pawlust, September 1946-June 1947 at \$95.00
 Nadia Stechkewich, September 1947-two weeks.
 Chris Krawchuk, October 1947-June 1948 at \$80.00
 Maurise Cucmak, September 1948-June 1949 at \$85.50
 Mary E. Badger, September 1949-June 1950 at \$105.00
 Mrs. Ann Prosyk, September 1950-June 1951 at \$150.00
 Mrs. Ann Prosyk, September 1951-June 1952 at \$180.00
 Mrs. Ann Prosyk, September 1952-June 1953 at \$195.00
 Mrs. Ann Prosyk, September 1953-June 1954 at \$210.00
 Mrs. Ann Prosyk, September 1954-June 1955 at \$235.00
 Mrs. Ann Prosyk, September 1955-June 1956 at \$241.50
 Nick Kalynuik, June 1956-1958 September at \$237.50 per month.

The pupils that attended Marconi School during the last year of its operation were: — Shirley, Lenny, and Raymond Mychasiw, Matt Dutchak, Ronnie Hawryshok, Lawrence and Elsie Jumaga, Mary Twerdochlib, Rodney, Norman and Jane Leschasin.

The remaining pupils after 1958 attended Ruska Rawa School.

The first Trustees of Marconi School were Alex Dnistranski, Wasyl Herchak and Fred Stebeleski.

The Secretary Treasurer was Michael Leschyshyn.

The last Trustees were Paul Jumaga, Mrs. Rose Mychasiw and Peter Leschasin; Paul Ternowski was the Secretary Treasurer.



Marconi School, 1932.

Marconi School's First Field Day

In the Spring of 1930, I remember our school inspector, R. E. Beecher, coming to our school on his monthly visits, talking with our teacher, Clayton Bricker, about Marconi pupils participating in a Field Day that was to be held in June. They talked about different events that would take place and shortly after that the teacher started training the children for it. Mr. and Mrs. Bricker designed and made the banner. It was a beautiful spring green color with white letters and emblems. We practiced marching with it, forming rows with girls in one row and the boys in the other. The tallest were in front carrying the banner and tapering off to the smallest at the rear. Our teacher marched along side of us calling out left, right, left. He was sure to point out the mistakes we made and corrected us. Because he was a veteran from the First World War, he made sure our marching was done to perfection. He deserved a lot of credit for his patience and the time he spent with us. In the end, it seemed that he was well pleased and was repaid for his effort being as we received a prize for marching.

We practiced for different events that were to take place, especially the ball team, being as some of the boys were poor catchers. The teacher would line us up along the back wall of the school and would pitch to us very swiftly until we became better catchers. If some boy missed, the ball would bounce off the wall and roll back towards him. Some of the boys ended up with burning hands and swollen fingers but that lesson made better players out of us.

The big day finally came. The children came to school earlier than usual. Everyone was excited and dressed up in their best. The long awaited truck finally arrived, and the children eagerly climbed into it.

We got to Rossburn School grounds shortly after 8.00 A.M. The truck driver went on to pick up

children from another school. The schools were placed in alphabetical order and at 9.00 A.M. we all went marching to the Fair Grounds, where the Field Day was to take place.

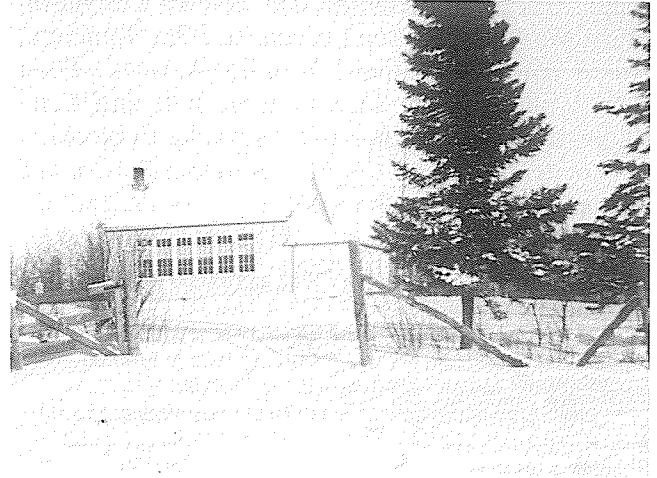
The schools of Rossburn and surrounding municipalities participated in this event. High schools and elementary schools were in separate events. Schools competed against each other in soft ball games with boys and girls on separate teams. Children also participated individually in a variety of races, such as relay, potato sack, and three legged races. High jumping and broad jumping were other competitions.

Marconi boys' ball team, after playing against three different schools, lost out to Oakburn with a score of three to two in the finals. After fifty some years, I can still see that grounder go between our second baseman's legs. Oakburn scored two runs on us on that hit in the final inning. When the game was over, one of the Oakburn boys came over to us and asked what room we represented and we told him we only had the one room. He congratulated us but to us it had little meaning at that time. We were more upset about the grounder we had missed. They were representing room three pupils from grades six, seven and eight. This meant bigger and older boys and that too repaid our teacher for his time and effort. We started from nothing and got so close to the top.

The children had to bring their own lunches from home and the lemonade was free. It was supplied by the Board. I remember they had two huge wooden water barrels of lemonade. That was a great treat for us all.

The day ended with a down pour of rain. Because we had all dirt roads to travel it was impossible to take us back home by truck. Cliff Baldrow, with his team of dappled grey Percherons, was one of the two

wagon teams to take us home. We didn't get to our school until dusk after the fifteen mile drive in the drizzling rain. The Rossburn people loaned us some old clothing to cover up with, but nothing was rain proof. There were other schools that went home in the same manner that day.



Mohyla School (S.D. No. 1495).

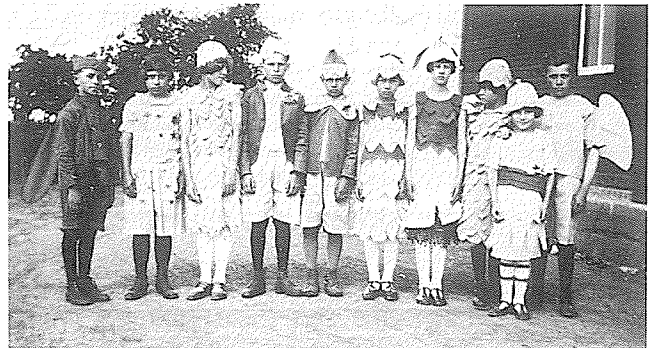
Mohyla School District #1495

The Mohyla district was first settled in 1900. The word Mohyla means "hill". The school was built in 1909 by Hugh Warnock. Theodore Stefanuk organized both Chmelnyski and Mohyla districts. Mohyla school opened in 1910. The first year there were fifty-two pupils ranging in age from six to fourteen years. The first year, the classes were taught in the Ukrainian language. The second year, English was introduced. Regardless of age, all students started in grade one with the A, B, Cs.

The first trustees were: John Fiel, Mike Maryniuk, Roman Bartkiw, Hrytsko Danyleyko — Secretary Treasurer.



Marconi School Trip to Rossburn Field Day in 1930. Teacher, Clayton Bricker is holding the banner; trucker driver is Jack Dupont.



Mohyla School Year-end Concert & Picnic, June 27th, 1926. Left to right: Andrew Chopp, Annie Bidochka, Mabel Kittlar, Nick Maryniuk, Andrew Topolniski, Rosie Bobinski, Helen Fiel, Nellie Dutkiewicz, Teenie Kittlar, William Danyleyko. Costumes for this occasion were made from colored crepe paper.

The teachers:

Year:	Name:	Salary:
1910-1914	Mike Wonitoway	\$113-\$120-\$150
1914-1917	Mr. A. A. Lechowicz	\$60.00 per month
1917-1918	Mr. Lazaruk	\$80.00 per month
1918-1919	Mr. Hawryluk	\$90.00 per month
1919-1920	Mr. Jacob Hlady	\$100.00 per month
1920-1921	Mr. Danyleyko	\$120.00 per month
1921-1922	Mr. Yarmey	\$115.00 per month
1922-1923	Mr. Punak	\$105.00 per month
1923-1924	Miss Mary Sawchuk	\$110.00 per month
Jan. 1924-Dec. 1924	Miss Perch	\$110.00 reduced to \$75.00
1924-1925	Mrs. Marilla R. Whitmore	\$100.00
1925-1926	Miss Waluk	\$110.00
1926-1927	Mr. Bill Yakimichuk	\$100.00 increased to \$112.00
1927-1928	Miss Duma	Salary unknown
1928-1929	Miss Anderson	\$85.00 per month
1929-1930	Mr. Walatiuk (later changed to Wall)	\$90.00 per month
1930-1931	Miss Nykorchuk	\$80.00 per month
1930-1934	Mr. Frank Hyra	\$75.00 reduced to \$48.00 per month
1934-1936	Miss Karesewich	\$50.00
1936-1938	Mrs. Phyllis Chopp	\$40.00 increased to \$45.00
1938-1939	Mr. Frank Hyra	\$48.00 per month
1939-1940	Mrs. Phyllis Chopp	\$55.00 per month
1940-1941	Mrs. Phyllis Chopp	\$60.00 per month
1941-1942	Miss Anne Dnistransky	\$60.00 per month
1942-1943	Miss Mary Kuchner	\$60.00 per month
1943-1944	Miss Anne Prosak	\$65.00 per month
1944-1945	Miss Mary Budz	\$85.00 per month
1945-1946	Miss Mary Klywak	\$95.00 per month
1946-1947	Miss Mary Mazur	\$82.50
1947-1948	Mr. John E. Kowalchuk	\$95.00
1948-1949	Mr. Alex Borowski	\$100.00
1948-1949	Miss Nellie Drozda (substitute)	\$100.00
1949-1950	Miss Jennie Schawluk	\$110.00
1950-1951	Mr. Harry Kotch	\$95.00
1951-1952	Mrs. Phyllis Chopp	\$180.00
1952-1953	Miss Elsie Manulak	\$160.00
1953-1956	Mrs. Eugenia Pawluk	\$220.00-\$240.00
1956-1957	Miss Adeline Hrankowski	\$160.00
1957-1958	Miss Mildred Barnesky	\$175.00 reduced \$80.50
1958-1959	Mr. Paul Smolarsky	\$190.00
1959-1961	Miss Mildred Barnesky	\$230.00 increased to \$260.00
1961-1963	Mr. Wm. Kozak	\$290.30-\$247.05
1963-1964	Mrs. Lois Melnyk	\$247.05
Apr-June 1964	Mrs. Jean Michalchuk	\$250.00

The school closed in 1964 because there were not enough students to carry on. Mr. Mike Bartkiw was hired to take the students to Rosburn for \$1.00 per mile.

Age:	First pupils:		
13	Basil Takalo	8	Nellie Chopp
12	Paul Danyleyko	13	Stephanie Ozarow
11	Pete Bidochka	14	Maggie Semaniuk
11	Nykola Chopp	13	John Checkowski
13	Nettie Ternovetsky	13	John Ternovetski
13	Mary Kalyniuk	8	Basil Ternovetsky
13	Nykola Sabeski	13	Mike Kurowski
8	Steve Trakalo	11	Metro Sacharko
12	Harry Sabeski	8	Mike Dutkewich
10	Annie Trakalo	11	Mike Fiel
10	Annie Kalyniuk	11	Pete Maryniuk
13	Helen Oryniak	8	Harry Bidochka
11	Caroline Bartkiw	9	Caroline Ozarow
11	Mary Danyleyko	8	Victoria Ozarow
14	Peter Fiel	8	John Bartkiw
		8	Francis Glushka

10	Paul Didych	8	Mary Checkowsky
8	Anne Sabeski	7	Marcella Bonchuk
13	Mary Kurowski	9	Kate Sacharko
12	Fred Kostiuk	7	Mike Sabeski
10	Peter Kurowski	6	John Sabeski
8	Paul Maryniuk	6	George Semaniuk
8	Michael Kitlar	9	Rosie Brown
8	Stephanie Kalyniuk	11	Florence Brown
11	Steve Ternovetsky	6	Mary Kitlar

The last students at Mohyla School were:

Nedine Butler	Cathy Hrubeniuk	Maxine Sokolan
Brian Butler	Leona Bartkiw	Barry Trakalo
Randy Butler	Alice Sokolan	Gordon Trakalo
Valerie Hrubeniuk	Lloyd Sokolan	Vernon Derlago
		Cathy Michalchuk

The last trustees: Mervin Trakalo, Alex Sokolan, Mike Bartkiw, and the secretary treasurer was Charlie Derlago.

Submitted by Freda Butler



Mohyla School and students in 1940 —

Front Row — (L to R) Evangeline Sacharko, Rosie Bidochka, Stella Bidochka, Chic, Anne Mankir, Anne Bushko, Steele, Bert Sokolan, Leslie Oryniak. Second Row — (L to R) Bill Mankir, Zane Wonitoway, Alex Chic, Nellie Sacharko, Myrtle Oryniak, Elsie Checkowski, Leslie Kittlar, Muriel Bidochka, Mabel Bushko, Emily Gensiorek. Third Row — (L to R) Mervin Sokolan, John Topolnisky, Bill Sacharko, John Mankir, Mervin Topolnisky, Helen Bidochka, Jessie Gensiorek, Nellie Bushko. Back Row — (L to R) Alex Ternovetsky, Sam Topolnisky, Bill Chic, Nestor Topolnisky, Melvin Kittlar, Mary Gensiorek, Nellie Bidochka, Eugenia Wonitoway, Nydia Wonitoway, Mrs. Phyllis Chopp (teacher).



Mohyla School pupils at their last Christmas concert about 1962. Back row, left to right: Shirley Sokolan, Helen Bidochka, Wayne Bartkiw, Ivan Ternovetsky, Walter Sokolan. Middle row, left to right: Brian Butler, Nedine Butler, Maxine Sokolan, Barry Trakalo, Lloyd Sokolan. Front row, left to right: Leona Bartkiw, Alice Sokolan, Gordon Trakalo, Vernon Derlago.



Olha School and students (in school yard) as seen in the 1950's.

Olha School District

Boleslaw was the name given to the school district (in Olha area) which was organized by Mr. Boderski in 1905; later the name was changed to Olha #1243. Anton Kalyshyn's farm was the location of the school building erected in 1907.

The first members of the school board were: Hnat

Budiwski, Mykyto Michasiw, Alec Matskiw, Sam Yanyk, Nick Wosney, Peter Shwaliuk, Paul Luhovey.

First school inspector was Theodor Hawryluik. The first school term commenced September 1, 1907 with Mr. Drabinosty as teacher. Following him were Metro Wowk, Yarostow Koltyk, Jacob Maydanyk — who was also an artist. He did all interior paintings in Olha Church some time before the thirties.

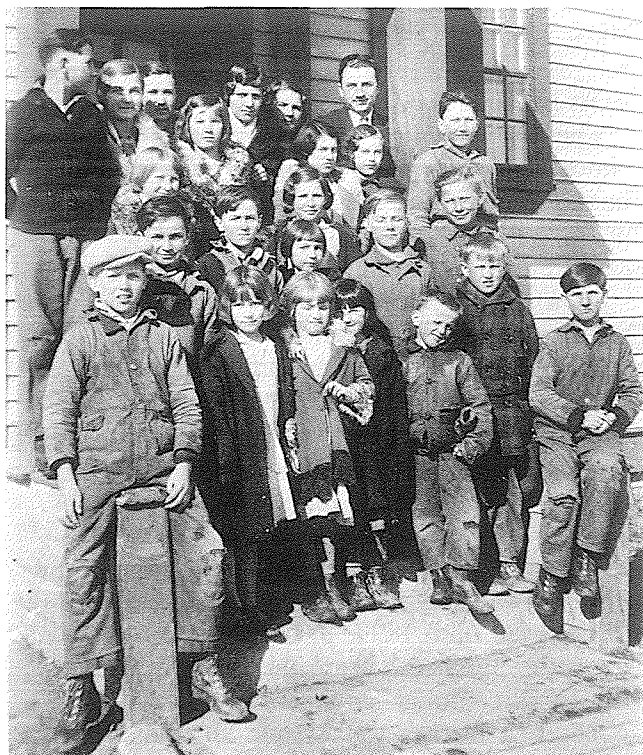
Many of the following teachers stayed for very short terms. Some of them went on to get further education.

Mr. Saranchuk
Wasył Kohut
Steve Lytwyn
Paul Semotiuk
John Ciupak
Mr. Lachowich
Mr. Podworny
Mathew Metenko
Mrs. Braschuk
Walter Nowosad
William Puyda
John Nowosad
Jack Haluschak
Phyllis Kowal
Violet Popowich

Elsie Manulak
Mrs. Anne Prosyk
Marie Budz
Margaret Woychysyn
Anne Sydor
William Kozak
Mary Perch
Mary Melnychuk
Olga Perch
Lena Hnatiuk
Michael Nowasad
Mr. Koslowski
Mrs. Helen Antonyshyn
Jean Teresko
Agnes Kalyniak

In 1930 the school was moved to a new location 2 miles North East of the old site. The school operated until 1964. William Kozak was the last teacher.

Compiled by Bill Budiwski Elphinstone, Manitoba



Students at Perch School in 1933 or 1934. John Parsons, seen in the group, was practice teaching at that time. Later he taught in Marconi School and Rossburn School.

Perch School District No. 2177

Before Perch School was built, most of the children from the district attended Hranko School. In 1928, the new Perch School district #2177 was formed and the school was built on the north-west quarter of Section 16, Township 20, Range 24. The site chosen for the building was an ideal one. Just to the west was the lovely Pete's Lake; a few hundred yards to the north-east was the Pete's Lake National Home. The main road went past the school. The school itself was named after a minister who served in the nearby St. John's United Church.

The first school board consisted of; Michael Glushka — secretary-treasurer, Dmytro Yarmey and Andrew Antoniow — trustees. The first school term began in September of 1928 with Leo James Lubeniecki as teacher. His annual salary was \$900. The following students registered for this first term; Stella Babaluk, Mabel Kozak, Pearl Todosiw, Tena Kozak, Annie Scherban, Victor Scherban, Alice Glushka, Alice Babaluk, Mary Semaniuk, Alex Kozak, Micheal Gawryluk, Elliot Tucker, Pauline Kozak, Ivan Gnoyawy, Peter Tucker, Taras Todosiw, Aksana Todosiw, Alex Babaluk, Micheal Antoniow, William Kozak, Victor Gnoyawy, Natalia Yarmey, Matt Kozak, Carl Tucker, Mary Todosiw, John Gnoyawy, Annie Gnoyawy, George Andreiw, Josephine Yarmey, Willie Antonichuk and Teeny Kornyk.

In those days everyone walked to school, including the teacher who boarded with one of the families in the district.

Some of the popular games played in the winter were football, ante over, fox and geese, skating on the lake, sliding down the steep hill and on to the lake, also "Kick the Can."

In the summer, there was softball. In those years, Pete's Lake was a popular spot for swimming. The beach was on the south east end of the lake, very close to the school. On warm days, the children went swimming during noon hour, sometimes under the teacher's supervision but, more often by themselves. No one owned a swim suit. The girls wore their underwear in the water. The boys went to a secluded spot and swam in their birthday suits. Most of the children were good swimmers. Those who were just learning used a piece of wooden board to help keep them on top of the water. On one occasion, a girl, not realizing how far she had swum out from the shore, let go of her board and sank in the deep water while her frightened school mates screamed. Fortunately, she pushed herself to shallow water by thrashing about with her hands and feet. The teacher never found out about the incident.

About the most exciting event of the year was the

Christmas concert. For a number of years, the two neighboring schools, Hranko and Perch, combined their talents and presented the concert in the National Home. Each school had the same number of items on the program. The hall was always filled to capacity. After the concert, St. Nicholas appeared and presented gifts and bags of nuts and candy to the children.

The annual school picnics were often held together as well and took place on what was known as "The Playground", on the south east end of the lake. There were ball games, and a variety of races such as the sack race, potato race, three legged race, etc. There was also a hunt for treasure hidden somewhere in the nearby poplar grove. The prizes for winners were: — a cone of ice cream, a chocolate bar, a dime or a nickel. The trustees provided a booth where all the goodies could be bought. It was quite a chore to keep the ice cream from thawing out completely before it was used up. Oh! how good that ice cream tasted!

Another important annual event was the school field day. It usually took place in late May or early June. All the schools in the municipality participated. The students from each school were transported to town, usually in the back of a grain truck. They assembled at the Rossburn school grounds. Each school had its own banner and color. Two older boys would carry the banner and the rest of the students followed, marching two by two to the fair grounds. It was a thrilling sight to see ten to fifteen school groups marching with an average of thirty to forty students in each group. The rest of the day was spent in competing in such sporting events as softball, racing, high and broad jumping. It was a proud group of children whose school had acquired the most points by the end of the day.

Something the children did not look forward to was the yearly visit of the doctor to vaccinate them against smallpox. On one such occasion, a little girl looked out the window and saw Dr. Evans and the little dog which accompanied him everywhere he went. With the teacher's permission, she left the room. When she didn't return after an hour or so, the teacher sent two boys to search for her. They looked in all the likely places and finally found her at home, hiding in the bushes near the house.

The majority of teachers who taught in Perch School were of Ukrainian origin. Some of them held classes in Ukrainian after four. Many students took advantage of this opportunity and learned to read and write in Ukrainian.

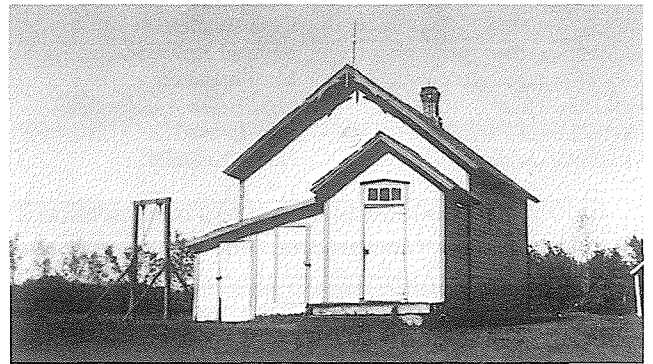
In 1941, the teacherage was built and the teachers no longer needed to board with other families. In the winter of 1951, a fire destroyed the school building.

Classes were temporarily held in the National Home until a new school was built the following summer. The new school was in operation till 1960 when the district consolidated with Rossburn School. The last teacher was Robert Betz. The trustees at the time of the closing were; Mike Gawryliuk, Dmytro Glushka, John Glushka, Metro Trynchuk and Charlie Kornyk.

The teacherage was sold to Joe Antoniow, and Joe Danyliuk bought the schoolhouse. Both buildings were moved to the town of Rossburn.

Following is a list of all the teachers who taught in Perch School from the time it opened in 1928 to its closing in 1960; Leo Lubeniecki, Cassie McKee, Helen Kolachkowski, Mary Perch, Mary Gregor, Anne Gregor, Mike Tokar, Phyllis Chopp, Mrs. Duffy, Joe Kustiak, Ernie Stefanuk and Robert Betz.

Written by Alice Hrubeniuk



Perth School as seen in 1950.

Perth School No. 575

The first meeting of the ratepayers of Perth School was held May 11, 1889, at the home of Thomas Young. They elected three trustees, Thomas Young, William Armstrong and Robert Carson. Edmund Simpson and John McKinnon were auditors.

At a meeting held on May 27, 1889, Robert Carson was named chairman and Thomas Young secretary. It was moved by James Armstrong seconded by Duncan McAinsh that the trustees be authorized to borrow six hundred dollars by issue of debentures for the purpose of erecting a schoolhouse, this motion was carried. Tenders were called and on June 22, 1889 the tender of Samuel West for \$524 was accepted. The school to be built on the south side of 7-19-24 by August 15, 1889. The school site was not surveyed until 1899, at which time the land (2 acres) was purchased from the Provincial Government for three dollars an acre.

The first teacher was Maude Sharman, she was paid \$40.00 per month and taught from May 15 to March 15 with no summer vacation. This was changed in 1891 and summer vacation was from

August 15 to October 1. Miss Sharman taught until 1891. Some of the first students were Armstrongs, Carsons, Youngs, Cummings and Porterfields.

In July, 1895 a motion to have the school moved to a more central location was defeated. They tried again in 1901 but it was not until 1913 that a motion made by George Shaw, seconded by J. D. McKinnon to have the school moved to the east side of 7-19-24, was passed and in January 1914 the vote for moving the school was unanimous. Tenders were called and the school was moved by Gordon Taylor for \$98.00.

In the early years the school was used as a community centre and for church services on Sunday.

Gayleen Scott was the last teacher as the school was closed in 1951. Her students were Vicky and Lillian Chwaluk, Violet Matiwsky, Yvonne, Edward, Robert and Thomas Carson.

From September 1951 until December 1957 the children were transported to school in Rosssburn by their parents. The trustees called a meeting of the ratepayers for August 27, 1957 to vote for or against consolidation. Consolidation with Rosssburn, Vista and Bruan schools had been considered as early as 1913 and again in 1919, but had been defeated, but at the meeting in 1957 the vote for consolidation was passed and Perth School was put up for tender and was purchased by Sam Slobedesky.

The last slate of officers at the time of consolidation was Robert Stitt — Chairman; Nick Karmazenuk — Secretary, with Trustees Orville McFeetors, Douglas Andrew and Robert Carson Jr.

Teachers from 1889 to 1951

1889-1891 — Maude Sharman

1891-1893 — E. Tully

1893-1894 — Warren Lang

1894-1895 — Miss McLaren

1895-1898 — S. Wilson

1898-1902 — A. R. Mitchell

1903-1904 — Miss Clyde

1905-1907 — Miss Mersereau

1908-1909 — Doris St. Ruth and Miss Simpson

1909-1912 — Miss Kirkland

1912-1913 — Jean Houston

1913-1914 — Miss Clement

1914-1915 — A. M. Hainstock

1915-1916 — Miss Batty and Miss Parker

1916-1917 — Maude Lowes

1917-1918 — Christina Cormack

1918-1919 — Minnie Sinclair

1919- to December '19 — Nellie Young and Hazel Irwin

1920-1921 — Cassie McKee

1922-1923 — M. Stiles, Miss Moffat and Beryl Young

1924-1925 — Annie Peden and Muriel Smith

1925-1926 — Cora Ham and Marion McPhail

1926-1927 — Olive Hamilton

1927-1928 — Jessie Kelso and Ruth Crowe

1928-1930 — Ruth Crowe

1930-1935 — Bertha Meyers

1935-1936 — Marion McPhail

1936-1942 — Cassie McKee, Jessie Cormack, and Lenore Rowe

1942-1944 — Verna McIntyre

1944-1945 — Mary Martin, Miss Simpson and Ruth Miller

1945-1946 — Steve Waytowich

1946-1947 — Tom Speers

1947-1948 — Anne Klym

1948-1949 — Grace Hogg

1949-1950 — Jean Zemliak

1950-1951 — Gayleen Scott

Sylvia Brown



Perth School Pupils, (1935 or 1936). Front row, left to right: Billy Chicheluk, Anne McFeetors, Gilbert Chesney, Billy Carson, Adam Chicheluk, Dick Baker. Second row: Noreen Snider, Gladys Shaw, Roy Shaw, Sylvia Carson, Matt Chicheluk, Vernice McFeetors. Third row: Annie Chicheluk, Jimmie Carson, Dorothy Baker, Ernie Chesney, Florence McFeetors, Oswald Armstrong, Elmer Shaw. Fourth row: May Armstrong, Blanche Shaw, Hugh Armstrong, Nellie Chicheluk, Alice Baker.

Rosssburn Schools

For this write-up, excerpts from the Rosssburn Reminiscences were used, and a talk prepared and presented by Mrs. Nona Peden, when the new Rosssburn Collegiate was opened in 1966, was also used.

I wonder if we can really visualize the picture of those early days. Webster's definition of a pioneer was, "One who goes before into the wilderness, preparing the way for others to follow." The first settlers who came into the wilderness had left good homes in the East to simply have a roof over their



Built in 1908, this Rossburn school, with four classrooms, was enlarged in 1916 with the addition of a further four classrooms. The school building was situated near the site of the present Rossburn Elementary School.

heads and a life of toil and trouble. It was especially hard on the women and children. We think of the poet who wrote these words: "The greatest battles that ever were fought, were fought by the mothers of men."

The first Sunday school was held in the Ross home with Mr. Rose, the Missionary, as teacher and Lizzie Ross, Lizzie Peden, Dave Broadfoot, Johnnie Broadfoot, Jimmie Broadfoot, Mary Broadfoot, Richard Ross and Johnnie Peden. In 1881, the Broadfoots built a new house and the old one was used for a school with Mr. Gerand as teacher and the above children as pupils. Thomas Young followed Mr. Gerand. In 1882, a school was started but trouble arose over the location, and building was delayed. Later, a site, one mile north of the present town site was chosen and the first school in the district was formed.

The farmers cut and hewed the logs, then held a bee and erected a school-house. They obtained shingles from Manwaring's mill situated near the old Wakefield farm. They built the desks and chairs, laid a rough lumber floor, installed a box stove, and the teachers used the bark from peeled logs to write on. The pupils had slates and pencils.

The school was used as a church, a hall and a meeting place for the community. Some of the older teachers were Messrs. Bartram, Carpenter, Crawford, Cram, Reddington, Seller, Thompson, Wm. and Thos. Young, as well as Misses Horne, McLeod, Ross, Starrat, and Thom.

One teacher loved to snooze at noon and one day he slept later and found the children all scattered through the nearby bush. No school that afternoon! Another time they wanted a holiday; they ran twelve calves into the school and left them there all night. Needless to say, they had their holiday. This group included Alex and Billy Brown, Morgan and Maxwell Taylor, Laird and Tom Duncanson, and Bob Peden was not far away.

An inspector condemned the school and a new one was built in 1896. The first teacher was Miss Kate Horne followed by Henry McKeen who married Annie McDonald, daughter of the pioneer, William McDonald. Miss Jennie Galloway, who married Watson Ross, was next. She, in turn, was succeeded by Margaret McKinney who became Mrs. George Cormack. Miss Minnie McKinney, a sister, followed and she married Rev. McKim Young. It was quite a good joke in those times that if a young girl ever got into the community, she never got out — someone married her. Bob Peden married Winona Easson who taught at Bruan. In more recent years, John Cormack married Jessie Nickel and Cam Menzies married Elsie Fisher. Nick Chopp married Phyllis Klymkiw. Sterling Veitch married Lorna Bennett. Harry Komhyr married Mary Lesiuk. Mike Antoniwi married Caroline Parobec and, once in a while, the men got caught when Lilla McFeetors got Victor Hugo and Alice Carson got Jack Lindsay.

This school was one-roomed and taught up to Grade 9. This building was later sold to the Orange Lodge for use as a hall. The Orange Lodge sold it to the Legion on May 2, 1946. Mr. N. Scarrow purchased the building from the Legion. By 1908, this school was very crowded and a two-roomed school was built on the present site. This was opened with Hope Barber as Principal and Miss Darnley in the lower room.

In 1912, Mr. Victor Hugo, replaced Miss Barber and Miss Daggett took over from Miss Darnley — all teachers from the East. Mr. Hugo remained until 1915 and, with Grade 10 added to the curriculum, it was a very heavy load which Mr. Hugo handled very efficiently, giving a great deal to the pupils. His strong points were Maths and many good writers were turned out from those years. In 1915, Mr. R. Mulligan came and Grade 11 was added. He just stayed one year. The Trustees were Tom Peden and Jasper Strong. R. Carson was Secretary-Treasurer.

In 1916, four rooms were added. It was war time and material and labour were hard to get and, by 1917, only two rooms had been finished. Mr. Cossett was our new Principal, also an Easterner, and a wonderful man and teacher. Mr. and Mrs. Cossett stayed until 1923 and were a real help to the town.



Rossburn School — Class of 1903. Top row, left to right: Dolf Strong, Miss Jenny Galloway (Teacher), Maggie Peden. Second row: Hilda Pritchard, Ethel McIntosh, Hammond Irwin. Third row: Elgin Warnock, Russell Preston, Mabel McKee, Annie Taylor, May McDonald, Lizzie Irwin, Lorne Lawless, Howard Preston, Wilfred Strong, Bill Irwin. Fourth row: Frank Pritchard, Russell Harrison, Pearl Strong, Carrie Pritchard, Maude McKee, Cassie Belle McKee, Mary Pritchard, Bertha Taylor, Louise Taylor, Tom Irwin, Boyd McKee, Bob McKee. Fifth row: Herb Taylor, Lil Young, Ella McIntosh, Olive Irwin, Roy Irwin, Clarence Harrison, Jim Irwin, Tom McDonald.



Rossburn Grade VIII class of 1916. Back row: Al Grant, Harvey Hamilton, Jim Strong, Hugh John Peden. Middle row: Ernie McIntosh, Stuart Hamilton, Clarke Peden, Earle Cockran, Sam Peikoff. Front row: Hazel Johnston (Short), Abbie Black (Adams), Beryl Williamson (Young), Cona Sinclair, Hazel Irwin (Milnes), Florence Taylor (Stickney), Stella Sleigh (Lobb), Agnes Stitt (Maltz), Ella McIntosh (Wyness).

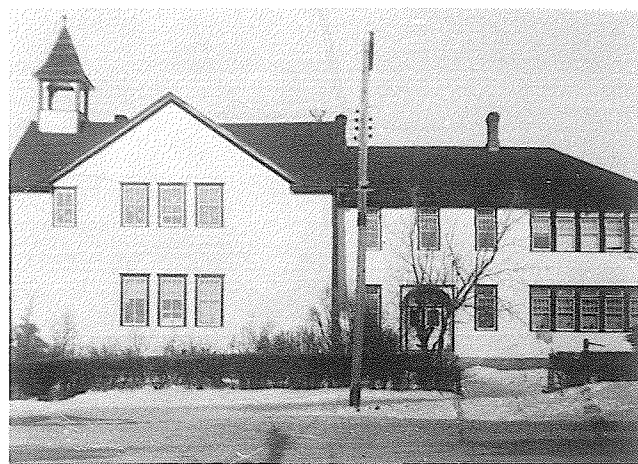
Other teachers at that time included Isabol Phizacklea, Jessie Nickel and Alice Carson.

In 1923, Hammond Irwin became Principal. Hammond was followed by a few men but just for short periods until 1931, when Mr. Stan Weatherley came to town. He did not have a degree but was an outstanding teacher. He taught Grades 9 to 11. His wages were \$1000 per year. They wrote Departmental exams and there were very few failures. He was a forceful man and a giver of knowledge. If you were interested, you got your chances. In 1933, he arranged to teach Grade 12. This was done without help from the School Board. Each pupil paid Mr. Weatherley \$50. This proved so successful that the next year they hired an assistant, Albert Greggs, to teach Grades 9 to 10. Mr. Weatherley left in 1942 and went into the Insurance Business. We miss Stan, Doris and their two little girls very much. They had become a part of our community.

Mr. Weatherley was followed by Charlie Rind but his stay was short as the war was on and duty called him. Mr. Alex Wilson came and was with us for a few years. Mrs. Wilson's health was not good and they went to be closer to doctors.

Mr. J. Murphy came in 1949. Mrs. Murphy and the family settled in and became a real asset to our community. Mr. Murphy, in his quiet gentlemanly manner, held the respect of everyone. Teachers and pupils alike found him kind, scholarly and willing to help. It was a pleasure to teach with him.

Mr. Harry Middlemass joined the staff after the Second World War, as an Assistant Principal. He was a valuable member for a number of years. In 1956, Harry Middlemass moved to Neepawa and Cecil and Mrs. Gunn joined the school staff. Mr. Gunn also served as Assistant Principal. In 1957, Mr. Murphy left and went to Russell, where he retired in 1958. Dr. Schultze took over but left shortly thereafter. Mr. Robertson succeeded him for one year. A new school was built on the present site, beside the old school building in 1959. The High School rooms were situated upstairs, while the elementary grades were taught on the lower floor. Mr. C. Kester was the first principal in the new building and held that position for two years (1959-1961). He was succeeded by Mr. F. Denham, who also spent two years as Principal. Mr. Denham was succeeded by Mr. D. Smith, who was the Principal of the High School (grades 9-12) for two years. Mr. C. Erickson became the Elementary Principal and held that post until June, 1974. Mr. Smith was succeeded by Mr. D. Hennessey, who became the first Principal of the new Collegiate that was built on its present site in 1965-66. Mr. W. E. Stefanuk joined the High School staff in 1959, and was appointed Principal of the Collegiate in 1968 and



The former Rossburn School (above) was demolished in 1959 after construction of the present Rossburn Elementary School. The old building had been enlarged in 1916 with the addition of four rooms on the east side (right side of picture).

has remained principal up to the time of this write up. Mr. Erickson, the Elementary Principal, was succeeded by Mr. D. Shtykalo, who is the current Elementary Principal.

The last slate of Trustees of the Rossburn Consolidated School District were Norman Major, Chairman, Eugene Caldwell, Ernie Drul, M. Trakalo, and Douglas Andrew. Mrs. A. Lindsay was the last Secretary Treasurer of the Consolidated School that was phased out in 1967 and became part of the Pelly Trail School Division #37. She held this position from 1931 to 1968.

The current Rossburn trustees on the Pelly Trail School Division Board are Mr. Leonard Goletz and Mr. Andrew Bidochka.

The following is a list of former teachers and trustees of the Rossburn Schools. The information was obtained from the Provincial Archives. (Due to certain unrecorded information, we are unable to give a complete account of the teaching staff and board of trustees.)

Teachers:

MacKinnon, M. (1914-1915)
 Nickel, Jessie M. (1914-1915)
 Cassitt, O. B. (1916-1923)
 Dixon, Myrtle (1917-1918)
 Hodgkinson, Lottie (1917-1919)
 Phizacklea, Isabelle (1917-1919)
 Strong, Pearl (1918-1920)
 Lawman, Violet S. (1919-1920)
 Sinclair, Annie B. (1919-1920)
 Homfeld (1920-1922)
 Fisher, Elsie B. (1920-1922)
 Birch, Ester (1921-1922, 1923-1924)
 Ogston, Hazel A. (1921-1922)
 Vickery, Eva (1922-1923)
 Crook, S. (1922-1923)
 Mellor, Alice (1922-1924)
 Moffat, Sara E. (1922-1924)
 Irwin, J. H. (1923-1925)



Rosburn School Students (Picture taken about 1940). Back row: Olga Antonichuk, Beth McDonald, Mary Taylor, Elmer Carson, Nick Silewich, Bill Glushka, Glen Smith, Beatrice Johnston, Margaret Duncanson, Ann Paisner. Second row: Mildred Locke, Laura McEvoy, Nellie Oryniak, Pat Alexander, Ann Gumieny, Edith McKaig, Barbara Crookshanks, Mae Armstrong, Ada Brown. Third row: Barrie Lawless, Everett Taylor, Steve Cherwonick, Waverley McKinnon, Bob Lindsay, Bill Taylor, Weldon McIntosh, Alister McKenzie.

Hutchinson, M. (1924-1925)
 Garvie, Helen (1924-1925)
 Smith, Isabelle K. (1924-1925)
 Hugo, Victor H. (1924-1925, 1930-1932)
 McDougall, M. (1930-1932)
 Bell, Margaret (1930-1935)
 Coulter, Mary Jean (1930-1934, 1936-1937)
 Rowe, Violet (1930-1934)
 Harlow, Vina (1932-1934, 1935-1938, 1940-1941)
 Weatherley, S. J. (1932-1943)
 Peden, Z. W. (1933-1934)
 Lepper, Gerald (1933-1935)
 Griggs, Alberta L. (1934-1937)
 Cunningham, A. B. (1935-1936)
 Huston, Harris T. (1935-1938)
 Radley, Gladys (1936-1938)
 Kennedy, Margaret Dallas (1936-1941)
 Goodwin, E. Geo. (1937-1938)
 Kent, B. E. (1938-1939)
 Sparling, Stephen Clare (1938-1939)
 Fulford, W. J. D. (1938-1939)
 Stevenson, Marjorie M. (1938-1941)
 Parsons, John (1939-1941)
 Low, A. R. (1939-1949)
 Hamilton, S. (1940-1941)
 Smith, Adeline E. (1941-1942)
 Watson, Kathleen (1941-1943)
 Forrest, Helen (1941-1944)
 Hughes, Verna (1941-1944)
 Shewfelt, Maude (1941-1942)
 Hines, R. (1942-1943)
 Andrews, Olive M. (1943-1944)
 Chopp, Phyllis (1943-1944)

Wilson, A. J. (1943-1946)
 Rhind, Wm. C. (1943-1944)
 Davis, Bertha J. (1943-1945)
 Lehmann, Grayce I. (1944-1945)
 McMillan, Eleanor Deane (1944-1945, 1949-1951)
 Veitch, Lorna (1944-1954, 1955-1956, 1957-1959)
 Cochrane, Lois E. (1945-1946)
 Rolph, M. H. (1945-1946)
 Woods, Dorothy E. (1945-1948, 1950-1951)
 Blair, Lois E. (1945-1946)
 Anderson, J. G. (1946-1947)
 Mayes, E. Carlyle (1946-1947)
 Mazier, M. I. (1946-1947)
 Graham, Ruth Yvonne (1947-1950)
 Hemphill, J. M. (1947-1948)
 Neable, H. F. (1947-1948)
 Stechkewich, O. A. (1947-1949)
 Clucas, F. (1948-1951)
 Sulymka, Lloyd (1948-1950)
 Murphy, J. E. (1948-1952, 1954-1957)
 Rosecki, M. (1949-1950)
 Middlemass, H. M. (1950-1956)
 Lytle, Ed (1950-1951)
 Zink, Amy (1950-1951)
 Mayes, A. M. (1951-1952)
 Murphy, Mary (1951-1954, 1955-1957)
 Chomica, Maurice (1951-1956)
 Kolosky, John (1952-1953)
 Elvers, M. (1953-1954)
 Antoniwi, C. C. (1954-1956)
 Laycock, Elsie E. (1954-1955)
 Finlay, Patricia G. (1955-1956)
 MacDonald, Dianne (1955-1956)

Rogan, J. (1955-1956)
 Gunn, E. A. (1956-1959)
 Tokar, M. J. (1956-1959)
 Hay, Margaret (1956-1959)
 Stitt, R. (1956-1957)
 Neil, L. R. (1957-1958)
 Schultze, F. K. (1957-1959)
 Gunn, C. V. (1957-1959)
 Lindsay, A. M. (1957-1960)
 Leitch, Beverley (1958-1959)
 Strand, Isabel (1958-1959)
 Robertson, J. B. (1958-1959)
 Cicierski, F. (1959-1960)
Trustees
 Hamilton, A. (1920-1925)
 Strong, J. (1920-1925, 1937-1940)
 Wickett, C. W. (Sec. Treas. 1920-1925)
 Evans, Mrs. M. (1921-1925, 1930-1932)
 Peden, R. (1921-1925, 1930-1936, 1937-1938, Chairman 1938-1940, 1940-1943)
 Stewart, G. (1930-1932)
 Lindsay, J. (1930-1946)
 Wilson, E. (Sec. Treas. 1930-1931)
 Lindsay, A. M. (Sec. Treas. 1931-1959)
 Harris, E. (1931-1936)
 Clubley, W. (1933-1936)
 Lawless, L. V. (1933-1939)
 Stitt, W. (1936-1938)
 Spearman, G. (1936-1937, Chairman 1937-1938)
 McDonald, W. T. (1936-1939, Chairman 1940-1943)
 Menzies, C. A. (1939-1943)
 Williamson, B. A. (1940-1943, Chairman 1943-1952)
 Bell, C. (1942-1947)
 Huston, J. (1942-1946, 1948-1957)
 Mamalyga, J. (1943-1947)
 Yarmey, A. E. (1945-1947, 1948-1954)
 McIntosh, H. (1948-1949, 1952-1956)
 Andrew, J. (1948-1952)
 Sicinski, N. (1949-1951)
 Kotesky, J. (1950-1952)
 Hutton, R. (1951-1952, Chairman — 1952-1959)
 Smycniuk, M. (1952-1954, 1957-1959)
 Harlow, J. (1954-1955)
 Major, N. (1954-1959)
 Silewich, Wm. (1955-1959)
 Taylor, A. G. (1956-1959)
 Andrew, D. (1957-1959)
 Maxwell, David (1957-1959)
 Perchaluk, W. (1957-1958)

From 1960 until information was available from Pelly Trail S.D. in 1965, the teaching staff included:

1959-60 — Lorna Veitch, Peggy Gunn, Margaret Hay, Alice Guest, Emily McKinnon, Mike Tokar, Ernest Stefanuk, Frank Cicierski, Cecil Gunn, Charles Kester (Principal).

1960-61 — Jean Fox, Alice Guest, Peggy Gunn, Margaret Hay, Catherine Ament, Mike Tokar, Ernest Stefanuk, Frank Cicierski, Cecil Gunn, Charles Kester (Principal).

1961-62 — Elementary — Jean Fox, Joan Fuglsang, Myrna Loewen, Margetts Reid, Peggy Gunn, Margaret Hay, Catherine Ament, Mike Tokar. High School — Frank Denham (Principal), Cecil Gunn, Frank Cicierski, W. E. Stefanuk, Rev. W. Donovan.

1962-63 — Elementary — Jean Fox, Myrna Loewen, Margetts Reid, Miss Barker, Peggy Gunn, Margaret Hay, Catherine Ament, Fred Gutoski. High School — Frank Denham (principal), Cecil Gunn, Ernest Stefanuk, Frank Cicierski, Vic Hay, Boris Bugera.

1963-64 — Elementary — Anne Restau, Mrs. J. Nicholson, Leona Gates, Patricia Carr, Jack Brignoly, Margaret Hay, Catherine Ament, Fred Gutoski, Con Erickson (Principal). High School — Ernest Stefanuk, Frank Cicierski, Stephen Dvorak, Miss B. Tellier, Don Smith (Principal).

1964-65 — Elementary — Anne Restau, S. Leblanc, J. Renwick, L. Gates, Patricia Carr, W. Winder, Jack Brignoly, Margaret Hay, Tony Kalychen, Catherine Ament, Con Erickson (Principal). High School — Ernest Stefanuk, Frank Cicierski, J. Graham, B. Tellier, Harris Huston, Don Smith (Principal).

1965-66 — Elementary — Anne Restau, L. Clark, I. Forbes, S. Lukie, W. Winder, D. Grant, V. Dahl, B. Barclay, Margaret Hay, Tony Kalychen, Catherine Ament, Con Erickson (Principal). High School — Judi Hammill, Leslie Turnbull, Morry Levin, Morris Cesmystruk, Harris Huston, Ernest Stefanuk, Margaret Miller, Janice McFeetors, Rev. Gordon Fulford, Dennis L. Hennessey (Principal).

In the years following establishment of Pelly Trail School Division, the following teachers were employed at the Rossburn Elementary School.

1966-67 — Con Erickson (Principal), Bernard Biedron, Catherine Ament, Tony Kalechyn, Russell Wychreschuk, Margaret Hay, Garry Woods, Myrna Black, Lorna Hemeryck, Barbara Eshelby, Diane Grant, Irene Forbes, Linda Hansen, Lois Clarke, Margaret Mitchell, Olga Kalyniuk.

1967-68 — Catherine Ament, Joan Bell, Bernie Biedron, Ardell Clark, Sheila Cole, Marilyn Collins, Con Erickson (Principal), Barbara Eshelby, Diane Grant, Linda Hansen, Margaret Hay, Lorna Hemeryck, Tony Kalechyn, Patricia Procysen, Fay Reader, Constance Shoemaker, Garry Woods, Russell Wychreschuk.

1968-69 — Con Erickson (Principal), Connie Shoemaker, Joan Bell, Marilyn Collins, Linda Hansen, Margaret Winiartz, Diane Grant, Lorna Hemeryck, Sheila Cole, Margaret Hay, Ardell Clark, Germaine Francois, Patricia Procysen, Mrs. Phyllis Chopp, Keith McMurchy, Nick Sourisseau, Doug Halmarson, Lloyd Elliot, Tony Kalechyn, Catherine Ament.

1969-70 — Catherine Ament, Linda Hunter, Audrey Brown, Marilyn Collins, Glenice Wilson, Bonnie Hunter, Marcelle St. Hilaire, Joan Bell, Peggy McLeod, Lorna Hemeryck, Margaret Watson, Nick

Sourisseau, Phyllis Chopp, Rick Plaisier, Germaine Francois, Keith McMurchy, Russell Slade, Con Erickson (Principal), Tony Kalechyn, Sheila Cole, Patricia Procyszen.

1970-71 — Linda Warburton, Audrey Brown, Linda Hunter, Linda Rodeck, Glenice Wilson, Bonnie Martin, Norma Samocha, Joan Lonsberry, Joan Carson, Maureen Lloyd, Richard Skarban, Gerry Kowal, Rick Plaisier, Keith McMurchy, David Lloyd, Peggy Watson, Duncan Mackenzie, Marion Douglas, Lorna Hemeryck, Patricia Procyszen, Ann Hrycak, Len Derkach, Louise Turner, Bob Lonsberry, Rhoda Sanderson, Con Erickson (Principal), Glen Jackson, Loreen Jackson.

1971-72 — Linda Warburton, Linda Hunter, Audrey Brown, Glenice Wilson, Louise Turner, Bonnie Martin, Norma Samocha, Ann Hrycak, Carol Lewis, Maureen Lloyd, Leonard Derkach, Gerry Kowal, Richard Skarban, David Lloyd, Glen Jackson, Rick Plaisier, Bob Lonsberry, Marion Douglas, Lorna Hemeryck, Cyrilla McPhee, Loreen Jackson, Keith McMurchy, Con Erickson (Principal).

1972-73 — Norma Samocha, Linda Hunter, Audrey Brown, Louise Turner, Loreen Jackson, Bonnie Martin, Carol Lewis, Gerry Kowal, Joan Lonsberry, Maureen Lloyd, Bob Lonsberry, Richard Skarban, Leonard Derkach, Glen Jackson, David Lloyd, Rick Plaisier, Keith McMurchy, Lorna Hemeryck, Marion Douglas, Con Erickson (Principal).

1973 — Con Erickson (Principal), Audrey Brown, Leonard Derkach, Marion Douglas, Lorna Hemeryck, Linda Hunter, Glen Jackson, Germaine Kowal, Caroline Lewis, David Lloyd, Maureen Lloyd, Joan Lonsberry, Bob Lonsberry, Bonnie Martin, Keith McMurchy, Faye Orr, Rick Plaisier, Norma Samocha, Richard Skarban, Louise Turner, James Procyk.

1974 — Audrey Brown, Beverley Brown, Marion Douglas, Con Erickson (Principal), Nancy Fraser, Germaine Kowal, Yvonne Lawson, Bob Lonsberry, David Lloyd, Maureen Lloyd, Keith McMurchy, Faye Orr, Rick Plaisier, James Procyk, Richard Skarban, Louise Turner, Linda Warburton.

1975 — Catherine Ament, Beverley Brown, Marion Douglas, Vivian Henderson, Louise Hrubeniuk, Linda Hunter, Barbara Klassen, Deborah Kurylko, Yvonne Lawson, Bob Lonsberry, Vernice Pirie, Rick Plaisier, Patricia Porznak, James Procyk, Deborah Rausch, Dan Shtykalo (Principal), Richard Skarban, Linda Warburton, Joseph Zurbyk.

1976 — Catherine Ament, Beverley Brown, Viviane Desrochers, Marion Douglas, Vivian Henderson, Linda Hunter, Deborah Kurylko, Yvonne Lawson, Bob Lonsberry, Linda Mar, Vernice Pirie, Rick Plaisier, Patricia Porznak, James Procyk, Dan

Shtykalo (Principal), Rosemary Smith, Joseph Zurbyk.

1977 — Catherine Ament, John Calder, Viviane Desrochers, Marion Douglas, Vivian Henderson, Linda Hunter, Yvonne Lawson, Bob Lonsberry, Linda Mar, Peter Morgan, Sharon Nichvalodoff, Rick Plaisier, James Procyk, Dan Shtykalo (Principal), Rosemary Smith, Muriel Snyder, Marcella Stefaniw, Joseph Zurbyk.

1977-78 — Dan Shtykalo (Principal), Catherine Ament, Linda Hunter, Marcella Stefaniw, Sharon Nichvoladoff, Rosemary Smith, Erva Lindsay, Elizabeth Herman, John Calder, Nick Kalyniuk, Alma Grimard, Joe Zurbyk, Jim Procyk, Vivian Henderson, Rick Plaisier, Bob Lonsberry, Marion Douglas, Yvonne Lillie, Norbert Tanner.

1978-79 — Dan Shtykalo (Principal), Catherine Ament, Linda Hunter, Yvonne Lillie, Erva Lindsay, Sharon Nichvolodoff, Elizabeth Herman, Marcella Stefaniw, John Calder, Nick Kalyniuk, Patricia Spraggs, Joe Zurbyk, Christina Kolek, Jim Procyk, Vivian Henderson, Rick Plaisier, Marion Douglas, Bob Lonsberry, Norbert Tanner.

1979-80 — Dan Shtykalo (Principal), Catherine Ament, Linda Hunter, Yvonne Lillie, Robin Maxwell, Joan Lonsberry, Elizabeth Herman, Carol Fleury, John Calder, Nick Kalyniuk, Patricia Spraggs, Joe Zurbyk, Jim Procyk, Vivian Henderson, Rick Plaisier, Marion Douglas, Bob Lonsberry, Norbert Tanner.

1980 — Catherine Ament, John Calder, Marion Douglas, Carol Fleury, Vivian Henderson, Elizabeth Herman, Linda Hunter, Nick Kalyniuk, Dennis Kaskiw, Yvonne Lillie, Joan Lonsberry, Robin Maxwell, James Procyk, Daniel Shtykalo (Principal), Patricia Spraggs, Joseph Zurbyk.

1981 — Sandra Arthur, John Calder, Marion Douglas, Vivian Henderson, Linda Hunter, Nick Kalyniuk, Dennis Kaskiw, Robert Lonsberry, Yvonne Lillie, Robin Maxwell, James Procyk, Patricia Spraggs, Dan Shtykalo (Principal), Maridee Warner, Cindy Zurbyk, Joseph Zurbyk.

1981-82 — Dan Shtykalo (Principal), Yvonne Lillie, Cindy Zurbyk, Candace Abramchuk, Connie Lyman, Alana Hattie, Linda Strachan, Catherine Hentig, Nick Kalyniuk, Patricia Spraggs, Joe Zurbyk, James Procyk, John Calder, Marianne Bewcyk, Dennis Kaskiw, Marion Douglas, Bob Lonsberry, Linda Hunter.

Rosburn Collegiate personnel during these years are as follows:

1966-67 — Dennis Hennessy (Principal), W. E. Stefanuk, Louis Kurchaba, Leslie Wrightson, Nestor Stadnyk, Jack Brignoly, Dennis Wrightson, Joseph Kerbrat.

1967-68 — John Brignoly, Dennis Hennessy (Principal), Dennis Nevin, Joseph Kerbrat, Gloria Kostosky, Louis Kurchaba, George McKinnon, W. E. Stefanuk, Dennis Wrightson, Leslie Wrightson.

1968-69 — J. Clark, J. White, G. McKinnon, L. Kurchaba, Mrs. G. Rubeniuk, D. Nevin, C. Durston, J. Kerbrat, J. Michalchuk, W. E. Stefanuk (Principal).

1969-70 — Marie Cwiertnia, Carolyn Durston, Harris Huston, Joe Kerbrat, Louis Kurchaba, George McKinnon, Andy Stevenson, William Vandurme, Jerry Samuels, W. E. Stefanuk (Principal).

1970-71 — Marie Cwiertnia, Carolyn Durston, Joe Kerbrat, Louis Kurchaba, Bob Lonsberry, Jerry Samuels, Dennis Schoonbaert, Andy Stevenson, William Vandurme, Deryl Ortynsky, W. E. Stefanuk (Principal).

1971-72 — W. E. Stefanuk (Principal), William Vandurme, Louis Kurchaba, Jerry Samuels, Carolyn Durston, Marie Cwiertnia, Joe Kerbrat, Dennis Schoonbaert, Andy Stevenson, Deryl Ortynsky, Craig Nelson, Mrs. Caroline Antoniow.

1972-73 — W. E. Stefanuk (Principal), Joe Kerbrat, Louis Kurchaba, Marie Cwiertnia, Jerry Samuels, Janet Dowhan, Walter Dueck, Deryl Ortynsky, Adrien De Ruyck, Dennis Schoonbaert.

1973 — W. E. Stefanuk (Principal), Deryl Ortynsky, Marie Cwiertnia, Janet Dowhan, Walter Dueck, Joseph Kerbrat, Louis Kurchaba, Jerry Samuels, Adrien De Ruyck, Dennis Schoonbaert.

1974 — Adrien De Ruyck, Janet Dowhan, Walter Dueck, Joseph Kerbrat, Louis Kurchaba, Deryl Ortynsky, Marie Plaisier, Jerry Samuels, Dennis Schoonbaert, W. E. Stefanuk (Principal).

1975 — Gordon Bettess, Francis Bird, Gail Chitz, Jerry Samuels, Walter Dueck, Joseph Kerbrat, Louis Kurchaba, Deryl Ortynsky, Marie Plaisier, Dennis Schoonbaert, W. E. Stefanuk (Principal).

1976 — Francis Bird, Walter Dueck, Joe Kerbrat, Christina Kolek, Louis Kurchaba, Deryl Ortynsky, Tannis Peters, Jerry Samuels, Dennis Schoonbaert, W. E. Stefanuk (Principal).

1977 — Beverley Brown, Walter Dueck, Louis Kurchaba, Deryl Ortynsky, Tannis Ortynsky, Joseph Poitras, Gail Rogers, Jerry Samuels, Kathy Shewchuk, W. E. Stefanuk (Principal).

1977-78 — W. E. Stefanuk (Principal), Beverley Brown, Walter Dueck, Louis Kurchaba, Peter Cooper, Francois Prevost, Joseph Poitras, Gail Rogers, Jerry Samuels, Kathy Shewchuk.

1978-79 — W. E. Stefanuk (Principal), Beverley Brown, Walter Dueck, Louis Kurchaba, Peter Cooper, Marlene Penner, Joseph Poitras, Dwight Brown, Jerry Samuels, William White.

1979-80 — W. E. Stefanuk (Principal), Beverley

Brown, George Bayly, Peter Cooper, Walter Dueck, Stan Fleury, Louis Kurchaba, Marlene Penner, Joseph Poitras, Jerry Samuels, Norbert Tanner.

1980 — George Bayly, Beverley Brown, Peter Cooper, Walter Dueck, Stan Fleury, Louis Kurchaba, Marlene Penner, Joseph Poitras, Jerry Samuels, W. E. Stefanuk (Principal).

1981 — Beverley Brown, Walter Dueck, Stan Fleury, Don Jackson, Chris Jones, Louis Kurchaba, Marlene Penner, Joseph Poitras, W. E. Stefanuk (Principal).

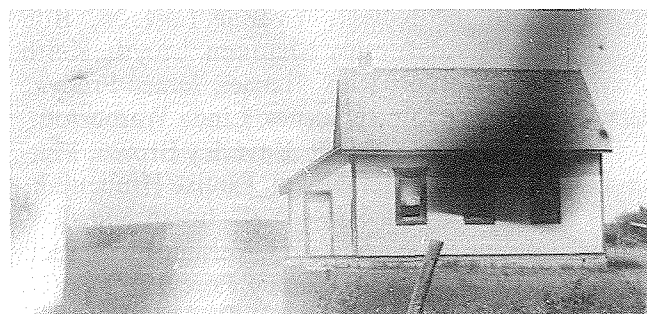
1981-82 — W. E. Stefanuk (Principal), Beverley Brown, Don Jackson, Walter Dueck, Stan Fleury, Louis Kurchaba, Marlene Penner, Joseph Poitras, Chris Jones.



Rossburn Collegiate Institute.



Rossburn Elementary School.



Ruska Rawa School.

Ruska Rawa School #1260

This school district was formed in 1904 and it was first named Budz. In 1906 the name was changed to Stanislaw. The reason for this change is not known.

The school was built by the early settlers of Marco District in 1906-1907 out of logs and plastered with clay mixed with chopped hay. The fir siding was put over the clay on the outside and the ceiling boards were covered with square metal tiles and the walls were covered with 3½" ceiling boards. All the labour was voluntary.

There was some controversy in the naming of this school. The people in the district were of Ukrainian and Polish origin. Polish people wanted to name the school Stanislaw and the Ukrainians chose the name of Ruska Rawa, (name of a town in Ukraine). Since the majority of the settlers in the district were Ukrainians, they outvoted the Polish people and in 1908 renamed it Ruska Rawa. The first teacher who taught at this school was Dmytro Wowk.

This school was in operation until 1952 when it was torn down and a new school was built on the same site by Harry Komhyr and Mike Chomica. The last teacher who taught in this school was Edward Strank.

The first Secretary-Treasurer was Tomko Zapuchlak and one of the first trustees was Andrew Shust.

The pupils were of a variety of ages ranging from 6 to 16 years. Following are the names of the pupils in that first year of class:

Charney, Anna	Leschasin, John
Chuhai, Alexander	Naherny, Bill
Chuhai, Anna	Naherny, Fred
Chuhai, Teklia	Pokropiwny, Anna
Chuhai, John	Pokropiwny, Annastazia
Chupa, Fedor	Pomehaychuk, Teklia
Dutchak, Anna	Prosyk, Warwara
Dutchak, Paraska	Puyda, Wasyl
Hachkowski, Marinka	Shust, Magda
Hachkowski, Mychalina	Shust, Yustina
Hullick, John	Solima, John
Kaban, Mike	Tychonuik, Marinka
Lazaruk, Basil	Zapuchlak, Anna
Leschasin, Bill	Zapuchlak, Mary
Leschasin, Harry	

The teachers who taught in Ruska Rawa School were:

Dmytro Wowk	1907-1912
Joseph Dyck	1912-1914
Nicholas Podworney	1914-1918
A. Burtniak	1918-1919
Basil Lazaruk	1919-January 1924
Peter Mitenko	February 1924-June 1924
Basil Lazaruk	August 1924-January 1925
Wm. Yakemischak	February and March 1925
Grace Ferguson	April 1925-June 1925
Stanley Humeney	August 1925-June 1928
Pauline M. Yankewicz	1928-1929
Francis Kurys	1929-1931
Anne Zubachek	1931-1936
Michael Tokar	1936-1939
Olga Hyrsak	1939-1941
Wm. Sametz	August 1941-January 1942
Phyllis Chop	February 1942-June 1943

Anne Dnistranski	1943-1945
Mike Bewza	1945-1946
Kate Twerdun	1946-1947
Phyllis Shunewick	August 1947-January 1948
Phyllis Zimmerman	February-April 1948
Mike Charney	April 1948-June 1948
Gwen Hullick	1948-1949
Pearl Borowski	1949-1950
Edward Strank	1950-September 1951
Morris Kowalchuk	October 1951-1952
Helen Choropita	1952-1953
Bernice Korolyk	August 1953-December 1953
Joseph Zatylny	January 1954-June 1954
Janet Sitko	1954-1955
Olga Wingerak	1955-1956
Carol Ewanson	1956-1957
Phyllis Chop	1957-1963
Mrs. Dvorak	1963-1964
Mrs. Jean Michalchuk	1964-1965



Ruska Rawa School Students. Standing, left to right: Betty Charney, Jane Leschasin, Susan Shastko, Myrna Leschasin, Lawrence Jumaga, Melvin Herchak, Reuben Edwardson, Delmer Edwardson, Robert Topolniski. Kneeling, left to right: Arlene Edwardson, Debbie Hersack, Shelly Hersack, Michael Shastko, David Leschasin, Mathew Charney.

The pupils who attended old Ruska Rawa School in its last year, before the new school was built were, — Leona and Zelma Charney, Johnny and Eileen Kachan, Marie Hlagie, Edwin Zimmerman, Adeline and Edward Hachkowski, Allan Ternowski, Walter Kokurudz, Evelyn Bereza, Shirley Prosyk and Danny Charney.

These were the last students who attended the Ruska Rawa School before the amalgamation with the Rossburn School District. The last teacher at this school was Mrs. Jean Michalchuk. The trustees at this time were Joe Zimmerman, Joe Ternowski and Tom Charney. Mike Hersack served as Secretary-Treasurer.

Ruthenia S.D. No. 1259

Ruthenia School District No. 1259 was formed Jan. 11, 1904. The district was originally to be known as Gorna S.D. It was referred by this name in the motion passed by the R.M. of Rossburn setting up the new school district. However, by the time the first school accepted the school students of the new district it was already referred to as Ruthenia.

The first teacher was A. Mykytiuk and K. B. Gwozdriski, the second teacher. The names of students attending that first year are no longer known. However in 1915, thirty-one students were in attendance. School trustees were: Walter Kaminsky, John Gensiorek and Nicolas Ukrainec. Secretary-treasurer was P. Pushka.

The school register on Jan. 1, 1916 recorded that the teacher was E. Mykytiuk and the students were Roman Nahirniak, Paul Gensiorek, Basil Bereza, Max Ukrainetz, Maggie Bereza, Jessie Nahirniak, Harry Verbowetski, Joe Ukrainetz, Oryna Halowski, Jessie Woycentowicz, Jessie Laskowski, Sally Dunets, Annie Deydey, Nicholas Derkach, Dora Halowski, Frank Mushamanski, Anne Halowski, Katie Konyk, Martha Ewanchuk, Annie Ewanchuk, John Spirak, Michael Sawchuk, John Naherniak, Joe Be-

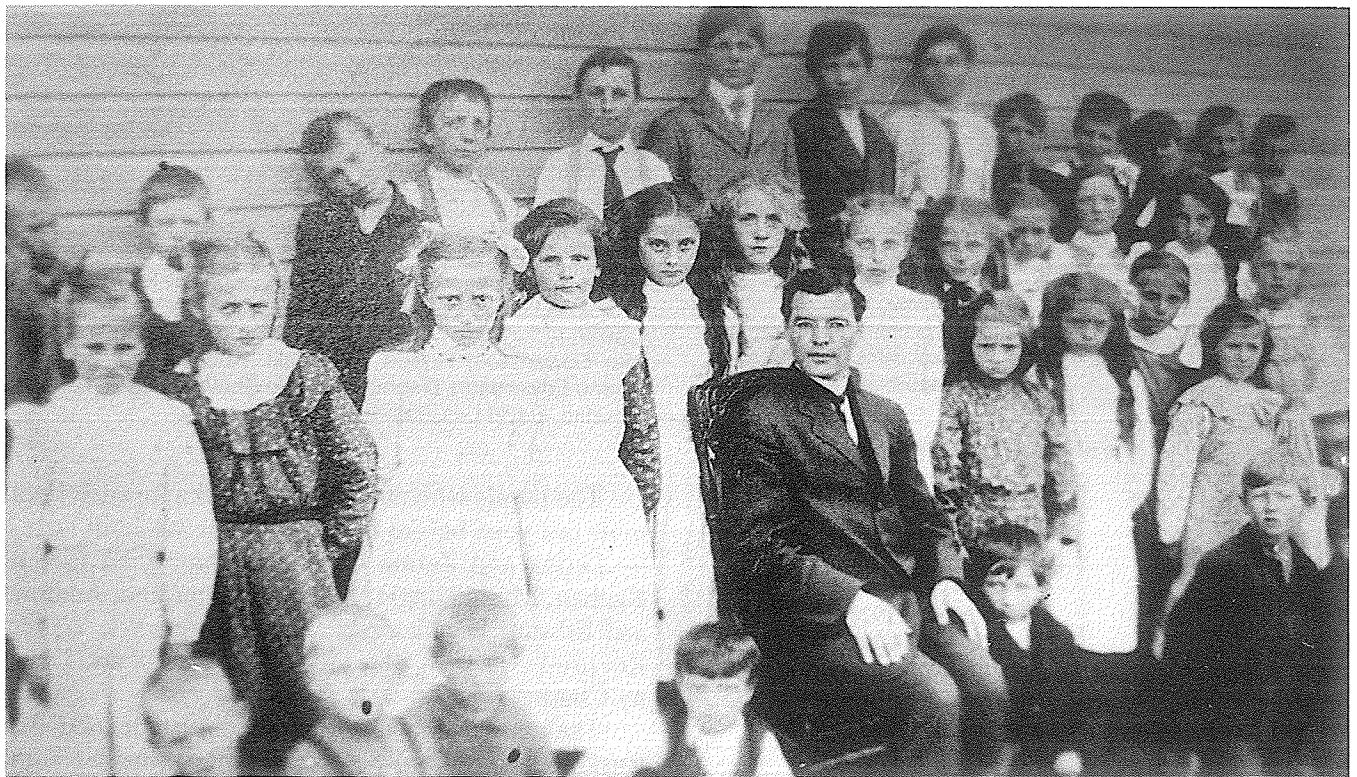
reza, Mike Wladyka, Kate Baranesky, Eva Verbowetski, Eliza Penonzek, Peter Ukrainetz, Alice Ukrainetz, Bron Woycentowicz, Fred Pushka, Alice Laskowski, Malanka Martynowycz, Mary Stefanishyn, Donia Ewanchuk, Stefania Ewanchuk, Dmytro Pushka, Mike Sokolski, Nick Sokolski, Pearl Baydock, Nicholas Gensiorek. A total of forty-two students attended at that time. School trustees were Walter Kaminsky, John Gensiorek and John Derkach.

A school register of October 1924 recorded forty-two students in attendance at Ruthenia School. Michael Nowosad signed the register as teacher.

As with most rural schools facing a declining number of students, Ruthenia S.D. was closed on Jan. 1, 1968.

Sharman

The Union School District of Sharman No. 1705 was formed by an award of a board of arbitrators effective November 20, 1913. The school building was not built until 1948 on S.W. corner of N.W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 11-19-25, land purchased from John Young and presently owned by his daughter Jessie Heneghan. The



Ruthenia School Pupils, about 1912. Back, left to right: Max Ukrainetz, Tony Mushumanski, Andrew Sokalski, Peter Halowski, Harry Boychuk, Jim Dutchak, Leo Gensorek, David Dutchak, Joe Woytzenowich, Harry Konyk, Peter Baydak, Nick Sokalski, John Konyk. Center: Donia Pushka, Maggie Werbovetski, Mary Halowski, Teenie Konyk, Mary Sperak, Chrissie Fardell, Pearl Pushka, Katie Dutchak, Maggie Naherniak, Pauline Naherniak, Irene Kutsan, Kathryn Jawera, Teacher — Mr. George Shkwarok, Jessie Naherniak, Annie Shpirak, Maggie Jawera, Jessie Woychentowich. Bottom row: Harry Werbovetski, Albert Mushamanski, William Pushka, Nick Zubiak, Peter Gensorek, William Werbovetski, Paul Gensoriek.

School district was named after Joseph Sharman, a pioneer who at that time owned much land in this district.

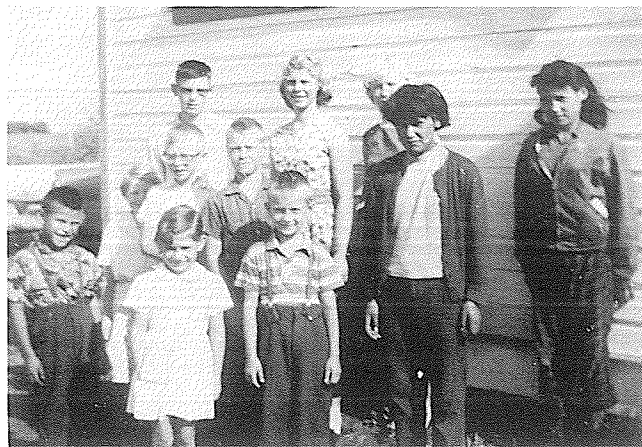
The first trustees were: Pete Melnyk, Alfred Mitchell, Bert Mitchell and Nick Hrycak (Secretary-Treasurer).

The teachers who taught at Sharman were: Mike Tokar, Nellie Belbas, Natalie Glushka, Jean Matiowsky, Louise Carson, Jean Mitchell, Sonia Melnyk and Mary Komhyr.

The children of the following families attended Sharman school: Ecklin Mitchell, Alfred Mitchell, Pete Melnyk, Sam Chichaluk, Nick Hrycak, Bill Chegwin, Bob Boyer, John Carson, Pete Didych and Andrew Tanasychuk.

The Union School District of Sharman No. 1705 was dissolved by Award of Board of Reference, effective January 1, 1967 with all lands transferred to the Rosssburn Consolidated School District No. 2358. The Rosssburn Consolidated School District No. 2358 was dissolved, effective January 1, 1968 with all lands transferred to the Pelly Trail School Division No. 37.

In 1967 the Sharman School building was moved to the Rosssburn Play Park to be the "Little Red School House".



Sharman School Students — 1962. Back row: Wayne Carson, Theresa Didych, Diane Tanasychuk, Annabelle Boyer. Second row: Beth Carson, Frank Tanasychuk, Barry Didych, Elsie Boyer. Front row: Ken Boyer, Darlene Chicheluk, Dennis Didych.

St. John Kant S.D. No. 1242

In 1905, an organizer from Winnipeg, Mr. Boderski, arrived to organize schools. In 1907 he organized two of them — Boleslaw which later was known as Olha, and St. John Kant school, built on the NE corner of section 14-19-23, 5 miles north of Oakburn. The school was of frame construction. The first teacher was M. Drabiniasty, with a starting

salary of \$500.00 per annum. The first school board consisted of: John Boklaschuk, Stefan Nychyk and Paul Yanyk, with the teacher acting as secretary. It is interesting to note that the first term was an all male class.

In Jan. 1907, the first pupils were:

Michael Yanyk — age 7	Vasyl Yanyk — age 15
Onufry Ivanyshyn — age 12	Michael Kokorudz — age 12
Vasyl Kokorudz — age 10	Nykola Nychyk — age 13
Fred Yanyk — age 13	Ivan Boklaschuk — age 12
Dmytro Boklaschuk — age 14	Ivan Tokaryk — age 14

In May 1907 two girls made their appearance. They were Dora Lazarko and Mary Yanyk.

In August 1907 two more girls began school — Marcella and Mary Sitko.

Teachers who followed Mr. Drabiniasty were:

Steven Lytwyn — 1908-1909
A. Klymkiw — 1909-1911
K. Gwozdicky — 1912-1913
D. M. Wowk — 1913-1914 (43 pupils)

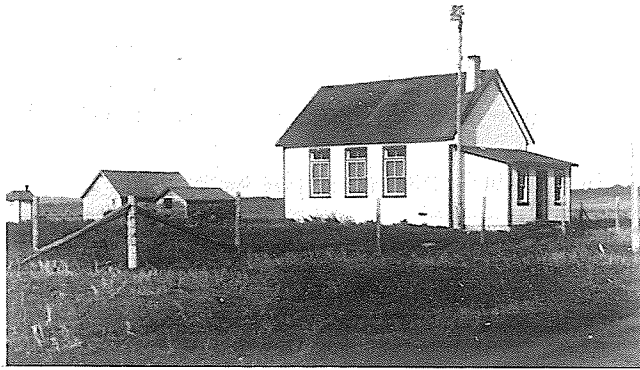
It is very unfortunate that the 1915 and 1916 registers are unavailable, however, it is known that Jacob Maydanyk and Michael Radzyk were teaching during that period. In 1917 D. M. Wowk returned to a class of 64 pupils.

It was then decided that a larger school was necessary to accommodate the ever increasing enrollment and that the location be centralized. In 1917, a foundation for a new school was laid out on the S.E. corner of section 14-19-23. However, the settlers were not entirely satisfied with the new location and after much disagreement the foundation was destroyed and a new site was chosen, only about ¼ mile west of the crumbled foundation. The new school was then called King George School.

Valley School No. 624 (1719)

The original site of the Valley School was eight (8) miles due north of Rosssburn on the northwest corner of Sec. 6-21-24. The district was formed in 1891 and the first trustees were James McBride, Angus Grant, and Harry Sleigh. The names of the first teacher and pupils cannot be found.

In 1913 a new school was built in the SW corner of the S.E. Quarter Sec. 12-21-25 on land donated by the late William Cochrane. The boundaries of the School were modified and the number was changed to 1719. Records from Microfilm in the Fletcher Building in Winnipeg available from the year 1915 up to the present show that the teacher was Miss Annie Sinclair and the trustees were: Gordon Plant Sr., William Craig and Harry Sleigh who also served as Secretary-Treasurer. The pupils were: Eric Wilson, Wasyl Walko, George Semeniuk, Charlie Sotas, Matthew Karmazenuk, Mike Semeniuk, Nellie



Valley School.

Smith, Stella Sleigh, Cedric Crookshanks, Earle Cochrane, Gladys Sleigh, Arnold Plant, Douglas Smith.

The enrolment reached its highest point in the early thirties with 52 pupils attending the school and slowly decreased so that by 1959 there were only six and the school district was dissolved and amalgamated with the Cons. School District of Rosburn No. 2358.

The largest event at the school was the Christmas Concert which was well attended by parents and friends. Usually there was a Red Cross Tea held in early fall and the branch functioned for many years. Recreation was football (soccer) in the winter and baseball and softball in the summer with games organized for those in Grades 1 and 2 by the teachers.

The highlight of the year was the annual school picnic held jointly with Bruan and Birdtail Schools in the Waywayseecappo Reserve, ½ mile east of Birdtail siding in late June. There were football, baseball, softball, horseshoe and other contests as well as races and games for the children and wound up with a giant supper under the trees in the early evening with all the food donated and usually organized by Mrs. Georgina Cleland and the late Mrs. Joiner.

In 1927 on the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee of Confederation a giant rally and sports day was held in Rosburn with nearly all the schools in the Municipality participating and I remember Roy Plant hauling a wagon load of boys packed like sardines to this event. These were nostalgic days of co-operation, friendliness and fellowship that seem to have evaporated in our modern society.

Miss C. McLean taught at Valley School in 1893-1894.

The teachers from 1915 to 1959 were: Annie

Sinclair, Marie Melnychuk, Myrtle Dixon, William C. Kozak, Mary Craig, Elizabeth Glutyk, Annabella Hunter, Myrtle Oryniak, Grace Allen, Margaret Gibson, Mabel Fisher, Gladys Sleigh — 1 month due to Miss Fisher's illness, Mrs. Caroline Leschasin, Z. Blanche Hunt, Gerald Matiation, Mary I. Hunter, Nicholas Rebinchuk, Anne Pradinuk, Anthony Swidinski, Mary J. Kereluke, William C. Kozak, Jennie Polischuk, Joseph T. Zatylny, Mary Lesiuk.

The schoolhouse was sold and the only visible remains are the caragana growing on the border of the old school site and many fond memories locked in the hearts and minds of former students and teachers.

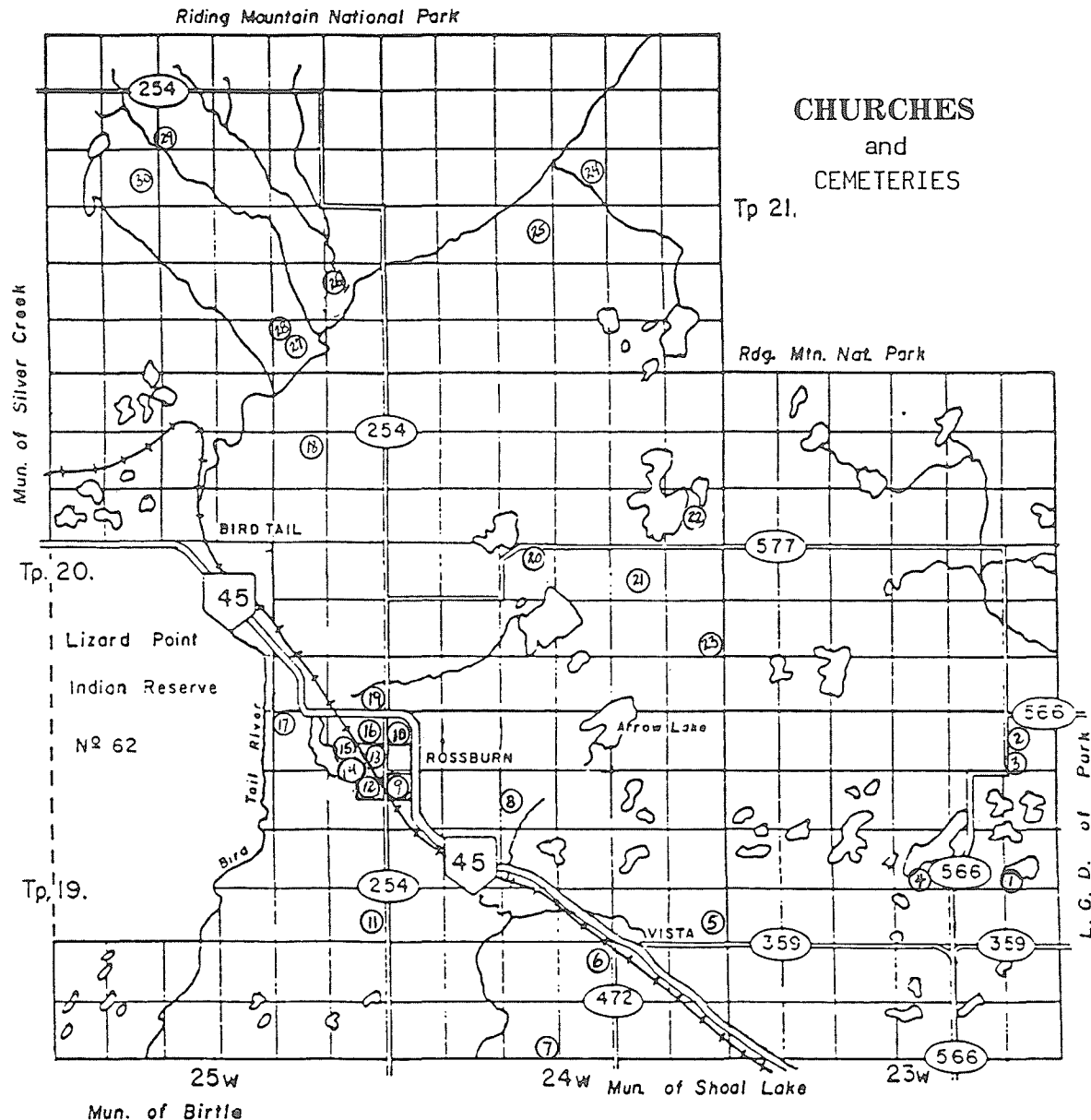
And if you pause to reminisce
and muse on passing day,
The many dreams, the school time friends
seem very far away.

— Mike Sotas



Valley School, 1955. Teacher — Nicholas Rebenchuk. Back row: Willis Livetsky, Helen Walko, Irene Piasta, Evangeline Strilesky, Evangeline Kalyniuk, Myron Kuzenko. Second row: Eugenia Piasta, Marlene Plant, Evangeline Kuzenko, Gerald Piasta, Nick Ewanchuk. Third row: Lesia Livetsky, Margaret Ducharme, Adele Barnesky, Muriel Ducharme, Wayne Sotas, Lorne Ducharme. Fourth row: Adele Kalyniuk, Oriole Barnesky, Patricia Rebenchuk, Linda Livetsky, Shirley Kotesky. Class of 1954-55.

Churches



1. St. John Cantius Roman Catholic Church and Cemetery
2. St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church — Olha
3. St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Parish Cemetery — Olha
4. Mass Grave at Patterson Lake — first burial grounds of Ukrainian and Polish pioneers in the Rossburn district
5. Holy Trinity Ukrainian Orthodox Church and Cemetery — Vista
6. St. Andrews United Church — Vista
7. Argyle Presbyterian Church — Vista
8. St. Theresa's Roman Catholic Cemetery
9. Sacred Heart of Jesus Ukrainian Catholic Church — Rossburn
10. St. Elijah's Ukrainian Orthodox Church — Rossburn
11. Ukrainian Orthodox Cemetery — Rossburn
12. Rossburn Knox United Church — previous site of the first Methodist Church
13. First Rossburn Presbyterian Church
14. St. Theresa's Roman Catholic Church — Rossburn
15. Kingdom Hall — Jehovah's Witnesses

16. Rossburn Anglican Church (later site of Rossburn Pentecostal Church)
17. Rossburn Community Cemetery
18. Ranchvale United Church
19. Sacred Heart of Jesus Ukrainian Catholic Church Cemetery — Rossburn
20. St. John's Ukrainian United Church
21. Ukrainian Greek Orthodox Independent Church — Rossman Lake
22. Christ the King Roman Catholic Church and Cemetery
23. Sts. Peter & Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church — Rossburn Farms
24. Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic Church and Cemetery at Mohyla
25. Burial site — Oryniak settlement
26. Site of former Valley Methodist Church
27. Cemetery and original site of Ukrainian Orthodox Church — Glen Elmo
28. St. Mary's Ukrainian Orthodox Church — Glen Elmo
29. Ukrainian Catholic Church of the Ascension and Cemetery — Ruthenia
30. Ukrainian Settlement Cemetery — 16 people buried



Presbyterian Church located at main intersection in Rossburn until 1934. The church was moved and used as a club room south of the present United Church building. The lot was sold to the town, and became the site for the present Town Hall. This was Rossburn's first church and was constructed in 1891.

Rossburn's First Church

It is recorded that the first church built in Rossburn was the Presbyterian Church. It was constructed in 1891 on the present location of the Rossburn Town Hall. This was the first corner to be built on of what has become Rossburn's main intersection on which a building was constructed.

A newspaper account published in 1891 in the *Birtle Eye Witness* on the occasion of the opening of the Presbyterian Church gives us the following account:

"The church is a frame building on a stone foundation, well built, no expense being spared to secure durability and warmth. Its length including tower is 42½ ft. Breadth — 24½ ft. Seating Capacity — 175. The walls rise 14 ft. Tower — 50 ft. The exterior is painted a light buff green relieved with light olive

producing a chased yet striking effect. The interior walls and arched ceiling are finished lath and plaster with wainscott from floor to windowsill. Inside woodwork painted light grey in tints. Doors grained dark oak. The seats are roomy, strong and comfortable to the sitter. Concrete filling from the foundation to a height of 3 ft. secures perfect immunity from under draughts of cold air. The floor is double with building paper between.

There was a social held for the opening of the new church. Rev. Mr. Hodnett presided. The choir consisted of Mrs. Sharman, Miss Sharman, Mr. Anderson, and Mr. Patterson of Solsgirth, Mr. Hugh Ross — choir conductor.

The building cost \$1100 including cost of obtaining deeds, insuring, means of heating etc. Of this amount \$600 had been contributed by the people in cash and labour, \$150 had been promised by the church and manse building board. Mr. Lang gave the above financial report. Mr. A. Brown, the Hamiltons, Mr. Cummings, J. J. Stitt, R. Taylor, Mr. Finch and Mr. Sharman all donated time or money to the building of the church."

Church Union

The union of the Presbyterian and Methodist congregations at Rossburn resulted in the formation of Rossburn United Church (also referred to as Knox United Church).

As this was a significant event in the history of religious life of the community, the archives of the United Church at the University of Winnipeg were able to supply this account of church union from a submission by John W. Cormack in 1974.

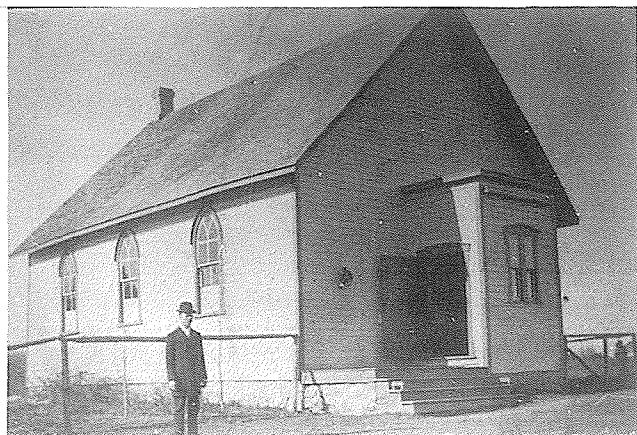
"The first settlers arrived in the Rossburn district in 1879 and very shortly afterwards Missionaries of the Presbyterian and Methodist faiths arrived. Worship services were held in the settlers' homes, until a school was built one mile north of what was later the village of Rossburn.

Religious services of both congregations were then held in the school, until 1891, when the Presbyterian Church was built and these services were continued in the Presbyterian Church until 1895, when the Methodist Church was built."

The Presbyterian Church was erected on the site of the Rossburn Town Hall, the best piece of property that could be chosen for the building.

"Four years later, directly south across the road from the Presbyterian Church, the Methodist Church was constructed and the same building was used for nearly 60 years as the Rossburn United Church. As early as 1915, negotiations between the Presbyterian and Methodist congregations of the Rossburn district

began, with the object of church union locally, which resulted in a vote by the two congregations. On the 16th day of November 1916, the two church boards met to count the ballots, and the result was 95% in favour of union. A lot of details had to be considered, and dealt with after the vote. The name selected was The Rossburn United Church. A church board was appointed consisting of an equal number of members from each church. Services for the Ranchvale Church had also to be considered and decided upon. The following arrangements re: services etc. were agreed to:



Methodist Church on the site of the present United Church, Rossburn. The church after union of the Presbyterian and the Methodist congregations became known as Knox United Church. The building was replaced by the new United Church building on the same site, which was dedicated May 18, 1975.

The Methodist Church to be used for church service and the Presbyterian Church used for meeting etc. The new Methodist manse to be for the use of the ministers and that rent would be given from church funds to pay off the mortgage on the manse.

The times set for Sunday service were: Ranchvale on Sunday morning, Sunday School at 2 p.m., church services at 3 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. in the Rossburn Church. Rev. D. Iverach the Presbyterian minister was to continue as United Church minister until March 31, of the next year (1917). Then the Methodist minister, Rev. W. B. Callow was given a call to begin as minister starting April 1st, 1917 for one year at a salary of \$1500.00.

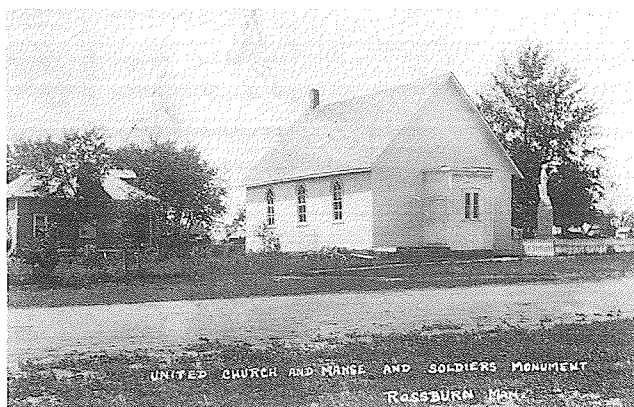
Any mission funds or Presbytery dues were to be divided between the two Presbyteries. There were several Presbyterian members who did not join the union, and later some Methodist members who left the union and joined the Pentecostal Church, otherwise local church union was a success, and operated smoothly until 1925 when union was consummated in all Canada between the Presbyterian, Methodist

and Congregational Churches and was called The United Church of Canada.

The Vista Presbyterian congregation carried on themselves until 1930, when they joined with Rossburn and the Rossburn ministers conducted their services."

In 1969 Vista closed their Church and transferred their membership to Rossburn.

In 1966 Angusville Church was closed the end of June and their membership was transferred to Rossburn United Church. Starting in 1969 Rossburn United Church has an agreement with the Presbyterian Church of Canada whereby their churches of Argyle and Ekford would be closed and their members come to Rossburn, and that their Presbyterian minister, Rev. Brian Penny, who was also minister to the Presbyterian Mission on the Waywayseecappo Reserve, was to be United Church minister with the Presbyterian Presbytery paying a portion of the minister's salary. This arrangement was entirely satisfactory, as the Rev. Brian Penny and Mrs. Penny were well liked, and did very good work.



Rossburn United Church and Manse, with Soldier's Monument at right of church (fenced). Picture taken in 1920's.

Knox United Church

Knox United Church, Rossburn, was pleased to have the diary of Mr. Henry Rose presented to the Community by Mrs. E. Brown of Minnedosa, daughter of Mr. Rose, who came to Shoal Lake in 1879. The following extracts were taken from this diary by Alice Lindsay and placed in the History of the church and presented at a Service when a new church had replaced the old one and the mortgage had been paid.

Her talk was entitled "Today a Church is Born," and in view of the historical significance of much of the material it is a vital part of the history of our community.

"October 12, 1879 — Mr. Henry Rose, the first Missionary to visit in these parts, held the first ser-

1879 The West Mission
 Battle & there have
 been 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st, 32nd, 33rd, 34th, 35th, 36th, 37th, 38th, 39th, 40th, 41st, 42nd, 43rd, 44th, 45th, 46th, 47th, 48th, 49th, 50th, 51st, 52nd, 53rd, 54th, 55th, 56th, 57th, 58th, 59th, 60th, 61st, 62nd, 63rd, 64th, 65th, 66th, 67th, 68th, 69th, 70th, 71st, 72nd, 73rd, 74th, 75th, 76th, 77th, 78th, 79th, 80th, 81st, 82nd, 83rd, 84th, 85th, 86th, 87th, 88th, 89th, 90th, 91st, 92nd, 93rd, 94th, 95th, 96th, 97th, 98th, 99th, 100th, 101st, 102nd, 103rd, 104th, 105th, 106th, 107th, 108th, 109th, 110th, 111th, 112th, 113th, 114th, 115th, 116th, 117th, 118th, 119th, 120th, 121st, 122nd, 123rd, 124th, 125th, 126th, 127th, 128th, 129th, 130th, 131st, 132nd, 133rd, 134th, 135th, 136th, 137th, 138th, 139th, 140th, 141st, 142nd, 143rd, 144th, 145th, 146th, 147th, 148th, 149th, 150th, 151st, 152nd, 153rd, 154th, 155th, 156th, 157th, 158th, 159th, 160th, 161st, 162nd, 163rd, 164th, 165th, 166th, 167th, 168th, 169th, 170th, 171st, 172nd, 173rd, 174th, 175th, 176th, 177th, 178th, 179th, 180th, 181st, 182nd, 183rd, 184th, 185th, 186th, 187th, 188th, 189th, 190th, 191st, 192nd, 193rd, 194th, 195th, 196th, 197th, 198th, 199th, 200th, 201st, 202nd, 203rd, 204th, 205th, 206th, 207th, 208th, 209th, 210th, 211th, 212th, 213th, 214th, 215th, 216th, 217th, 218th, 219th, 220th, 221st, 222nd, 223rd, 224th, 225th, 226th, 227th, 228th, 229th, 230th, 231st, 232nd, 233rd, 234th, 235th, 236th, 237th, 238th, 239th, 240th, 241st, 242nd, 243rd, 244th, 245th, 246th, 247th, 248th, 249th, 250th, 251st, 252nd, 253rd, 254th, 255th, 256th, 257th, 258th, 259th, 260th, 261st, 262nd, 263rd, 264th, 265th, 266th, 267th, 268th, 269th, 270th, 271st, 272nd, 273rd, 274th, 275th, 276th, 277th, 278th, 279th, 280th, 281st, 282nd, 283rd, 284th, 285th, 286th, 287th, 288th, 289th, 290th, 291st, 292nd, 293rd, 294th, 295th, 296th, 297th, 298th, 299th, 300th, 301st, 302nd, 303rd, 304th, 305th, 306th, 307th, 308th, 309th, 310th, 311th, 312th, 313th, 314th, 315th, 316th, 317th, 318th, 319th, 320th, 321st, 322nd, 323rd, 324th, 325th, 326th, 327th, 328th, 329th, 330th, 331st, 332nd, 333rd, 334th, 335th, 336th, 337th, 338th, 339th, 340th, 341st, 342nd, 343rd, 344th, 345th, 346th, 347th, 348th, 349th, 350th, 351st, 352nd, 353rd, 354th, 355th, 356th, 357th, 358th, 359th, 360th, 361st, 362nd, 363rd, 364th, 365th, 366th, 367th, 368th, 369th, 370th, 371st, 372nd, 373rd, 374th, 375th, 376th, 377th, 378th, 379th, 380th, 381st, 382nd, 383rd, 384th, 385th, 386th, 387th, 388th, 389th, 390th, 391st, 392nd, 393rd, 394th, 395th, 396th, 397th, 398th, 399th, 400th, 401st, 402nd, 403rd, 404th, 405th, 406th, 407th, 408th, 409th, 410th, 411th, 412th, 413th, 414th, 415th, 416th, 417th, 418th, 419th, 420th, 421st, 422nd, 423rd, 424th, 425th, 426th, 427th, 428th, 429th, 430th, 431st, 432nd, 433rd, 434th, 435th, 436th, 437th, 438th, 439th, 440th, 441st, 442nd, 443rd, 444th, 445th, 446th, 447th, 448th, 449th, 450th, 451st, 452nd, 453rd, 454th, 455th, 456th, 457th, 458th, 459th, 460th, 461st, 462nd, 463rd, 464th, 465th, 466th, 467th, 468th, 469th, 470th, 471st, 472nd, 473rd, 474th, 475th, 476th, 477th, 478th, 479th, 480th, 481st, 482nd, 483rd, 484th, 485th, 486th, 487th, 488th, 489th, 490th, 491st, 492nd, 493rd, 494th, 495th, 496th, 497th, 498th, 499th, 500th, 501st, 502nd, 503rd, 504th, 505th, 506th, 507th, 508th, 509th, 510th, 511th, 512th, 513th, 514th, 515th, 516th, 517th, 518th, 519th, 520th, 521st, 522nd, 523rd, 524th, 525th, 526th, 527th, 528th, 529th, 530th, 531st, 532nd, 533rd, 534th, 535th, 536th, 537th, 538th, 539th, 540th, 541st, 542nd, 543rd, 544th, 545th, 546th, 547th, 548th, 549th, 550th, 551st, 552nd, 553rd, 554th, 555th, 556th, 557th, 558th, 559th, 560th, 561st, 562nd, 563rd, 564th, 565th, 566th, 567th, 568th, 569th, 570th, 571st, 572nd, 573rd, 574th, 575th, 576th, 577th, 578th, 579th, 580th, 581st, 582nd, 583rd, 584th, 585th, 586th, 587th, 588th, 589th, 590th, 591st, 592nd, 593rd, 594th, 595th, 596th, 597th, 598th, 599th, 600th, 601st, 602nd, 603rd, 604th, 605th, 606th, 607th, 608th, 609th, 610th, 611th, 612th, 613th, 614th, 615th, 616th, 617th, 618th, 619th, 620th, 621st, 622nd, 623rd, 624th, 625th, 626th, 627th, 628th, 629th, 630th, 631st, 632nd, 633rd, 634th, 635th, 636th, 637th, 638th, 639th, 640th, 641st, 642nd, 643rd, 644th, 645th, 646th, 647th, 648th, 649th, 650th, 651st, 652nd, 653rd, 654th, 655th, 656th, 657th, 658th, 659th, 660th, 661st, 662nd, 663rd, 664th, 665th, 666th, 667th, 668th, 669th, 670th, 671st, 672nd, 673rd, 674th, 675th, 676th, 677th, 678th, 679th, 680th, 681st, 682nd, 683rd, 684th, 685th, 686th, 687th, 688th, 689th, 690th, 691st, 692nd, 693rd, 694th, 695th, 696th, 697

1879

Feb 2nd - dinner. Shell Lake.
5 PM.

Feb 9th - dinner. Road at Am-
Peters house Range 25 to 19
to 35. Arranged by Entomus
dinner at this place
very pleasant - that for 6.16
Arranged for dinner at
the Hotel - 8 miles down stream
Feb 16 - dinner Route 11 AM.
Left late 17.32. Back Old
at 3 PM. - dinner & on
in front. Taken up dinner &
Back there -

Feb 23 - dinner. 11 AM. at
The Castle. North end of Shell
Lake. 3 PM. dinner
that John left 2 PM

[illegible]

vice, for the Methodist Church, held by any denomination in the Birtle Presbytery. It was held in Mr. Morton's home at Birtle. 16 members were present and the Text was Luke: Verse 10.

October 19, 1879 — One week later, Rev. Mr. Copeland held the first service for the Presbyterian Church in Birtle also.

November 9, 1879 — Mr. Rose walked twenty miles north up the Birdtail River to Range 25, Twp. 19, S. 35 and the first service in the district was held in Mr. W. Peden's home, where the Kreshewski home is today.

For the next year, Mr. Rose travelled by foot from Shoal Lake to Birtle and then on the third Sunday to Rossburn.

Mr. Richard Ross and Mr. James Stewart held services in the different homes each of the intervening Sundays, until the schools were built. Perth was built in 1889.

In 1884, Rev. Jas. Paterson, a Presbyterian Minister took charge of a Mission set up in Rossburn to supply the different charges. I imagine that took in the Reserve too. Rev. G. Long was made head of a Methodist Mission about the same time, also at Rossburn.

In 1891 the Presbyterian Church was built with Rev. J. Lang in charge. This building was where the Town Hall now stands. The Methodists used this building too and held their services there until 1895 when their own building was built on the present site.

These two buildings were used until 1915 when Union was discussed. A vote was taken and passed. January 1916 Mr. Iverach, the Presbyterian minister took charge of the services in the Methodist Church, as it was the larger. The Presbyterian building was turned into a Club Room.

This was not accomplished without some difficulties. A number of Methodists left and joined the Pentecostals while others later held services in the Anglican Church with a Presbyterian minister in

charge. However, the United Church labored on in its work and in later years was joined by the Vista, Angusville and Argyle groups who strengthened their ranks and in 1975 this church was built. Now four years later, it is paid for. After 100 years with God's help a Church has survived."

Mr. Ross's Sunday School class of 1880 consisted of: Lizzie Ross, Lizzie Peden; Hugh Ross; John Ross; Willie Peden; David Broadfoot; Johnnie Broadfoot; Jimmie Broadfoot; Mary Broadfoot; Richard Ross; Johnie Peden.

United Church Ministry

The various clergymen who have served Knox United Church, Rossburn, are reviewed back to the pioneer days preceding union. Methodist and Presbyterian ministers and early missionaries are listed separately until church union became a reality. The dates are listed for the first year a minister served the Rossburn congregation. In most cases, the same minister was retained until a new date listing, when a different minister is listed.

Methodist

- 1879 — Henry Rose
- 1880 — Rev. S. H. Dewart
- 1882 — Rev. J. F. Betts (assisted by Robert Craig)
- 1883 — Rev. J. F. Betts (assisted by Clement Williams)
- 1884 — Rev. G. H. Long
- 1885 — Rev. T. C. Buchanan
- 1886 — A. E. Aldridge
- 1887 — Bill Smith
- 1887 — Rev. Pinlott
- 1890 — Rev. J. J. Crookshanks
- 1894 — W. B. Cheguin
- 1896 — John Peters
- 1897 — Rev. John Stead
- Rev. F. Letts
- 1905 — Rev. McKim Young
- 1912 — Rev. Cooke
- 1915 — Rev. W. H. Colclough
- 1917 — Rev. W. E. Callow

Presbyterian

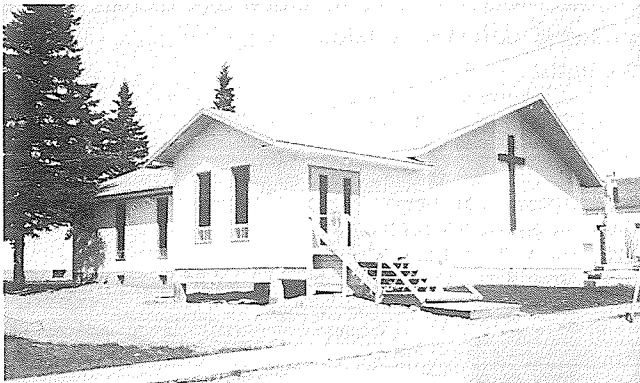
- 1878 — Rev. Alex Smith, (Shoal Lake) Responsible for a 60 — mile radius. Student assistant, John Willard, followed by C. N. Copeland
- 1881 — Rev. W. Hodnett
- 1884 — Rev. W. Hodnett, J. McKay
- 1885 — Rev. Jas. Patterson
- 1887 — Rev. J. McArthur
- 1889 — Rev. Wm. Rogerson
- 1890 — Rev. R. Gow assisted by J. Lenz
- 1894-95 — Vacant
- 1896 — J. F. Cocks
- 1897 — Rev. F. G. Letts
- 1898-1901 — Vacant
- 1902 — Rev. W. T. Pritchard
- 1906 — Rev. Wm. Hamilton
- 1907 — Rev. R. Bailey
- 1908 — Rev. C. C. Strachan
- 1911 — Rev. T. R. Forbes
- 1914 — Rev. C. McKay
- 1917 — Rev. D. Iverbach



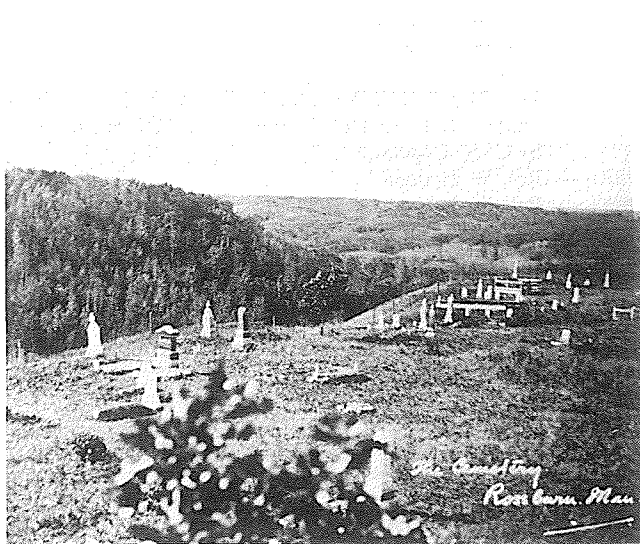
Former Knox United Church, Rossburn.

United Church

1916 — Rev. D. Iverbach
1917 — Rev. W. E. Callow
1920 — Rev. A. Riddell
1921 — Rev. G. Wood
1923 — Rev. M. E. Nixon
1927 — Rev. G. Lockhart
1930 — Rev. D. B. Sparling
1936 — Rev. W. Boyle
1937 — Rev. C. W. Coleman
1940 — Rev. W. G. Onions
1943 — Rev. B. F. Parsons
1945 — G. Reynolds
1946 — Rev. M. E. Nixon
1948 — W. B. Eaton
1952 — H. Alston
1955 — G. Millard
1957 — T. Ferguson
1960 — H. Baker
1961 — T. Ferguson
1963 — Rev. G. Fulford
1969 — Rev. B. Penny
1976 — E. McKenzie
1977 — Rev. J. Stright & Rev. K. Stright
1981 — Rev. W. Gibbons



Rossburn United Church pictured after completion of the new church building. This photo was taken May 17, 1975.



Rossburn Cemetery, as seen many years ago. Located west of Rossburn.

Ranchvale United Church

This church was located on NE 26-20-25, with land for the church site being purchased for \$1.00 in 1911 from John Plant. The congregation originally was a Presbyterian congregation. In later years, however, the church became known as Ranchvale United Church.

The first trustees were: G. D. Grant, Henry Palmer and John W. Martin. The congregation was served by ministers from Rossburn. Mrs. J. A. Smith was the organist and Sunday School teacher.

The last church service was held in Ranchvale United Church during June, 1952 with Pastor Eaton in charge.

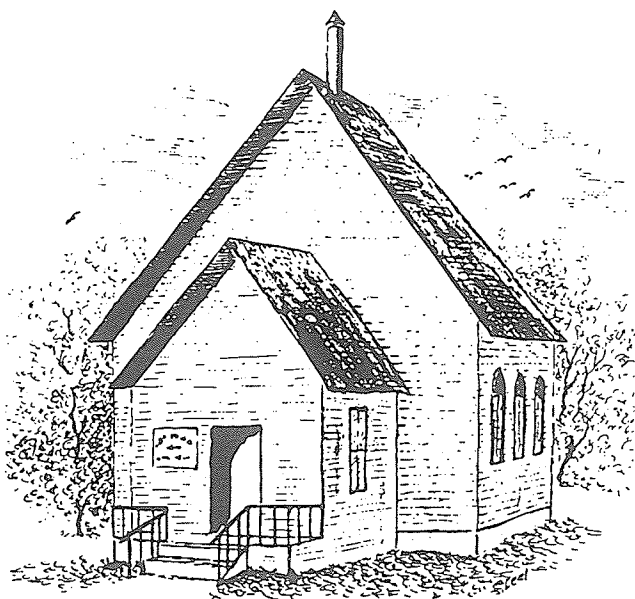
On June 17, 1952 a meeting of the congregation was held, following which it was decided, as it had not been in use for some time, that the church would be closed and the building sold.



Ranchvale Ladies Aid. Back row, left to right: Jean Cleland, Millie Huston, Margaret Plant, Margaret Joiner, Eva Miller. Front row, left to right: Mrs. Parmelee, Mrs. White, Mrs. Coughlan, Mrs. Andrew. Sitting in front: Mrs. Sam Crookshanks.

St. Andrews United Church, Vista, Manitoba

St. Andrews was originally a Presbyterian Church, which was built in the village of Vista in 1910. The manse was built two years previously. Rev. James McLaren was the minister, and services were held in the manse or sometimes in the Islay school while the church was being built. The charge was then comprised of three churches, namely — Kelloe, Culross, and Vista with the minister residing in Vista. Services were held in all three churches every Sunday. The minister drove with horse and buggy or cutter, and the round trip was approximately thirty



St Andrews United Church
Vista Man.

1910 — 1964.

— Sketch by Frank Steel.

miles. One minister, Rev. R. G. Stewart did not drive but walked the complete route each Sunday without fail no matter what the weather happened to be.

The first services were held in the church in 1911. The minister was Rev. James Lang. The first Board of Managers were: Wm. H. Halliday, Wm. H. Young, Wm. H. Miller, Daniel Hamilton, Alexander Black, and Robert Brown. Daniel Hamilton was Chairman and Wm. H. Halliday was Secretary-Treasurer. The Board of Trustees were Wm. H. Halliday, Wm. H. Young, and Alexander Black. Wm. H. Halliday was elder. The organ was purchased in 1913 for \$120.00 and it is still being used. The first organist was Mrs. Daniel Hamilton.

In 1913 the minister, Rev. R. Ashcroft, organized a Sunday School. Mr. Alex MacDonald was Superintendent for a good many years. Some of the earlier teachers were: Mrs. Daniel Hamilton, Miss Katie MacDonald, Mrs. George Shaw, Mr. and Mrs. George Cormack, Mrs. Robert Alexander, and Mrs. T. O. Miller.

The Ladies' Aid was organized by Rev. Ashcroft in 1913. We do not have a record of the first officers, however, we do have three names of persons who were later honored with pins for faithful service. They were: Mrs. Alex MacDonald, Mrs. Sam Ham, and Mrs. M. D. Hamilton. This organization is still active but is now known as the United Church Women or U.C.W. by name. The present officers, (1967) are: Mrs. Dick Baker, President, Mrs. Jack Miller, Vice-President, Mrs. Wilfred Chegwin, Sec-

retary, Mrs. Harvey Hamilton, Treasurer. The past President, Mrs. Morley Brown has taken the role of area representative to the United Church Women in Presbytery. In 1930 the Women's Missionary Society, (W.M.S.) was organized under the leadership of Mrs. Mitchell. The first officers were: Mrs. Wm. Stitt, President, Mrs. Wm. Breakey, Vice-President, Mrs. Dunc McIntyre, Secretary-Treasurer. Canadian Girls In Training, (C.G.I.T.), Young People's, and Explorers were all organized. Due to fewer people living in the community now at this time, these organizations have been disbanded.

In 1925 St. Andrews became a United Church. The charge included Oakburn, Culross, and Vista. The minister resided in Oakburn. In 1931 the field was reorganized with Vista joining the Rosscburn charge (along with Ranchvale). Rev. D. B. Sparling was the minister. (Ranchvale was later closed and Angusville was added to the field. The minister at this time was Rev. Gordon Fulford.)

Tribute should be paid to the late Mrs. T. O. Miller, who was President of the Ladies' Aid for twenty-five years and organist for thirty years. Recognition goes to the faithful service of Mrs. Leslie Hamilton for her contribution as organist for about twelve years. Mrs. Wilfred Miller was relief organist in later years and deserves much credit due to the fact she was afflicted with a crippled leg due to polio and had to resort to using crutches to get about. She also was a faithful Sunday School teacher. Mrs. Miller's son, Billie, was usher at this time.

The Board at this time (1967) is Carman Brown, President, Mrs. Wilfred Miller, Matt Halliday, Wilfred Chegwin, Dick Baker, and Howard Hamilton, with Mrs. Wm. Stitt, as Secretary-Treasurer. The Trustees are Jack Miller, Mrs. Wilfred Miller and Carman Brown. The Church Elders are Harvey Hamilton and William Stitt. On June 30, 1969, due to the decreasing population, the church at Vista closed its doors for all time with the Rev. Gordon Fulford giving the last sermon. A feeling of nostalgia was felt among those who shed tears of sorrow with reminiscences of tales of the early pioneers who paved the way. Many years of joyous fellowship among its congregation, with special services of Christmas, Easter, Thanksgiving, Weddings and Baptisms can be recalled, along with the grief of funerals of loved ones. Much could be said of the Vacation Bible School classes under the direction of Rev. Harold Alston, when the Vista Community Hall was crammed to capacity for the closing exercises. What joy and pride we held in our hearts for all those youngsters who were to be the next generation to lead the way!

Notes of interest were: the first wedding, of Ches-

ter Collins and Ida Taylor who were married on August 9, 1911; first baptism was for Matthew Halliday on March 18, 1909; and first funeral to be that of Selma Miller on June 30, 1912.

Also take note, the last wedding to be, Donna Miller and Gordon Dobbyn, in November of 1968, and the baptism of their son, Darren Gordon, on June 29, 1969. The last funeral to be held in this church was for Robert Young on November 27, 1968.

St. John's Ukrainian United Church

Location: NE ¼ 16-20-24W

St. John's Ukrainian United Church was built in 1914 on land donated by Dmytro Kozak. This is in the vicinity of Pete's Lake, three miles north, two miles east, one mile north and a half mile east of Rosssburn on Prov. Road 577.

The Deed of Land between Dmytro Kozak, and Dmytro Yarmey, who served as trustees of St. John's Ukrainian Presbyterian Church was dated January 2, 1913. The building of the Church followed soon after.

Prior to this, the early settlers who arrived from the Ukraine between 1899-1912 gathered at homes in order to hold religious services. One of the earliest Churches built in the area — Independent Church as it was called, was built in 1901-'02, and was located on the farm of Stefan Panas (NE 14-20-24) — half mile south of Rossman Lake. Today only few graves and gravemarkers remain.

One of the earliest pastors who served the congregation was Rev. John Danylchuk. Others serving St. John's Church were: Reverends Perch, Berezawski, Melnychuk, Senkiw, Dr. Bay, Eustace (1926), Tymchuk (1931). Dr. Bay is best known as he remained for the longest term of about 10 years (1917-1926).

Rev. T. K. Korsakoff, who boarded with the Yarmey and Fred Danyleyko families for a few years, served for five years from 1933-37. Dr. Bay and Rev. Tymchuk used horses and buggy in summer and horses and cutters in winter to travel 6½ miles to Church.

From 1933-37, T. K. Korsakoff served about five years followed by Rev. Berezinski and Rev. Kovalevitch. Rev. Kovalevitch travelled by bus from Winnipeg from 1948-57. Rev. Standruk travelled by bus from Winnipeg also. Rev. Kokorudz motored in from Canora, Saskatchewan every second Sunday to conduct services in Ukrainian at the Knox United Church in Rosssburn.

The union of Knox United Church and St. John's Ukrainian United Church came about for many reasons. One of these was the mode of travel that had to be used in the 20's and 30's. With the coming of gravel roads, cars were used. Transition from St. John's Ukrainian to Knox United Church was made

in the 60's when the congregation dwindled to pensioners who lived in town and it made it more convenient to get to Church in Rosssburn.

The 7th of July was the Anniversary of the Church and named after the Ukrainian holiday, St. John's. It was a red letter day and local people congregated to the Church from other Churches including visitors from the cities. The ladies of the Church prepared food which was served picnic style on the Church grounds. A few years later, it was held in the Ukrainian National Home which then was located across the road from the Church. A good turnout always depended on the weather. On this day, after the picnic, the congregation would go to the south side of Pete's Lake along the roadside for baseball games, swimming, wheel barrel races, bag races, greased pole climbing and various other games. The highlight of the day for the kiddies was the 5 cent ice creams, 5 cent drinks and one cent packages of popcorn given as prizes for the winners.

The Building of the Church

In 1913, Dmytro Kozak donated approximately one acre on the NW corner of 16-20-24. The Church was built on this acre of land. On the first Deed of Land, Commissioner was Hugh R. Ross and witnessed by John McFeetors.

The logs were cut in the Riding Mountain National Park and sawed into lumber at Bob Peden's sawmill.

Tom Craig was the building contractor. The Church was built of frame, roof covered with shingles and with a brick chimney.

In 1920, Dmytro Kozak donated another portion of land approximately four acres due south of the first acre for purposes of a cemetery. This cemetery is still being used and maintained to this day.

Commissioner on the second Deed of Land was H. P. Reed and witness was Wasyl Strank.

In 1926, the Church was painted. Volunteer workers who helped with the construction and painting were:

Babeluk, Fred	Karmazeniuk, Steve
Bidochka, Nick	Kornyk, Wasyl
Busko, Mike	Kozak, Fred
Chomica, Nick	Kozak, Harry
Chopp, Kornilo	Procyk, Dmytro
Danyleyko, Andrew	Procyk, Nestor
Danyleyko, Dmytro	Sherban, Jack
Danyleyko, Fred	Sheremata, Bill
Danyleyko, Harry	Topolniski, John
Danyleyko, John	Topolniski, Kost
Danyleyko, Marco	Todosiw, Eli
Gawryluk, Metro	Trynchuk, Geo.
Gawryluk, Steve	Wonitoway, Alex
Kalniuk, John	Yarmey, Dmytro
	Yarmey, John

There are probably a few more names that are not known.

It wasn't until July 16, 1961 when a part-base-ment was dug and a furnace and chimney were in-stalled.



St. John's Ukrainian United Church at Pete's Lake, Anniversary gathering on July 7, 1929. Rev. E. Eustace was the Minister.

Argyle Presbyterian Church Vista, Manitoba 4-19-24

On November 22, 1897 the congregations of the school districts of Culross, Islay and Perth held a meeting at the home of John D. McKinnon to propose the union of these mission stations into one congregation. The missionary was Mr. Letts.

A decision was made to build a church on 4-19-24 which was property donated by John D. McKinnon. The building committee appointed were: Thos. Young, John McLeod, John D. McKinnon, Wm. H. Armstrong, Jas. Halliday, D. McAinsh and Hugh Johnston. The church was built and in use by December 23, 1898. The first Sunday School of the district was established at Argyle with the following teachers:

Duncan McAinsh — Bible Class and Superintendent

Mrs. Chesney — Primary Class

Annie Armstrong — Intermediate Girls

Angus McArthur — Intermediate Boys

Some of the early ministers were Mr. Campbell, Mr. McLennan, Mr. Gurney, and Mr. Ross.

In the early years this church was the community centre. Development of the area meant that after the railway came, the villages were growing and places of worship were built in them. In 1925 there was a Union of Methodist and Presbyterian Churches in Canada. After this date Argyle was one of the continuing Presbyterian Churches. It was served by the resident missionary at Waywayseecappo.

The following people served the church:

Rev. and Mrs. Harry Crump and Phoebe

Rev. and Mrs. J. Y. Garrett

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Pollock



Argyle Presbyterian Church — Vista, Manitoba.



Argyle Presbyterian Ladies Aid Meeting, 1930. Standing: Mrs. Moulton, Mrs. R. J. Brown, Mrs. Crump, Mrs. Hay, Mrs. Sutherland, Mrs. Wm. Armstrong, Mrs. Lamont (Missionary) Mrs. J. McPhail. Seated: Marion McPhail, Roberta Brown, Phoebe Crump, Dora Chesney.

Rev. and Mrs. Walter Donovan

Rev. and Mrs. Brian Penny

There were also several summer students from time to time. The elders of the church were Alexander MacPhail and Hugh Armstrong. For a number of years there was a Women's Missionary Society as well as a Young People's Group and a Mission Band. In later years, Mrs. Alexander MacPhail taught a Sunday School Class for the children.

Centralization and declining population once again had its effect. The last service of the congregation was held in June 1969 with Rev. Brian Penny in charge. At that time he became minister of a Joint Pastoral Charge which included the Congregations of Rossburn Knox United, Argyle, Ekford and Waywayseecappo Presbyterian.

In 1975 the Argyle building and contents were sold by tender. The communion table and a small pulpit are still in use at the Knox United in Rossburn.

We, of this present generation, cannot help but be inspired by the importance of a place of worship for the early pioneers. Let us, like them, never forget "In all your ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct your paths." Proverbs 3:5.

submitted by Hugh and Dorothy Armstrong

An Early Ministry

Among the earlier ministers to serve Rosssburn community was Rev. Robert Bailey, a Presbyterian minister.

Rev. Bailey was born in 1872 at Fawney, Northern Ireland (5 miles southwest of Londonderry, Northern Ireland). His wife, the former Margaret Smyth, was born in 1880 at "The Cross", five miles south-west of Londonderry, Northern Ireland. Coming to Canada in 1905, she married Robert Bailey in Winnipeg, Man. in 1905. She was the daughter of a merchant at "The Cross", Northern Ireland, Archibald and Jane Smyth.

Rev. Bailey, a farmer's son, graduated from Magee College, Londonderry, Northern Ireland in 1899. Lower Cumber Presbyterian Church, Northern Ireland, recorded him as being an ordained minister in Manitoba in 1903.

Arriving in Rosssburn after serving several rural Manitoba charges, he held the local Presbyterian charge in 1906-1907. He had served previously at the Miniota, Arrow River and Campbell River charges in 1903-1904; Clanwilliam, Murchison, Cameron, Rolling River in 1905-1906.

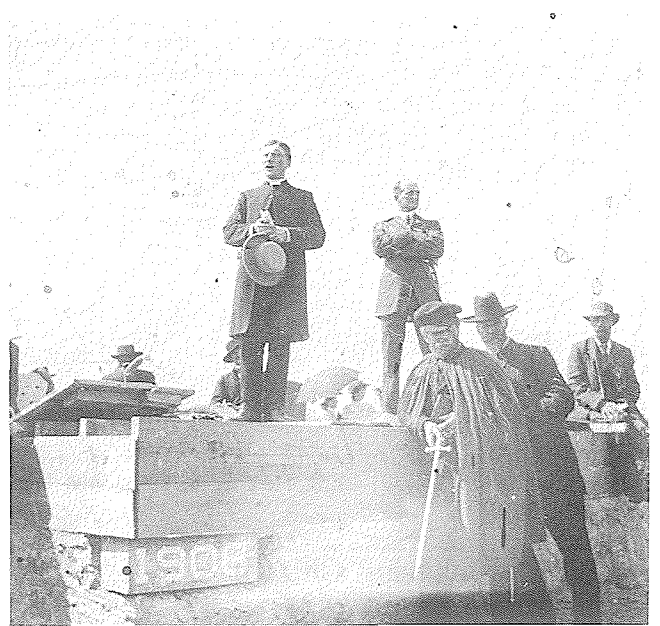
From 1907 to March 1918, Rev. Bailey served the Lizard Point Indian Reserve (Waywayseecappo Band). Rev. and Mrs. Bailey and family moved back to town (Rosssburn) in 1918. By then, they had two children who had been born on the Lizard Point Indian Reserve: Robert (Bert) Archibald, born in 1910 and Jean Elizabeth, born in 1915. Two other children were delivered by Dr. Murrough O'Brien — Brian, in 1918, at Rosssburn, and John Alexander, in 1921, at the farm 2½ miles north of Rosssburn.

It is recorded that after leaving the ministry in 1918, the Baileys moved to a farm 2½ miles north of Rosssburn that had been rented from Mr. Young, postmaster in Rosssburn. Neighbors nearby were Alex Brown, Tom Duncanson and Alex Sinclair. A homestead was acquired 2½ miles (approximately) north-east of Rosssburn. Jean and Bert Bailey attended Bruan School.

In 1924 the Baileys moved to Winnipeg, Man. and in 1937 to Toronto, Ont. Rev. Robert Bailey died in 1946 at Gleichen, Alta., and his wife Margaret in 1942 at Toronto, Ont.

John and Brian Bailey presently reside in Toron-

to, Ont. Robert (Bert) lives in San Diego, California. Jean Rice (nee Bailey) lives in Vancouver, B.C.



The cornerstone of the Church of England in Rosssburn being laid in July, 1906. Standing on top, left to right: Rev. Pritchard from Birtle, Dr. Evans, below, Henry Cochrane, Wm. Peden Sr., and J. J. Stitt.

Rosssburn Anglican Church

In 1904 when Dr. and Mrs. Evans came to town, they were very interested in an Anglican Church. They soon gathered other Anglicans from the community and a church was built. In 1906 the cornerstone was laid and it was the first occasion of this kind held in the district. The Orange Lodge helped with the service as the Church does not have a ritual for one. Mrs. Evans as President of the Ladies' Auxiliary laid the cornerstone. Money and newspapers, list of officers were placed on the stone, but years later when the church was demolished, the money was not there.

Officers were Wardens — Robert Carson, Thomas Buchanan, Edwin Simpson, K. C. Bedson, William Mitchell. The Rector's Wardens were V. W. Johnson and Ernest Smedley. Women's Auxiliary with Mrs. Evans as president and Mrs. V. W. Johnson, as Secretary-Treasurer, had enough money collected to buy an organ. A font was placed in the church later, in memory of Sam Warnock. Rev. E. C. Pritchard was the Bible incumbent at this time. Rev. T. Laternel from Solsgirth followed him. Rev. Laternel went to war in 1914 and died later. After the war it was found too difficult to finance and the church was finally closed and later used by the Pentecostal People.



The Anglican Church shortly after construction in 1906. It was later torn down and replaced by the Pentecostal Church on the same site. It, too, has been torn down and replaced by a residence.

Jehovah's Witnesses

The earliest of any Jehovah's Witnesses in this area, were the Gordon Plant family in the Glen Elmo District, in the early 1920s.

Charles Cutforth of Gilbert Plains used to come down and hold meetings and Bible studies in their house and in the Church that was in their yard.

William Collins, John Collins's father too, was interested in the Bible and associated with the Witnesses, or Bible students, as they were known then.

Another family that came in contact with the Witnesses was the Naish family, most of their children were very active in the work of making disciples.

Later in the 1940's, a Mr. Berezinski started to call on the homes of the people in obedience to the command given by Christ Jesus in Matthew 28: 19, 20 to make disciples, baptizing them.

The Daneyleyko family were eager to listen and learn about God's Kingdom and Bible studies were held in their home. Max Daneyleyko is a Missionary in Nigeria and Jack and Steve live in Ontario. Jack has been serving as a Travelling Overseer.

Later in the 1950's, Charles Kornyk and his wife, Sophie became interested in the truth of God's word and attended meetings whenever they could.

It never was easy to be a follower of Christ Jesus, as people would accuse you of being crazy, so many

were afraid. But Jesus had forewarned his followers that they would not be loved by the world in John 15: 17-20.

And so the truth of God's word kept being spread throughout the area. Travelling representatives would always stop at the Charles Kornyk's place and hold meetings or public lectures in the Legion Hall.

In 1961, Cyril Matkovich came to help out the small group in the Rosscburn area, and the attendance had grown.

Then in 1971, Albert Sartison moved to Rosscburn and with the help of his family, meetings were held on a regular basis, first in the former drugstore, then at the office building of the past Double H Motel, and finally in 1974, a building was moved in from Brendbury, Saskatchewan which was transformed into a beautiful Kingdom Hall.

July, 1978, saw the dedication of this Hall and people came from as far away as Quebec, and British Columbia.

At the time, Clarence Gilmar and his wife were serving as full-time Ministers and a great amount of work was accomplished.

At the moment, there are about 20 associating, all of which are active Ministers of the word of God, teaching everyone to look to God's Kingdom as the only hope for mankind.

Rosscburn Pentecostal Church

Church services began in the homes of the early pioneers. Some of the men in charge were William Peden Sr., George and Alex Stewart.

A number of years later they rented the Orange Hall, and began services under the leadership of Mrs. Florence Webster, her young daughter, Joyce, and her sister, Ella McInistry. To our knowledge she came in 1930 and left in 1935. Mrs. Webster's husband was



Pentecostal Church, Rosscburn, Dedication service, 1953.

deceased before her arrival in Rossburn. Mrs. Webster passed away, well over eighty years of age, in 1978 in Ottawa.

The next ministers were Rev. and Mrs. George Greatorex, who stayed over a year. Rev. and Mrs. C. Nelson followed them to take over the duties. He was also District Superintendent of Manitoba and North Western Ontario. Due to this he was away a great deal, so Mrs. Nelson carried on the services, as well as caring for their two small children.

In 1936 the congregation decided they would purchase the church formerly owned by the Anglicans. It was bought and became known as the Pentecostal Church under the organization of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada. The opening service was held on December 1, 1936.

After Rev. Greatorex left, Rev. and Mrs. Martin McCallum came as the new pastors. During their stay, the congregation bought the home of the late Mrs. T. C. Peden, for a manse. Rev. McCallum served for about five years.

In 1942 Rev. Alvin Hall came with his new bride, as the new minister. They stayed almost three years. Rev. and Mrs. Venton came for a short while to fill in, until Rev. and Mrs. Arnold Mack came in 1945. They stayed until 1948. Rev. Mack is the brother of Mrs. David Sherritt, formerly of Rossburn.

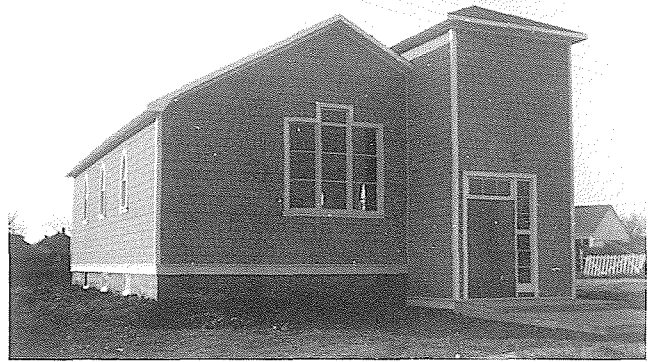
Another couple of newlyweds, Howard and Ruth Johnstone, followed and took over the pastorate for almost three years.

In 1951 Rev. and Mrs. R. J. Barclay came. In 1953 it was decided to tear down the church and rebuild. The old church was in need of a lot of repairs. A new church was built on the same site, and the official opening was held on October 26, 1953. Rev. H. H. Barber was the guest speaker. Rev. Barber is still ministering at Calvary Temple in Winnipeg. He can be seen each Sunday on television on the program, "Faith To Live By". Rev. and Mrs. Barclay left Rossburn in the Spring of 1954.

Rev. and Mrs. Ivor Roset from Marchwell, Saskatchewan, came next and remained until 1956. Rev. Roset has been the District Superintendent of Alberta for the past few years.

Some of the following ministers were: Rev. and Mrs. Brian Linaker, Rev. and Mrs. George Bietal, Mr. W. Cowper-Smith, Rev. Howsan, Rev. Derback, Rev. and Mrs. McNeil, and Miss Emily Gurr. The dates and duration of these ministers are not known. Rev. R. Daum and Rev. Sibley of Hamiota took Rossburn church services, as well as their own pastorates.

Some of the early church families were: Mr. and Mrs. George Stewart, and their daughter, Sylvia; Mr. and Mrs. Emmanuel (Manny) Woods and family;



Pentecostal Church, Rossburn, prior to Dedication in October, 1953.

Mr. Alex Stewart; Mrs. Elizabeth (Lizzie) Hamilton and family; Miss Cassie and Mr. Bob McKee; (Cassie was the pianist, as well as Sunday School teacher) and now resides in Burnaby, British Columbia); Mr. and Mrs. George Sherritt, and family; Mr. and Mrs. James Sherritt, and family; Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Cluff, Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy McIntosh, and son; Mr. and Mrs. Sam Mitchell, and family; Mr. and Mrs. Wm. McIntosh, and family; Mrs. Jessie Brown, and daughters; Mr. and Mrs. Herb Taylor, and daughter, Mary; Mr. Hugh Warnock; Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Mitchell, and family; Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Coughlin, and family; Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Mitchell, and family; Mr. Jimmy Johnson; Mr. and Mrs. Turnbull, and family; (of Binscarth) Mr. and Mrs. Henry Miller, and family; Joe Peden; Howard McIntosh; Mr. and Mrs. Alex Ternovetsky, and family; Mr. and Mrs. Allen Elvers; Mr. and Mrs. George Ryder, (of Fox-warren). Mr. and Mrs. Joe Huston. Mr. and Mrs. William Peden.

Due to many people moving out of the district, especially the young people leaving to seek employment, and with senior citizens passing on, the result was fewer people were left in the congregation. They found it difficult financially to carry on the upkeep of the church and the manse. In 1978 they closed the church for a while. With no new recruits, it was decided to sell the church building in 1979, rather than to leave it empty and neglected to end up in poor condition. The manse was also sold, after having been rented out for a period of time.

After a very long, but good era, the service and life of the Pentecostal Church was to be, with many happy, memories left to go down in history. One of the verses on which the congregation based their faith was taken from 1 Corinthians 15: 3-4, "For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to

the scriptures; and that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures.” With apologies for any wrong dates or missing names.

Submitted by Mrs. David (Velma) Sherritt,
Mrs. Arthur (Dollie) Galvin

Christ the King Roman Catholic Church

The first Kaplieca or Chapel was built in 1910 on the east side of Rossman Lake (then known as Fish Lake) by some twenty faithful members. It was a log building. The big bell was bought and donated by Martin Hachkowski. The little chapel stood there till 1933.

In 1934, the chapel was torn down and a new



Christ the King Roman Catholic Church formerly at the east end of Rossman Lake.

Church was built. The head carpenter was Mr. Kondrat. Members of the building committee were: John Fiel, Charlie Hachkowski, Stanley Zimmerman and Frank Gumieny. Many served as trustees. Among them, Walter Hachkowski who was secretary from 1943 to 1948.

Father Jerome Podbielski who resided in Oakburn was the pastor. Archbishop Alfred Sinnot blessed the Church in 1934 under the name Christ the King.

Wojtek Gumieny, lived very near to the Church and was a very devoted member. He looked after the Church. Then his son, Frank, also a very devoted member looked after the Church. One of his duties was to ring the big bell when there was a death in the parish. The bell could be heard for miles around and

this let the district know that someone had passed away.

When Father Podbielski left, Father Lupushomski took over. In 1947, he took up residence in Rossburn.

Father August Michaluk followed as pastor. Oakburn Farm Church was then a Mission. Next was Father Chwist who was pastor for a short period.

In 1951, came Rev. Father Cieply. He saw that the Church on the farm had a hard time surviving as by then there were only six to ten families as members to keep up the Church.

The idea came to move the Church to town to replace the small one there. The big move was made in the fall of 1957. The Church stayed on blocks over winter before any work could be done. In 1958, with local volunteer work, the Church was placed on a foundation where it still is today.

Later in 1958, Father John Mandyka took over. On July 21, 1959 the Church was re-blessed by Archbishop Pocock under the name St. Theresa.

Father Rygusiak took over in 1966 or 67 and in 1980 at the age of seventy-four still serves Rossburn, Oakburn and Shoal Lake holding three masses every Sunday.

It is known that the first marriage in the Church on the farm in 1934 was that of Lena Gumieny and Frank Shewchuk, now Mr. and Mrs. Frank Shewchuk of Rossburn.



Christ the King Roman Catholic Church being moved to Rossburn in 1957.

St. John Cantius Roman Catholic Church — S.W. ¼ of 24-19-23

The Polish and Ukrainian immigrants who arrived in 1899 and settled north of the present C.N. line, did not remain long without the ministrations of a priest.

Father A. Kulaway was the first priest and the first Mass held in the area was at the home of Prokip Hrycak, a Greek Catholic. This was in 1899.

In 1901, Father Dalaere, who resided in Brandon,

travelled on horseback to visit settlers in Huns Valley (now Polonia), Erickson, Sandy Lake and finally the Oakburn-Rossburn area. It took him all summer to visit the scattered parish and in 1902, he encouraged the settlers to take up the task of building a church in the district five miles north and one mile east of Oakburn. Mike Sytnyk, Hnat's father, helped Father Dalaere hire Mr. Black to haul the logs with his horses. Sam and John Yanick, with the help of Mr. Andreychuk and some 150 parishioners, built the church. It was named St. John Cantius and upon its completion, when the land was surveyed, it was found to be standing on a public road allowance.

In 1901, there were 10 marriages, 103 baptisms, and 1 funeral. The first recorded marriage which took place in the church was that of Anna Yaskiw to Michael Hrycak in 1902. The first baptism was that of Nick Macsymchuk, son of Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Macsymchuk. Church records show that between the years 1901 to 1910, there were 178 marriages, 1,013 baptisms and 76 funerals. After this, membership began to decline because other churches in the area were built. (Olha Greek Catholic Church in 1907, Roman Catholic Chapel on east side of Rossman Lake in 1910 and Seech Greek Catholic Church in 1913). In 1914, there were still, however, 122 families belonging to the St. John Cantius Church.

In 1925, Father L. J. Kreciszewski started to organize the construction of a new church. It was completed under Father Macaszek's direction. On November 2, 1928, shortly after Father Kurys replaced Father Macaszek, the old log church was torn down because it was on the road allowance. On this same day, a fire burned the new church to the ground. Once again, these people were without a church but not for long. In the summer of 1929, a new church was built for a cost of \$6000 and free of debt upon its completion. On August 15 of that same year, Archbishop Sinnott blessed it and gave it the title The Assumption. The first marriage in this church was Bill Allen to Molly Zimmerman. This church still stands today and Mass is celebrated here once a year on the Sunday closest to August 15.

In 1943, the resident priest, Father Lopuszanski, moved to reside in Rossburn and The Assumption Church then became a mission of the Rossburn Parish, presently served by Father Rygusiak.

Priests serving the St. John Cantius Parish (The Assumption Parish) were Father Adelbert Kulaway 1902, Father Dalaere 1903 and his two assistants Father E. Vrijdaeg and Father H. Borgonie, Father Finka 1905, Father Margos 1906, Father Szaynowski 1910, Father Dr. Korvin Szymonowski 1911, Father Plucinski to 1920, Father Kreciszewski 1925, Father



St. John Cantius Chapel, (Roman Catholic), Oakburn. The people who settled on the homesteads all participated in building this first chapel in 1902. The settlers it took in were scattered throughout 3 townships.

Macaszek 1927, Father Kurys, Father Borkowicz, Father Lozinski, Father Buska, Father Faber, Father Jerome Podbielski and Father Lopuszanski.

I could not find committee members from 1900 to 1906 or from 1912 to 1920. Some of the members who served on the committee were Anton Shurgot, Mike Sitko, Lucas Zegalski, Gresko Skavinski, Frank Zegalski, Stanley Skavinski and Alex Zemianski. Since 1972, a new committee was chosen namely, Frank Sitko, Walter Hachkowski and John Kustiak.

Submitted by Walter Hachkowski
Shoal Lake, Manitoba

St. Theresa Roman Catholic Church

Official opening service of St. Theresa Roman Catholic Church, located on Victoria Avenue West in Rosscurn, was held on Sunday, August 10, 1958.

Officiating Clergy for the occasion were: Rev. Father Frank Kosakiewicz, superior of Holy Ghost Oblate district (deacon); Rev. Father Anthony Bajsik of Melville, Sask. (sub-deacon); Rev. Father Sur-oviak, newly ordained priest (celebrant) and the local parish priest, Rev. Father J. F. Cieply who was in charge of the service.

The church had been formerly located on the east side of Rosscurn Lake and had been moved to Rosscurn in the fall of 1957. The building, formerly known as Christ the King Roman Catholic Church, was set on its new foundation in 1958.

Historical records, supplied by the Archdiocese of Winnipeg, indicate that part of the property was



St. Theresa Roman Catholic Church.

purchased in November 1943, and the remainder of the property in 1945. It is presumed the first lots were for the Church and the last lot purchased for the rectory.

A small church building was located on the property that had been acquired and served the parish in Rosscurn for nearly 15 years, until a gradually increasing congregation necessitated larger church facilities.

The Blessing of the Church took place on July 21, 1959 officiated at by the Most Rev. Philip Pocock, D.D., Archbishop of Winnipeg. The service marked the completion of the project which commenced with the moving of the Church of the Rosscurn Farms congregation into town. The former, smaller church building was removed to make way for the larger church building. The former church building of the Rosscurn Farms congregation was completely renovated — and the full basement was completed.

Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic Church at Mohyla

The first settlers of the Mohyla district were the Ukrainians who came in 1900. The district became known as "Mohyla" which means, hill, as the area was very hilly and densely forested.

As the distance that the Ukrainian Catholic faithful had to travel to surrounding churches, was quite significant, the people decided, in 1908, to build their own place of worship. A committee made up of Nykola Glushka, Fred Protasewich, Matthew Hasiuk, and Alex Oryniak Sr., became the organizers of this project.

In 1914 a church, of frame construction, was built on a five acre plot of land donated by Maksym Checkowsky on the south east quarter section 22-21-24. The cemetery and belfry were also located on the same plot.

The following members of the parish helped organize and build the church: Iwan and Theodore Bidochka, Roman Bartkiw, Wasyl Burynekewich, Peter Checkowsky, Peter Cherwoniak, Kornlyo Chop, Andrew and Wasyl Derlaga, Anna Dychakowski, Andrew Hryciuk, Iwan and Peter Hasiuk, Dmytro Kitlar, Fred and Ivan Kozun, Nykyta Kawka, Mahey Kostiuik, Andrew Klysch, Ivan Levitsky, Karl and Woytko Maydaniuk, Mike Nowosad, Alex Oryniak, Sr. and Jr., Panko Ozariw, Fred Silewich, Nykola and Theodore Semaniuk, Sam Sawarchuk, Sam Sokolan, Sam Saley, Wasyl Spilchuk, Maksym Skochylas, Iwan Sabesky, Nykola Sacharko, Dmytro Trakalo, Panko and Stefan Verbowski, and Harasym Opleta Wonitoway.

The head carpenters in the construction of the church were Alex Oryniak, Sr., Andrew Hryciuk,

Wasył Spilchuk and Fred Silewich — numerous others helped as the building of this church symbolized the pioneers' faith in God and would fulfill their spiritual needs.

The first priest to serve Holy Trinity Church was Father Nestor Drohomereski.

The church continued to serve its parishioners throughout the years until 1966 when, due to population and membership decline, the church was officially closed. The last church service held was the annual Praznik on the church holiday known as Zelani Svetu (Green Holidays) on May 30, 1966. The remaining few parishioners then joined the Sacred Heart of Jesus Ukrainian Catholic Church in Rosssburn. The annual graveside service for the souls of the deceased is held each year, weather and roads permitting.



Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic Church — Mohyla (1940).

The church was tragically lost in a fire in 1977. A brush fire of unknown origin was spreading and making its way towards the church yard when the local firemen with the help of area residents extinguished the fire and made a fire guard around the church and belfry. During the night the fire mysteriously rekindled and burned down both the church and belfry. Many of the former parishioners were deeply saddened as part of their lives from younger days had been lost with the church.

At the present time a sign etched on hard-wood is being made up and will be erected at the church yard

which will commemorate the site and will serve as a symbol of the dedication and perseverance of our Ukrainian pioneers.

Ukrainian Catholic Church of the Ascension, Ruthenia

Ukrainian Catholic Church of the Ascension is located on the south-west corner of the SW ¼ of sec. 28-21-25. This church is about fourteen miles north-west of the Village of Rosssburn.

This church was built in 1911 on land donated by the late Trofym Dutchak and is of frame construction. It has a belfry and the cemetery is located just across the creek.

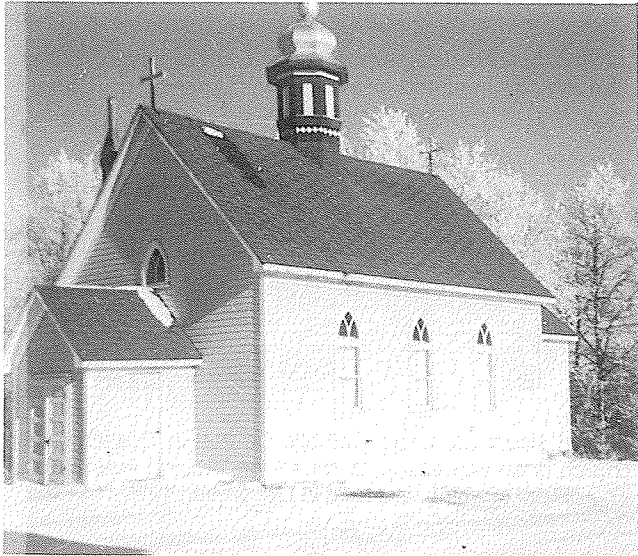
The first church was built of logs about the year 1909 but was never completed. Due to lack of finances and various petty disagreements, it was dismantled and the new church was built in a more central location. The church has all the vestments etc. and is still in use, fulfilling the spiritual needs of the faithful.

Before the church was built, services were held in the homes of the early settlers and a missionary priest by the name of Father Delaere visited them, contributing his services during 1900-04. He inspired them to build a place of worship. This church served the needs of the people of the old school districts of Ruthenia and Glen Elmo. The highlights of this church were the visits of Bishop, the Right Reverend Vladimir Ladyka in 1930 and again in 1940.

Ruthenia is a district in the north-western part of the R.M. of Rosssburn and was pioneered predominately by Ukrainian immigrants beginning in 1900. They came from the province of Halychena (Latinized to Galicia) which was a part of the Austrian-Hungarian empire and ruled by the Hapsburg line of kings for centuries. After World War I it was ceded to Poland and today is part of the Soviet Republic of the Ukraine, commonly called Western Ukraine.

The tombstones in the cemetery are a permanent record of the early settlers, who tamed a harsh wilderness so that their descendants would have a better life.

The pioneers who organized and helped build this parish were: Father Delaere, Joseph Wladyka, Ivan Baydak, Alex Boychuk, Roman Gayowsky, Ivan and Yakiw Deydey, Hnatiw Kostiw, Stefan Kot-san, Sam and Ivan Pushka, Fedir Pushka, Yurko Walko, Fred and Harry Wushky, Nykola Verbowski, Wasył Kaban, Ivan Derkach, Nykola Juce, Benedict Laskowsky, Wasył Nahirniak (Nahirnay), and Trofym Dutchak.



Ukrainian Catholic Church of the Ascension at Ruthenia as seen in 1975.

Sacred Heart of Jesus Ukrainian Catholic Church, Rosssburn, Manitoba

At the end of 19th and beginning of 20th century immigration of Ukrainian settlers began to flow into the Rosssburn district from the western province of Galicia, which was, at that time, under Austro-Hungarian domination. They were looking for economic opportunities, freedom and a better life. They were followed by Catholic priests sent out by Metropolitan Andrew Sheptychy from Lwiw to serve the spiritual needs of the faithful. They started to organize parishes and build churches. In the years 1904-1914 there were already churches built at Olha, Lakedale, Ruthenia, Rosssburn Farm and Mears (Mohyla), where the people could worship. There was no Ukr. Catholic church in Rosssburn, the few Ukrainian Catholics attended neighboring churches and then started to have services in the private homes of Michael Raginski and Andrew Derlago. The priests, Father Constantine Zarsky and then Father Cyril Lotocky, lived in their residence by Olha church and held their services. They encouraged the people to build the church in Rosssburn.

The first church meeting took place on January 14, 1941 at the home of A. Derlago with Father C. Lotocky chairing the meeting. The first committee was formed with Peter Gluch (Sr) as vice-chairman, Michael Osadec — secretary and Stephen Shust — treasurer. They bought two acres of land from Harry Bilinsky for \$300 and in 1943-44 built the church, which was 24 by 30 feet, and named it the “Sacred Heart of Jesus Ukrainian Catholic Church.” The parish was served by Fathers Marian Shwed and then Joseph Fornalchuk who at that time resided at Oakburn. In 1947 Father Roman Zakrewsky from An-

gusville organized the branch of “Ukrainian Catholic Women’s League” with Carol Kachan — president, Olga Wolanyk — secretary and Juzefa Kuz — treasurer. This organization and another one, “Sisterhood” are very active all the years and worked very hard for the church.



Sacred Heart of Jesus Ukrainian Catholic Church, Rosssburn (1943-71).

At the end of 1948 Father Ewgen Olynek, the first resident priest, was appointed for Rosssburn and Missions. The parish was built in 1949 the manse by the church and in 1953 — parish hall.

On August 1st, 1956 Father John Lehky was appointed as a parish priest for Rosssburn and Missions. He came from Fisher Branch and replaced Father Olynek. The activities in the parish continued: teaching of catechism and Ukrainian language on Saturdays, and concerts with children and members of Ukr. Cath. Youth. Cantor John Sydor from Oakburn was replaced by Edward Shust and Dmytro Glushka. In 1960 members of Sts. Peter and Paul Church (Rosssburn Farm), and in 1966 members of Holy Trinity Church (Mohyla) joined Rosssburn church, so the membership in Rosssburn church increased and the church became too small. The members made a resolution to build a new, bigger church. At the general parish meeting held July 6, 1965 a Building Committee of 13 members, with Wally Perchaluk as chairman, were elected. The plan of the new church was drawn by J. R. Matthews, Architect from Yorkton, Sask., and approved by our Metropolitan Maxim Hermaniuk, and Harry Komhyr was hired as contractor. The parish started raising funds by arranging bingos, bazaars, and the ladies by catering to weddings and other occasions but most of all by generous contributions of the members and other

benefactors. Peter Kreshewski excavated the basement, free of charge, next the foundation was poured, the floor, the walls, the roof were made and 3 domes were put on the roof. Electric heating, glass doors, and stained windows were installed. The dimensions of the new church are 119 feet by 55 feet.

The official opening of the church took place December 20, 1970 at 2:30 p.m, during Manitoba's Centennial Year, by celebrating High Mass by Father Vladimir Luchiw from Neepawa and parish priest with many parishioners and guests. Beside the new large church still stood the old one, that was bought by Charlie Derlago for \$250 and was removed April 5, 1971. In 1972 the parish received, from the Canadian Government, the sum of \$6,318 as a "Winter Project" and the money was used for basement improvement. On Dec. 19, 1971 the Building Committee, that so devotedly and voluntarily worked for the church and for the glory of God, at the annual parish meeting, was dissolved and the responsibility of the parish affairs was taken over by the church committee of 6 persons with parish priest as chairman. On June 25, 1972 Archbishop Maxim Hermaniuk blessed the cornerstone (donated by George and Nellie Lazaruk and their children), and on August 31, 1980 he solemnly blessed the church, assisted by Father S. Borys from Shoal Lake and Father John Lehky — parish priest here for 25 years, and with many people present at the service and at the banquet.

The church has a P/A system that was installed in 1972, new pews were bought in 1974 with a seating capacity together with the balcony for 260, new altars in 1976 and 3 beautiful wall pictures, painted by artist Theodore Baran in 1978 and paid by a few of our members. There is also a beautiful bell-tower built free of charge by one of our members, Edward Shust, in 1978 with two bells, one smaller donated by the late Catherina Fostakowski, and the larger one is from Holy Trinity church at Mears (Mohyla).

Under the church building there is a large hall with a kitchen, furnished in 1979-1980, which is used for parish needs, such as lunches, meetings, children's catechism, etc. The priest's residence, built in 1949, was renovated and enlarged in 1978, and in 1980 the parish built a new one-car garage.

The church and manse ground is surrounded with spruce trees, which are trimmed every spring. The parish cemetery is located 1.5 miles north of Rosscurn. The ground for the cemetery was donated by Joe Glushka and leveled and worked over by the late Michael Kostecki, in 1942. The cemetery also has spruce trees and shrubs all around.

In 1981 Sacred Heart parish has about 170 members, with Church Committee, Ukrainian Catholic



Sacred Heart Ukrainian Catholic Church in Rosscurn. The church is an impressive landmark on Victoria Avenue East. The official opening was held in December, 1970.

Women's League, Sisterhood, Ukrainian Catholic Youth Club and church choir with Edward Shust and John Glushka as cantors. The church owns a fine building, but the real church is the people of God. The parish has the privilege to be the part of one, Holy, Catholic (Universal) and Apostolic Church with about 700 millions faithful in the world, founded nearly two thousand years ago the Son of God Jesus Christ, who is an invisible Head of the Church, and with Pope of Rome — the visible Head — now John Paul II and the 264th successor of St. Peter. Her prime purpose is to glorify God and lead His people till we meet Him in the blessed eternity.

Contributed by Rev. John Lehky

St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church Olha, Manitoba

Olha is one of the oldest settlements in this area as it was here that the early pioneers emigrated to in 1899. St. Michael's Church was the first Ukrainian Catholic and was also known as the "Central" church as it served to the spiritual needs of its faithful for many miles around. It was built in 1904, situated on a well cleared area approximately 8 miles north of Oakburn on six acres of land donated by Wasyl Luhowy. The church of frame construction was built by carpenters John and Peter Koltuski. It also has the most beautiful ikonostas and chandelier. In 1927 the church was painted by Jacob Maydanuik. The cost of the church and its contents amounted to \$2,000.00. Near the church is a belfry built by Nykola Dmyterko. In 1915 a rectory was built by the church but was later sold.

It is unfortunate that no record is available to establish the first church board, but the following members contributed to the organizing of this parish: Andrew and John Antonation, Harasym Osadec, Wasyl Swystun, Hryhory Maduke, Anton Pawchuk,

Anton Kalyshyn, Panko Luhowy, John and Peter Koltuski, John Bucklaschuk, Mykyta Kryswaty, Theodore Stebeleski, John Herchak, John Swereda, John Goletz, Mykola Kuzyk, Onofry Malanchuk, Zachary Jumaga, Metro Nychuk, Theodore Tokaryk, Wasyl Luhowy, Nykola Topolnickyy, George Ewanyshyn, Anton Danyluk, Mykola Maydanuik, Manuliak Chegus.

From 1899 to 1904 the parish was served by Father Delaere (a Roman Catholic of Belgium descent.) In 1904 Father Hura (the first Greek Catholic) organized the Olha Church. Father Didyk and Father Kryzanowsky conducted the first services in the new church. St. Michael's Church at Olha was consecrated in November 1907. Priests who followed were: Sholdak, Drohomiretsky, Kraykiwsky, Oleksiw, Radkewicz, Kamenetsky, Irha, Krywysky, Pasychnyk, Hryhorychuk, Zarsky, Lotosky, Kosaba, Shwed, and Olynky.

In 1956 Father John Lehky arrived to reside in Rosburn and has served faithfully the parish of Olha as well as several surrounding parishes including Rosburn. He is the only priest who served these parishes the longest — 25 years.

In 1981 the parishes honored Father Lehky for his dedication, perseverance and faithfulness. He was presented with a plaque and gold watch at a banquet held in his honor.

The cemetery lies adjacent to the church and is well maintained by volunteers. In 1981 a new fence has added to its appearance.

Mr. Philip Belinski was the first cantor and served for many years. After his death a local parishioner John Sydor served until he moved to Oakburn. Dmytro Glushka from Rosburn was the cantor until his demise. Walter Swereda from Shoal Lake is our present cantor.



St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church, Olha.

In 1910 Metropolitan Andrew Shepticky visited St. Michael's Church. Bishop Budka made several visits. Archbishop Vasyly made a visit in 1935, Archbishop Maxim Hermanuik made several visits over the years, the last in September 1969.

Today the church stands as a symbol to the brave dedicated pioneers who braved the journey to the unknown land, and paved the way for their children and grandchildren. Indeed the young generation is very proud of this edifice.

Though there is no evidence of any records prior to 1917, however that year a board of directors was elected comprising of: President — John Shwaluk; Financial Secretary — Wasyl Luhowy; Recording Secretary — Michael Wasilka; Treasurer — John Boklaschuk; Auditors — Dmytro Luhowy, John Osadec; Elder (Starshy Brat) — Harry Maduke.

Over the years, many members held positions in different capacities, some serving longer than others.

A residing priest drove a one-horse cutter in winter and a buggy in summer so a small barn was constructed near the residence. In 1946, the residence was sold to Steve Pohanyko and the barn dismantled. The faithful members volunteered to beautify their place of worship by planting trees and keeping the cemetery and church yard weed-free. Later a caretaker was hired. A parking lot was scrubbed, gravel provided and the roadway improved. In 1951, Tony Kalinovich, Oakburn, installed electricity, adding to the beauty of the candle lights and the chandelier. Because of the high dome, electric heat had not been installed and a wood heater provides heat in church.

To name the members who served on the church committee from 1917-1982 are the following: Michael Antonation, Hnat Mitz, Onofrey Dnistranski, Michael Yanyk, Anton Kalyshen, Dmytro Kowal, Peter Shwaluk, Dmytro Nowosad, George Mychasiw, Hnat Budiwski, John Shkwarok, Joseph Michalyshen, Steve Boychuk, Wasyl Swistun, Nicholas Borody, Theodore Kurchaba, Victor Topolnickyy, Philip Bilinski, Stanley Antonation, John Woychechowski, Paul Luhowy, Alex Dnistranski, Wasyl Kowal, Theodore Stebeleski, Nichola Kashton, John Sydor, Danylo Topolnickyy, Steve Nychek, Anton Kryswaty, Dmytro P. Kowal, Stanley Drozda, Joseph Maduke, Sam Sheeshka, Peter Tokaryk, Peter Woycheshen, Steve Antonation, Theodore Twerdochlib, Steve Pohanyko, Mike Werzak, Peter J. Maduke, Peter Kowal, Peter K. Maduke, Matt Shwaluk, Nick Shwaluk, John Stebeleski, Fred Posmituck, Joseph Luhowy, Mike Twerdochlib, Milton Tokaryk, Walter Swereda, Peter Nychek, Joseph Dnistranski, Matt Mychasiw, Frank Nizinowski, Peter Kashton, Bill Gerelus, Rudy

Kristalovich, Johnny Mychasiw, Harry Kawchuk, Melvin Balan.

It would be remiss not to mention the active women members who walked several miles to do general church cleaning before each service (1917-40, usually once, sometimes twice a month). After 1940, many younger women drove automobiles which alleviated much walking.

In 1926, St. Barbara's Altar Society was formed which still exists. Through meager church fees, donations, church functions — bazaars, dinners, a considerable sum of money has accumulated. The society helped in purchasing the beautiful cemetery fence.

Mrs. Anne Mychasiw and Mrs. Mary Mychasiw (sisters) embroidered beautiful altar cloths, while other members brought artificial flowers for interior decoration.

Records beginning in 1925, up to the present time show the following who served on the women's board of directors: Anna Drozda, Lena Shwaluk, Anna Shwaluk, Yaga Antonation, Antoshka Luhowy, Franka Antonation, Justina Wasilka, Rosalia Osadec, Rosalia Maduke, Lena Kryswaty, Magdalena Tokaryk, Palania Shkwarok, Frozena Kowal, Magda Yanyk, Anna Stebeleski, Lena Tokaryk, Teklia Boychuk, Carolina Dnistranski, Katerina Dnistranski, Justina Woychechowski, Warwara Budiwski, Helen Antonation, Maria Borody (Nykola), Petrunela Borody (Joseph), Wasylena Wasilka, Irena Danyluk, Rosalia Michalyshen, Antonia Luhowy, Katerina Kryswaty, Julia Kowal, Rosalia Twerdochlib, Shirley Tokaryk, Anne Kowal (Peter), Pauline Shwaluk, Mary Wasilka, Mary Stebeleski, Mary Woycheshen, Annie Maduke, Eileen Mychasiw, Victoria Drozda, Lena Nycek, Ruth Kawchuk.

Since 1950, records have been more concise and the following served consecutively for 20 years or more. Annie Maduke (President), Mary Wasilka, Victoria Drozda and Lena Nycek.

Peter Nycek (President — 15 years), Milton Tokaryk, 20 years as recording secretary. Stanley Drozda served for more than 30 years in different capacities.

Sts. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church Rossburn Farms

A very appropriate and eloquent inscription was made on the inside cover of the first minute book of the Sts. Peter and Paul Parish. When translated from Ukrainian into English this inscription reads: "This record book should not be taken from the Church. In it is written the names of those parishioners who built this Church, glorified and maintained it. Mass must



This 1915 photo depicts a group of members of Sts. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church including: Back Row (L to R): Safron Sheremeta, Tymko Zapuchliak, Roman Ewanyshyn. Second Row (L to R): Wasyl Shmyr, Anna Hrycak, Alex Kachan. Standing at left side: Harry Gurnick. Seated, Front Row (L to R): Fedor Hullick, Father Drohomereski, Trochym Mackedenski.

be celebrated each year for the souls of the deceased parishioners as long as the Greek Catholic religion is reigning (is observed), Brothers in Christ, pray for our souls."

This inscription was written by Michael Marzniuk, Secretary for the Parish in 1907.

Let us pray that all succeeding generations of our pioneer forefathers will honour their memories and glorify their faith in God and the Church by maintaining their traditions, culture and respect for the righteous and forever be grateful for their forefathers' devotion and perseverance in building this great nation.

The first Ukrainian settlers came to Rossman Lake area in 1899. For the first few years Mass was celebrated at the homes of the settlers by travelling clergy, one of whom was Father Archilles Delaere, a Belgian priest of Roman Catholic faith. One Sunday in 1901, after Mass was celebrated by Father Delaere in the home of Stefan Panas, an organizational meeting was held and the first parish in the area was formed. The first elders were Alex Yacyshyn, Prokip Hrycak, Nykola Sidlar and Andrew Shust. The building and cemetery sites were donated by Stefan Panas, (N.E. 14-20-24), a half mile south of Rossman Lake. The Church was built that year through the volunteer efforts of the area settlers. The church was referred to as the "Independent Church" as it served Ukrainian settlers of all denominations. This was the first church built in the area but unfortunately did not serve the Catholic parishioners for long.

Members of a Russian-Orthodox religious sect

known as Serafyni arrived and created dissension amongst the parishioners and the Catholic faithful had to build another church for themselves.

In 1903 a meeting was held at the Hrankowski home and it was decided to build a new church on a twelve acre site donated by Maksym Yaskiw (S.E. 12-20-24). The organizers of the church building committee were Wasyl Shmyr, Nykola Sidlar, Andrew Shust and Maksym Yaskiw.

In 1904 the construction of a new church commenced and through the hard work and efforts of many volunteers, was eventually completed.

The first cemetery was situated on a two acre parcel of land at the north east corner of the quarter section, the second is located close to the church at the south east corner.

The natural setting of the church is one to behold; it is nestled within nature's own confines on a small hill surrounded by green poplars and spruce embraced by a very peaceful and quiet tranquillity. A more beautiful site could not have been selected!

The first mass was celebrated by Father Hura in 1904, the first bishop to visit the church was His Excellency, Nykyta Budka in 1913 and the church was blessed by His Most Rev. Basil Ladyka, D.D., Bishop of Canada on June 9, 1935.

The first parishioners as recorded in the minute book of 1907 were: Danylo Chwaluk, Dmytro Charney, George Chicheluk, Fedor Chuhai, Kornylo Chopp, Michael Chegus, Hilko Danyliuk, Roman Ewanyshyn, Alex Hrycak, Michael Hrycak, Prokip Hrycak, Hrynko Herchak, Alex Hullick, John Hrankowski, Yakiw Hullick, Fedor Hullick, Alex Kachan, Onofrey Korolyk, Yurko Lazaruk, Michael Luhowy, Michael Maryniuk, Hilko Matskiw, Andrew Matskiw, Trofym Mackedenski, Hryhory Pomehichuk, Stefan Panas, Andrew Shust, Nykola Sidlar, Paul Slobodeski, Joseph Sianchuk, Danylo Shewchuk, Wasyl Stech, Wasyl Shmyr, Safran Sheremata, Andrew Topniak, Maksym Yaskiw, Yurko Yaskiw, Petro Yaskiw, Semko Yanick and Tymko Zapuchliak. Within a few years more of the Ukrainian Catholics became members of the parish, these were: Fedko Antoniwi, Hrynko Berehulka, Hryn Belinski, Onofrey Belinski, Petro Chupa, Paul Chegus, Mykyta Ewanyshyn, Alex Fostakowski, Kazik Glugash, Wasyl Hubinski, Florian Hrankowski, Nykola Kachan, Semko Klym, Michael Komhyr, Demian Lazaruk, Michael Leschasin, Ewan Pradiniuk, Michael Raginski, Ewan Ryshytylo, Ewan Stech, Wasyl Sidlar, Michael Shust, Michael Sidlar, Victor Shmyr, Wasyl Yanick, and Wladimer Yaskiw.

The sacrifices made by the parishioners were many but they were determined that their spiritual needs would be fulfilled. They all gave of their time

and efforts and, although the times were difficult, they donated money and bought various furnishings for the church.

The records indicate that: Maksym Yaskiw, Yakiw Hullick, and Tachia Kachan donated bells for the belfry, Yakiw also donated a sanctuary lamp and Evanhelias, (Gospel Book) and Maksym a holy picture; Fedor Maduke, a sanctuary lamp, Maria Belinski, Maria and Nastia Zapuchliak donated floor rugs; John Topniak — two holy pictures and Dorata Shewchuk — a phelon (clergy's cloak).

Sts. Peter and Paul through the years, has been served by the following devoted fathers:

Pre.-1908 — Father A. Delaere
 1908-09 — Father N. Kryzanowsky
 1910-14 — Father J. Didyk
 1915-16 — Father Nestor Drohomereski
 17 — Father Peter Kamenecky
 1918-20 — Father A. Kraykiwsky
 1920-24 — Father Peter Oleksiw
 1921-22 — Dr. Father Ambrose Radkewych
 1924-29 — Father Michael Ircha
 1929-31 — Father Myron Krywicki
 1931-34 — Father Peter Pasichnyk
 1934-37 — Father Michael Hryhoreychuk
 1936-37 — Father Peter Sulatycky
 1938-40 — Father Constantine Zarski
 1940- — Father Theodore Kocaba
 1940-41 — Father Cyril Lotosky
 1941-46 — Father Maryon Shwed
 1946-49 — Father Joseph Fornalchuk
 1949-56 — Father Evhen Olynek
 1956-60 — Father John Lehky

The first priests to serve the parishes throughout the area were itinerant, usually coming from Winnipeg by rail and being driven to and from the railway station by one of the parishioners who would also provide food and lodging during the priest's stay. It was not till the later years that residences were built so that priests would have more permanent quarters and would be in a better position to serve their congregations.

One of the highlights of the year was the annual Sts. Peter and Paul religious holiday of July 12th, (after which the church was named) when whole families, from near and far, would walk and drive by horse



Sts. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church, Rossburn Farms.

drawn vehicles to church for the celebration of the Divine Liturgy and "Praznik". After church service, the ladies of the congregation would prepare a sumptuous meal in the kitchen of the belfry and all the parishioners and their families along with the visitors would feast and socialize in the church yard with their friends and relatives. In later years, thirties to fifties, a confectionery booth was set up which sold ice cream, chocolate bars, and soft drinks. Every one looked forward for July 12 to roll around.

During the fifties and sixties the rural areas experienced a dwindling in its populace, the older people retired to the villages and towns and many of the younger folk migrated to the cities in search of jobs and better opportunities. The exodus of people was such that it affected the style of rural living quite severely, many of the schools and churches were closed as they were too costly to operate and the number of students/parishioners was at an all time low. The parish of Sts. Peter and Paul wasn't any different from most other rural parishes and due to the small number of parishioners, the church was officially closed on December 13, 1959. The last Praznik was held on July 12, 1960.

Although the church was officially closed, the doors were still open during the summer months when visitors and former parishioners would drop in to the church to spend a few moments and recall past memories or to say a prayer for a loved one, resting eternally in the nearby cemetery.

The church and belfry continued to deteriorate for nearly twenty years, as no one seemed to care very much. The grass on the cemetery was cut once a year, usually just prior to the memorial service held annually, and descendants of the deceased would clean up around the grave sites and plant or place flowers around the monuments.

It was not until 1978 when a resurgence of moral and cultural values took place and people began to realize that abandoned and forgotten churches, as well as schools and other sites of historical significance, were the roots of our culture and heritage. These buildings and sites were the tears and sweat of our pioneer forefathers. Their perseverance, dedication and faith in God, was what moulded this country into what it is today.

A restoration program commenced in 1978. This program was initiated through the Parkland Ukrainian Pioneer Association, a non-profit organization comprised of area residents whose objectives are to encourage and promote the retention of Slavic culture in the area and to restore historical sites and buildings of the pioneer era.

On May 15, 1978 a general meeting was held with former members of the church and other interested

citizens. In attendance as guests and advisors were Cecil Semchyshyn and Orest Matkowski from the Department of Tourism, Recreation and Cultural Affairs; Mae Chwaluk and Bill Antonow, from the Parkland Ukrainian Pioneer Association; Roger Lowe and Bob Curle, Rural Development Officers, and Father John Lehky.

It was decided to proceed with plans to restore the church and a sub-committee of P.U.P.A. was formed. The elected officials were: President — Ernie Antonow; Vice President — Ed Shust; Secretary Treasurer — Marion Antoniow; Advisors — Nick Maryniuk, Mike Antoniow, and Father Lehky.

An earnest program of soliciting donations began. Former members, their children and grandchildren, from near and far, generously donated in excess of \$3000 and along with a Canada Works labour grant, the restoration program began in the Spring of 1979. As the people were anxious to hold the annual Praznik that year to commemorate the seventy fifth anniversary of the church's building (1904-1979), numerous work parties were organized to clean up the church yard and cemetery sites, remove the wild bush growth and erect a fence around the church and cemetery.

The ladies scrubbed and washed the church interior and the employees under the Canada Works Program repaired the church structure, re-shingled the roof and painted the exterior.

The many hours of hard work and dedication to the cause by the association, members and volunteers was highly rewarded on Thursday, July 12, 1979 when the first Praznik in nineteen years was being held. The day dawned sunny and warm as car after car streamed into the church yard for the 10.30 A.M. service with approximately two hundred and fifty to two hundred and seventy five, from as far away as Vancouver, Montreal, Toronto, and Detroit attending. One was very grateful to hear comments such as, "It is like the day I left here," and "It seems that nothing has changed here in over twenty years." It brought back nostalgic memories to many of the older citizens.

After the church and grave-side services, a luncheon and short program followed. Speakers were Father Lehky, Mae Chwaluk and Harry Boychuk. The theme of their addresses was that we, as third and fourth generation Ukrainian Canadians should not, and must not, forget our heritage and the sacrifices of our forefathers whose hard work and perseverance has made the quality of life in this country so beautiful. We, the present generation, should strive to do everything possible to promote and foster our rich culture and heritage, and that our

children should not be allowed to forget their native language, customs and traditions.

In the summer of 1980 the belfry was repaired, re-shingled and painted and now both the church and belfry stand out vividly with their new coats of shining white, contrasted by the black roofs in a picturesque setting of Nature's green.

Let us hope and pray that future generations will continue with the task of preserving and cherishing the riches of our heritage first undertaken by our pioneer forefathers.

By Ernie Antonow

Ukrainian Greek Orthodox Independent Church

**Rossmann Lake
(NE 14-20-24)**

In the Old Country, the church had been a central part of the lives of the Ukrainian people.

These families longed to bring up their children in their religion and culture.

As my mother would say, "The people without church were fish without water."

These families longed to baptize, marry off their children, and bury the dead with proper ceremonies. The church was needed to celebrate Holy festivities such as Christmas and Easter.

Also, our pioneers in those days had priests who had arrived from Europe and held such religious services in the homes of these immigrants.

The church reappeared in Canada, although in the early years, members of all sects worshipped together.

The first meeting was held at the home of Stephen Panas N.E. 14-20-24, a half mile south of Rossmann Lake, presently owned by Adolph Flaman.

At this meeting it was decided to build a church structure, under the name of Ukr. Greek Orthodox Independent Church, where Mr. Panas had donated a parcel of land for the building.

The church structure was started in 1901, and it took two years to complete the building; along with a church house for the parish priest. Services were held every Sunday. In 1903, the first priest to officiate was Rev. John Danylchuk, where he served the parish from 1903-1908. The Cantors were Kornel Hrankowsky and Mr. Panas (John and Kay's father). In 1908 with Rev. M. Hootnikewich, who was married and had two daughters, officiated then, the name of the church was then changed to "Serophyncka", creating a dispute and disunion amongst the people.

The Ukrainian Catholics had their Sts. Peter and Paul church on a 12 acre site, Rossmann Farms (1904); the Roman Catholics had their St. John Cantius Church (1902); and the Protestants built their church

St. Johns Ukr. United Church (1914). The church was turned into a library and it also served as a place for social gatherings.

However, baptisms, marriages and funerals were still performed, but only with special permission. Some of the marriages recorded are: John and Okcana Antonichuk were married in 1908. My parents, Dmytro and Warwara Wowk, were married on Feb. 13, 1910, and M. Koltecks were married a week later.

The church was abandoned, but it was not known the exact year, though it is believed to have been still standing in 1919. Then one day John Zaveruka's house burned down and a few of the church members that were left, suggested that Mr. Zaveruka tear the church down and build himself a house, which he did.

Some of the families, who are known, to have been members, were: Dimyan Lazaruk, Yarmey, Zaveruka, Yaskiw, Prosyk, Prokip Hrytsak, Cimmerman, Hrankowsky and Panas.

A quotation from "The Ukrainian Greek Orthodox Church in Canada" by Odarka S. Trosky:

Though Immigrants from the Ukraine were coming into Canada in ever-increasing numbers, no clergymen were among them. Helpless and confused in a strange world, the immigrants, through letters written to the Old Country, asked for priests to come to Canada to give them religious guidance.

In 1901 Metropolitan Andrew Sheptytsky, in his Pastoral Letter, promised to supply the Greek Catholics with priests.

The Greek Orthodox Church in Bukovina did not respond because North America was under the jurisdiction of the Russian Orthodox Church and to have supplied priests would have been contrary to the Orthodox policy. In 1902 a few priests and nuns were sent to Canada by the Greek Catholic Church in Western Ukraine.

In the meantime, the pioneers tried to satisfy their spiritual needs as well as they could. They gathered in private homes and chanted parts of the Mass.

When the settlers required a priest as in the case of a christening, marriage or funeral, they turned to a church that had some similarity to the kind of worship they had observed in the Old Country.

The Greek Catholics turned to Roman Catholic priests, who were either French or Polish; the Greek Orthodox turned to the Russian Orthodox clergy; while the remainder called upon the Protestant ministers.

Situations like these gave various denominations the opportunity to do missionary work but the result was a kind of paradox: being catered to by the various missionaries, the new settlers realized they were in a position of making a choice.

This was certainly an entirely new experience, one they had never seen before, let alone experience. In the Ukraine this would have been impossible.

These new pioneers quickly realized that in Canada, under a democratic government their decisions were made by choice and free will.

Hence, self-assertion was easy and was first manifested in religious expression.

With ever increasing confidence in a country that guarantees freedom of speech, conscience and association, the new settlers began to express quite openly their religious ideas and affiliations. The first Ukrainian settlements proved how independent the pioneers had become in Canada in such a short time. (P. 3 Odarka S. Trosky — "Ukr. Gr. Orthodox Church in Canada").

Today, there stands a lonely abandoned cemetery, of thirty-six adults and children of such religions as mentioned above and one Anglo-Saxon, that are resting there.

There are three grave-side markings and only a few names that are known to be resting there:

Mreayos Yarmey, Maksum Yarmey, two Yarmey children, a one year old and a six month old. Nastia Prosyk (my grandmother) and her seven week old infant daughter, Natalia, Hrankowsky, Anne Antoniwi, Irene Antonichuk — a four year old, Rose Cimmerman — a fifteen year old Kozak, and Dutchak.

This would be a record of an organized church existing from the turn to the second decade of this



A section of the cemetery and site of the former location of the Ukrainian Greek Orthodox Independent Church (half a mile south of Rossman Lake).

century which served the early Ukrainian Immigrants.

Due to no records of this church, I would like to thank all those who have given me information, especially: John Yarmey, Kay Serenetsky, John Panas, Mrs. John Parsons, Wm. Antoniwi, Jessie Wolsley, and my Mother, Warwara Wowk, who made it possible to mention our loved ones that are resting here.

Contributed by Myrtle Drul (granddaughter of Wasyl Prosyk)



Ukrainian Orthodox Church and congregation, Glen Elmo, 1932.

St. Marys' Ukrainian Orthodox Church Glen Elmo

The first Ukrainian Orthodox Church in the area was built in 1905. The land for the church and cemetery was donated by John Karmazenuk. The church was built out of logs by the parishioners who lived in the Glen Elmo district and desired a place of worship. The first church was built on the site where the cemetery is now situated.

As membership increased, this church became too small and the members decided to build a more modern, bigger church with a basement. The lumber was obtained by members going into the Riding Mountain Park, sawing logs, then taking them to Bob Peden's saw mill to be sawn and planed into lumber. Mr. Oxsanko Karpiuk was the main carpenter and with the willing help by church members, the present Church was built. It was completed in 1928, with the blessing and first service (Praznyk) held on August 28, 1928. One of the first ministers was Deacon Michael Poplowski. There were 40 families who were church members.

Due to the scarcity of priests, services were few. They were held on special holidays or when weather permitted a Minister to make the long journey by train, then by a team of horses. The ministers used to stay several days and up to two weeks. As a result, the people took advantage of the minister's presence by christening babies and all those planning marriage did so perhaps sooner than they had planned on.

The ministers used to board at the homes of Mrs. Wasylena Barnesky, Mrs. John Karmazenuk and Mrs. Bill Semeniuk. Mrs. John Karmazenuk did all the cooking for the men while they built the church.

There were a lot of activities held in those days. Children used to walk 3 miles, some more, some less, to learn to sing, dance and learn to read and write in the Ukrainian language. Classes were held two and three times a week.



Ukrainian Greek Orthodox Church, Glen Elmo, 1928. Sisterhood Executive, left to right: Mrs. Harry Mamalyga, Mrs. John Antonichuk, Mrs. Andrew Barnesky, Mrs. Semeniuk, Mrs. John Karmazenuk.

The basement of the church was put to good use with choir practises. Debates on different topics, a very active Cymk organization, and all concerts were held there as well. Some of the teachers were: Mary Karaluk, Nettie (Antonichuk) Parsons, John Storziuk, Mike Drosdowski, Andrew (Polmerchuk) Palmer, and Pete Bogara.

Because of declining memberships, the church is now used only once a year; on August 28 to celebrate its birthday with a Praznyk — a service and dinner. The minister who looks after the parish at present is Rev. Michael Skrumeda.

The following priests served the congregation of St. Mary's Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Rosssburn, (Glen Elmo).

From 1904-1925, there were no permanent (resident) clergy assigned to this church from any jurisdiction. At times, we are aware of several denominations coming to the need of the faithful's spiritual needs. Some were aggressive Protestants, seeking to do away with relics and traditions the people of Ukrainian descent had known and experienced in their homeland. In the interim of the years mentioned, clergy came from the Greek Catholic, Independent Missionary (later Protestant), Independent Mission (Orthodox), and mostly from the Russian Orthodox Mission with its centre in Minneapolis, USA.

Up to about 1925, the following names are available. Rev. Didyk, Rev. Bodruch, Rev. I. Danylchuk, Rev. Tymchuk, Rev. Poplowski, Rev. Galushka,

Rev. Ewanenko, Rev. Krehaiel, Rev. Koliaduk, Rev. Migdaliuk, Rev. Antonow, Rev. Bilych, Rev. Charambura.

Already, from 1922, Rev. Hrebenuk, from the Ukrainian Greek Orthodox Church of Canada came to serve. The chairman, now Very Rev. Dr. S. W. Sawchuk, served the church on an interim basis.

Rev. Nowosad	1926-1927	Rev. P. Glitsky	1952-1955
Rev. D. Leschyshyn	1927	Rev. J. Rybalka	1955-1958
Rev. Zapaniuk	1927-1930	Rev. J. Kulish	1958-1960
Rev. A. Beryk	1930-1934	Rev. Wm. Melnychuk	
Rev. Hrebenuk	1934-1937		1960-1963
Rev. S. Semchyh	1937-1941	Rev. J. Melnyk	1963-1966
Rev. T. Kowalyshyn	1941-1943	Rev. Shwetz	1966-1969
Rev. P. Kusi	1943-1944	Rev. Diachina	1969-1970
Rev. Wm. Fedak	1944-1948	Rev. M. Sokyryka	1970-1973
Rev. E. Ulyan	1948-1949	Rev. M. Skrumeda	1973-present
Rev. D. Stratyshuk	1949-1952		

The 75th Anniversary of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary at Glen Elmo was celebrated on August 24, 1980.



St. Elijah Ukrainian Orthodox Church.

Ukrainian Greek Orthodox Church of St. Elijah

The families in Rosssburn of the Greek Orthodox faith worshipped at the Glen Elmo and Vista Orthodox churches. With the arrival of several more families in the Fall of 1944 and Spring of 1945, the Rosssburn membership realized that their families were growing up with no church of their faith in the immediate vicinity.

One day while visiting at the home of Steve Ukrainetz, Rev. Wm. Fedak, who was serving as minister in the district between Angusville and

Sandy Lake, suggested that the Rossburn families of the Ukrainian Orthodox faith should start up a congregation of their own right in their town.

A meeting was called and held at the home of Molly and John Mamalyga on June 14, 1945. Fifteen families were represented. The meeting was chaired by Rev. Wm. Fedak, who also served as an advisor.

After some discussion an Executive Board was elected. President — Steve Ukrainetz, Vice President — John Mamalyga, Secretary — John Groshak, Treasurer — Mike Bucklaschuk. It was decided the congregation should be incorporated in the name of Ukrainian Greek Orthodox of St. Eliah, and this was done on June 19, 1945.

Now that the church congregation's executive was organized, money had to be raised for the construction of the new church. This is where the Ukrainian Ladies' Association, which already existed in the district, and whose membership was largely of the Ukrainian Greek Orthodox faith, got together and decided that this would be a worthy project to work on.

The Ladies Association served at banquets, held teas, bazaars, and raffles, sponsored socials, and put on any kind of event possible in order to raise money. The members were also asked to donate to the church's building fund. Plans for the church were drawn and a building committee was elected in 1950. Peter Hasiuk, who owned a farm just east of town, donated an acre of land and construction of the church started. Many people volunteered their time and labour toward the building of the church. The completion, official opening, and blessing of the church was held in August of 1967.

Throughout the years following, the Presidents of the Church's Executive were: Steve Ukrainetz, John Kiez, John Drul, Charlie Kornyk, Nick Lesiuk, Peter Hasiuk, Joe Nychuk, Nick Karmazenuk, Kasten Dowhan, Dan Kiez, Mike Ternovetsky, Kornel Shewaducky, and Mike Tanasychuk, who is the current President and has been for several years.

submitted by Mrs. Dora Ukrainetz

Holy Trinity Ukr. Greek Orthodox Church Vista

In 1930, the priests visited the community several times a year. Early settlers gathered at homes in order to serve religious services. Such services were mainly served at private homes such as Dmytro Wowk's, Petro Starenky's, and occasionally at Kost Bilinski's and Mike Matiation's. The first priest to officiate was O. D. Leshishin, later Reverends Nowasad and Zaparanuik.

The first meeting of the Presvyataya Troytsee

(Holy Trinity) Ukr. Greek Orthodox Church of Vista parish was held on May 16th, 1931 at the home of Petro Starenkys. Hnat Goletz acted as chairman and Dmytro Wowk as Secretary with the following eight members present: Andrew Weshnowetsky, Hnat Goletz, Michael Nychuk, Kost Bilinski, Wasyl Nychuk, Petro Starenky, Matvi Mischanchuk and Dmytro Wowk.

Elected trustees were: Hnat Goletz, Wasyl Nychuk and Kost Bilinski. The Executive consisted of Dmytro Wowk — President, Andrew Weshnowetsky — Secretary, and Petro Starenky — Treasurer. Wasyl Nychuk and Matvi Mischanchuk were auditors. At this meeting Petro Starenky donated two acres of land of S.E. ¼ 13-19-24 for the church and cemetery.

Even though organizing of the church began, it was not until their meeting of June 15 of the following year, that it was decided to start with the foundation the following month.

Much of the organization was done by people themselves. Pouring of the cement was done by voluntary labour.

The following individuals who helped lay the church foundation were Joseph and Frank Woychyshyn, Dmytro and Michael Wowk, Matvi Mischanchuk, Petro Starenky, Hnat and Ron Goletz, Kost Bilinski, Steve Nychuk, Sam Matiation, Mike Bewza and Andrew Weshnowetsky.

By December of the same year they had four new members who were Mike Bewza, Mike Sitko, Sam Matiation, and Joseph Woychyshyn. By now the members, had an amount of \$4.25 in their church account.

It was decided that the church structure was to be of Byzantine Architecture, Ukr. design with three domes.

Oksentey Karpiuk, had been hired as a building contractor, (who also donated much of his work). Logs were cut at the reserve.

Mike Bewza, at that time owned a sawmill, and he volunteered to cut 10,000 ft. of lumber at a rate of \$17.00 a thousand. William Miller was hired to paint the exterior of the church.

All furnishings and essentials for the church were donated by its members. The church was completed in 1935. Rev. A. Berik, who had taken residence at Menzie, Man., and had also served the Vista congregation, had arranged for the new structure to be blessed and officially opened by Rev. Bishop Ivan Theodorowich.

The first elder was Matvi Mischanchuk, and Michael Matiation acted as a cantor, who started training with Rev. Hrebenuik and later by Rev. Sym-

chych, where he served for a period of thirty-five years.

Prior to Matiation, Kuchma from Sandy Lake, Man. served as cantor, when services were held at homes.

Proceeds of performances were from: memberships, donations from local businessmen, plays which were performed at the Taras Shewchenko Ukr. National Home in Oakburn or Vista Community Hall, Concerts, Dances, and Bazaars.

Box and Pie socials were a great hit in those days which were held at private homes of members.

The children also had their own account opened to help towards the church funds.

The annual church praznyk was celebrated on a church holiday, "Zelennye Svyata," Trinity Sunday. Services were held and the ladies of the parish prepared dinner, which was served picnic style on the church grounds. Visitors and local people congregated to the church from other churches, renewed acquaintances, as well as attending the religious services.

The interior artistic designs of the church were not painted until 1944 by Michael Swistun. The church bell was donated by Mr. and Mrs. Wasyl Nychuk.

Other priests to officiate in the congregation were Reverends:

Hrebeniuk	J. Kulish
S. Symchych	Wm. Melnychuk
T. Kowalyszen	J. Melnyk
P. Kussi	E. Shwetz
Wm. Fedak (presently the Right Rev. Bishop Wasyl)	
D. M. Stratychuk	L. Diachina
Ev. Ulan	M. Sokyryka
P. Glitski	M. Skrumeda
J. Rybalka	

Due to no records of the committees during the years of 1940's and on we have only the following

acting members on record, prior to the ones mentioned previously.

Presidents: Andrew Matiation, Paul Bilinsky (over 10 years) and Andrew Bilinsky.

Secretaries: Stanley Kurchaba, Steffie Bilinsky (over 12 years), Rose Nychuk and Nellie Nychuk.

Treasurers: Paul Bewza (over 20 years) and Rose Nychuk.

Other members and their families of this church that were not mentioned previously were: Ksenka Wonitowy, Joseph Remanda, Mike Manuliak, Onofrey Weshnowetsky, M. A. Wolohatuik, Alex Fostakowsky, Fred Kurchaba, Mike Odaysky, Sam Slobodesky, Mekita and Mike Ewashko, Harry and Mike Peech, Fred and Alex Yanick, Wasyl Nowitsky, Walter Wowk, Philip Tutkaluk, Morris Dutchak, Peter, Mike, Nick and Nellie Bilinsky, Nick Olyarnyk, Wm. Nychuk, and Gerald Nychuk.

Most of the members have joined the Oakburn or Rosburn parishes.

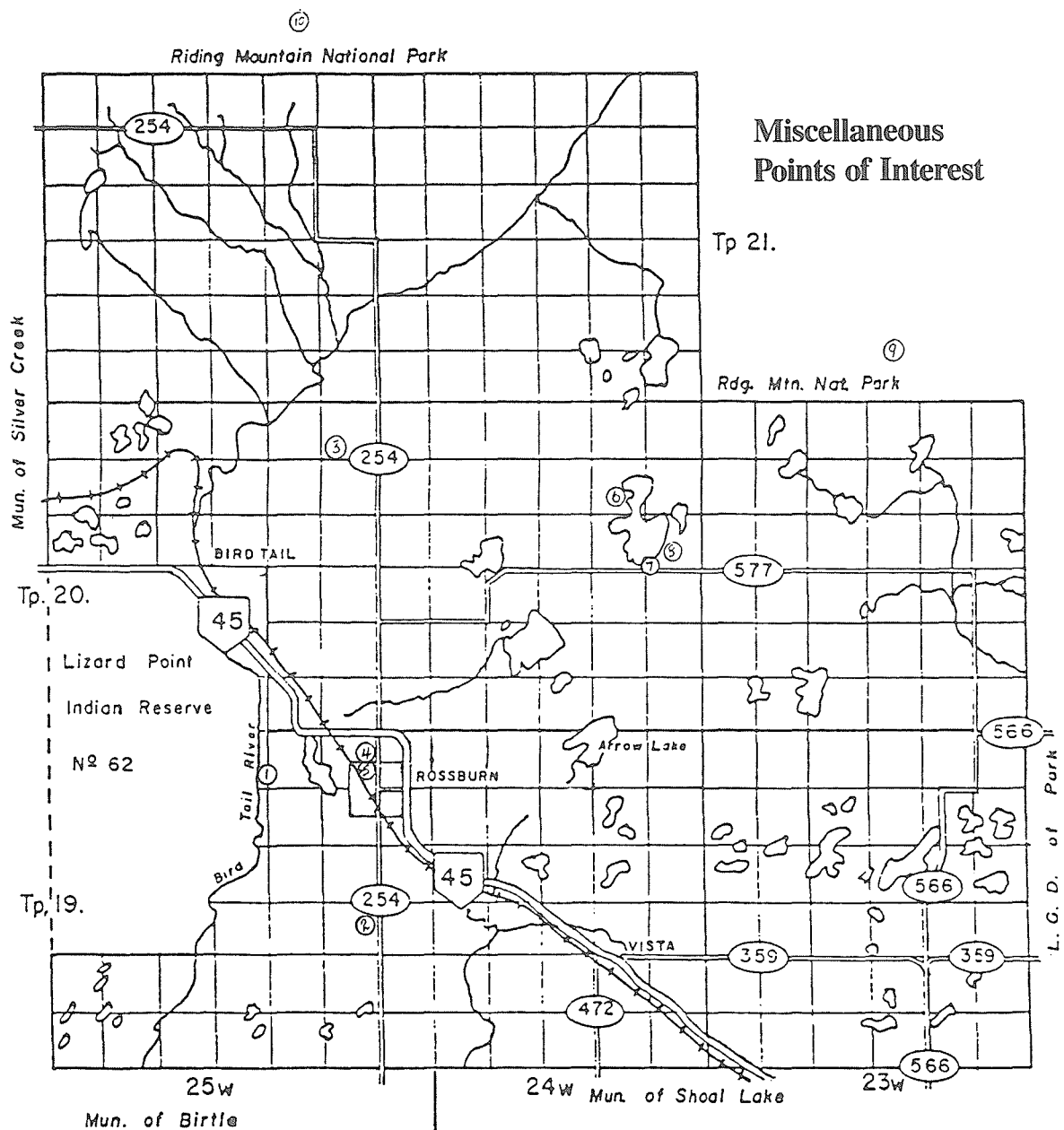
The church was officially closed on June 19, 1978. However, Rev. Father Michael Skrumeda, has once a year graveside services to commemorate our pioneers of the early settlement.

Contributed by Myrtle Drul (Wowk)

"My sincere thanks to Jean Matiation for her effort towards this church history."



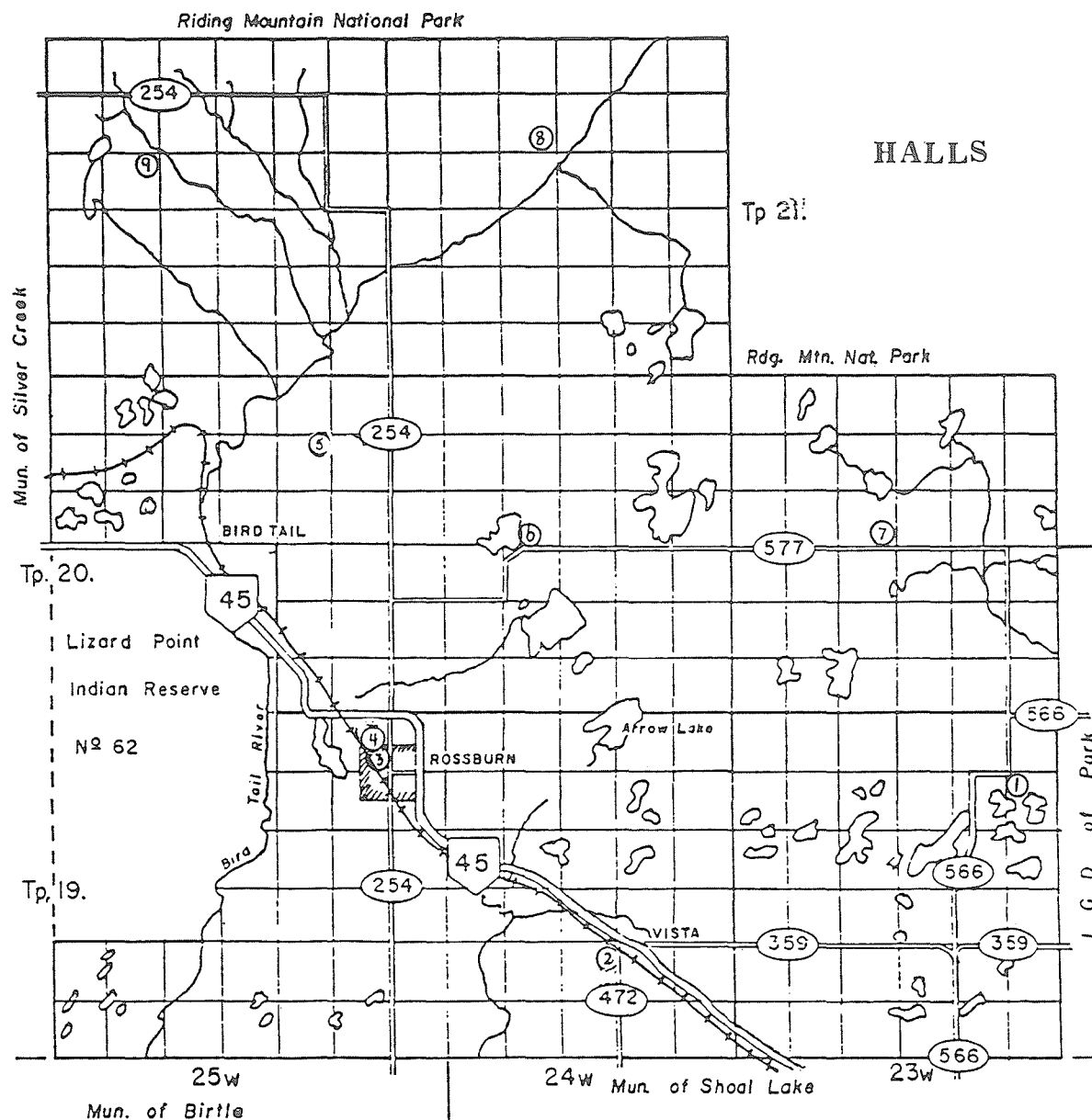
Funeral at Holy Trinity Ukrainian Greek Orthodox Church at Vista. (September 1937).



1. First Cheese Factory, 1887
2. Second Cheese Factory site given by Jos. Sharman, 1895
3. Birdtail Stock Co. Creamery, Ranchvale, 1895
4. Rossburn Creamery (Hough Bros., then Smellie Bros.)
5. Smellie Bros. Creamery, 1946. (Then Manco Creamery and adjacent site of Manco Cheese Factory)

6. Rossman Lake Youth Camp
7. Rossman Lake Resort
8. Rossburn Golf Club
9. Baldy Lake Warden Station
10. Deep Lake Warden Station

Halls



1. Ukrainian Greek Catholic Prosvita Hall — Olha.
2. Vista Community Hall
3. Rossburn Community Hall
4. Ukrainian People's Home of Ivan Franko

5. Ranchvale Hall
6. Ukrainian National Home at Pete's Lake
7. Marco Hall
8. Mears Community Hall
9. Ruthenia Hall

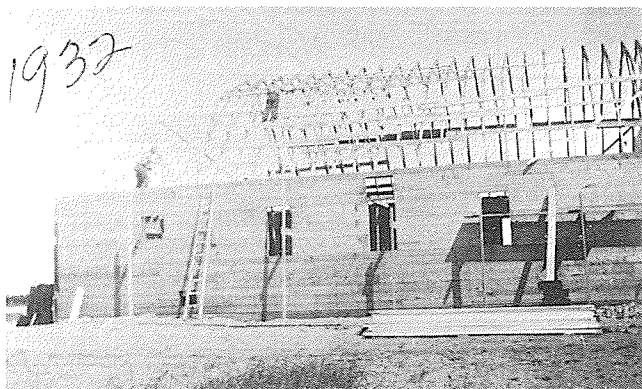
Marco Hall

By the early 1920's the people of the Marco district began to feel a need for a community hall. In the winter of 1923, a young man, Jacob Hlady, Marconi's first teacher, got the people interested in forming a club (tovaristvo) to raise funds to build a Ukrainian National Home, better known as Marco Hall. The Club's first board members were — President — Wasyl Herchak, secretary — Basil Lazaruk, and Treasurer — George Lazaruk.

Mr. Hlady was very active in the community and got the young people together to put on a play and concert. This was the first fund raising project. Rehearsals were held at different homes and the final presentation was in Marconi School. The school was overflowing with an eager audience and the evening was a tremendous success. I can still remember the excitement this event created, for in those days we hadn't heard of movies or radio.

For many years to come, more plays and concerts were held. Later under Basil Lazaruk's direction, dances along with pie and box socials were put up in different homes. I can remember one box social in particular because it was held in our home and I was a young observer. Auctioneers were Nick Kokurudz, Stanley Yanick and Sam Trakalo. The average box sold around two dollars and a total of fifty dollars and forty cents was realized that evening, the highest amount of any event held that year in 1925.

On February 28, 1932 the club began to plan the actual building of the hall. A meeting was called and members signed up at five dollars a family. These first members were Nick Kokurudz, Demion Lazaruk, Mike Leschasin, Nick Chomica, Nestor Prosyk, Matt Prosyk, Mike Komhyr, John Ternowski, Wasyl Herchak, John Kokurudz, Fred Juba, Dmytro Charney, John D. Lazaruk, Mike Raginski and George Lazaruk. Many more members joined later. The Hall Committee was President — Nickola



Marco Hall under construction in 1932. The building was destroyed by a grass fire on May 2, 1972 — after serving the community for forty years.

Kokurudz, Secretary — Mike Leschasin, Treasurer — Dmytro Charney. The building committee, Mike Raginski and Mike Leschasin went to see Bob Peden about getting a supply of lumber for the hall. Mr. Peden owned a saw mill in the Riding Mountain National Park. He agreed to sell all the lumber it took for a thirty by sixty foot Hall at twenty three dollars and fifty cents per thousand.

On June 21, 1932 Samen Kolodi was hired as a main carpenter. He was provided with room and board and received a salary of one dollar and fifty cents per day. Construction began on June 28, 1932. Besides supervising the volunteer helpers, Mr. Kolodi did most of the precision type sawing himself. The hand saw was the only type of saw available at that time. There were thirty six men in all, that voluntarily helped with the building at different times. When haying time came, help was scarce so the board hired a young lad, Peter Leschasin to shingle the roof at a wage of fifty cents per day.

The grand opening of the Hall was on October 16, 1932. The ladies of the district served a banquet supper to an overflowing crowd of people. Alex Leschasin was appointed to act as Master of Ceremonies. Guest speakers were General Sekewich, Winnipeg, Basil Lazaruk and Basil Trakalo of Keld, John Cormack, Reeve of the Rural Municipality of Rosburn, Dave Hough, Secretary Treasurer of the Rural Municipality of Rosburn, Robert Peden, Rev. Berick, Mr. Tymchuk, Mr. Glushka, and Harry Greenberg of Rosburn, and Michael Tokar of Keld, who with his guitar and humorous songs made people forget the hard wooden benches they sat on.

After the banquet, Miss Ann Zubachek of Ruska Rawa School and Miss Caroline Shumanski of Marconi School and their pupils gave a concert. A dance for everyone concluded the evening.

Now that the Hall was available, the community was making full use of it. Meetings, dances and many other social events were held throughout the year.

That first winter, the surrounding farmers helped out to accommodate the team of horses for who ever came from the distance to these different events that took place. Although some had to walk a mile or more to stable their horses, nobody seemed to mind.

The members saw they were badly in need of a winter shelter for the horses. Horse powered vehicles were the only means of transportation in winter months in those days. The money they had saved in the previous days was all spent on the Hall. A meeting was called and it was decided that the building committee approach Bob Peden and talk to him about getting lumber from him on share basis. He agreed to saw and plane enough lumber for a 16' x 100' x 8'

stable in exchange for receiving double number of logs needed to provide this lumber plus the help sawing it. The men who volunteered to get the logs were Matt Prosyk, John Kokurudz, Matt Leschasin, John Ternowski, Peter Raginski, Stanley Komhyr, Stan D. Lazaruk and Dmytro Charney.

The winter months were especially busy for there were as many as three or four plays and concerts presented. The actors, all local people, would often bring their audience to tears and just as often the hall rang with laughter during a comedy performance. I can remember one play having six acts with music and all. It involved thirty three actors and many others back stage. After rehearsals, we'd dance for an hour or so before going home.

Miss Zubachek and Miss Shumanski deserve much credit for directing these plays, folk dances and concerts. After 1935, when the ladies left the community, Michael Tokar and John Parsons who taught in these same schools took over, and the dramas, comedies and concerts continued.

Then the war years came along. Some young people joined the Army, and others left for different parts of Canada, so that the activities in the Hall slowed down somewhat. However it remained fairly active until the early fifties. As the years went by, fewer and fewer people remained in the district and consequently events in the Hall dwindled down to one or two a year.

On May 2, 1972 on a hot and windy day, the Hall burned down from a grass fire that started about a quarter of a mile away. Now the south east corner of S.E. ¼ section 21-20-23 sits empty but many fond memories remain.

Submitted by Stanley Leschasin.



A view of Marco Hall from the road.

Mears Community Hall

The Ukrainian settlers in the Mears district wanted a building of their own where they could hold concerts and dances and other social activities. A meeting of all interested people was called and a committee was formed. The president was Angus Derlago and secretary Matt Malaniuk. A collection was taken and some of the money was used to buy a special permit to cut trees for lumber in the park. Also three acres of land were purchased from Peter Sawchuk (SE ¼ 26-21-24). This was in 1926.

Volunteers helped cut and haul the logs from the park to Bill Hyra's mill on Andrew Hryciuk's farm. Approximately ten thousand board feet of lumber were cut. Head carpenters were Roman Yanyk and Alex Saley, Sr. The whole community helped with the building. The hall measured twenty-four by forty feet. In 1934, Mrs. Ivan Storozuk painted scenery on canvas for a stage curtain for the price of seventy-five dollars.

The first event was a concert. No dances anywhere were better than the ones held in Mears Hall. They started early and ended in time to milk the cows in the morning.

Music was supplied by local, self-taught musicians. Some of these were Alex Sawchuk on violin and banjo, Matt and Tony Sawchuk and Walter Pawluk on accordion. Nick and Ann Hryciuk on guitar, John Maydaniuk and Tony Sawchuk on violins, and Walter on dulcimer. Nearly every family had someone who could play some instrument.

Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Storozuk took an active part in the community. They encouraged young people to take music. They directed choirs and concerts and travelled with them to other communities. Chmelnycki School concerts were held in Mears Hall and always performed to a packed house. Wedding receptions were also held in the hall.

The hall boomed until 1950. Good times brought cars and the young people went away to bigger schools. They were no longer interested in dancing to homespun music. They preferred bigger orchestras and imported bands. Even the annual pre-lenten dance in December became a thing of the past.

In 1973, the hall was turned over to the Municipality. It was moved to the north shore of Rossman Lake to be used as a youth center. Many were reluctant to see it go and tears were shed by some who remembered the joy it had brought to the community for so many years.

The Municipality has promised to put up a cairn to mark the place where the hall stood.

written by Freda Butler
from information supplied
by Mike Saley

Ode To Mears Hall (Built 1933)

It stands there on the corner majestic in its stance,
It seemed to beckon far and wide, come all and
join the dance.

How the merry voices echoed, as the dancers hit
the floor.

The stately spruce and Riding Hills will echo
music sounds no more.

The memory of children I can't blot out, dancing
round with glee.

As they waited for old Santa, to give presents
from the tree.

I close my eyes and see so clear, white birch
paintings on the stage.

My heart feels a disappointed loss, like a book
with no final page.

I thought of those who built the hall, their sacri-
fice and more.

I thought of those who had danced there, and
aren't with us anymore.

I thought of how its future remained, was it a right
decision?

To move it away for some other use, was it as the
builders envisioned.

For the builders put there the loving touch of all
they loved and knew.

Those who remain and remember the dream are
down to a lonely few.

I would like to have seen it in grandeur, bulging
with traditional lore.

And show the world a dream fulfilled, depicting
their life before.

Before they picked up all their dreams, and
moved to a foreign land,

To take up homesteads, till the soil, and work on
God's right hand.

I only had but one brief chance to meet the old
pioneer people.

A deep loss for them I feel, and the bell from
Mohyla church steeple.

I imagined their thoughts as they built Mears hall,
a place of their very own.

A place to meet with their neighbors at last, a new
and national home.

The Ukrainian sign was eventually removed from
over the beckoning door.

Though new the sign, it never meant as much as
the one that hung before.

I couldn't read the words hung there but they
were familiar to me,

Whether hall or home or language displayed all is
locked in memory.

Times have changed and it stands alone, store and
barn no longer there.

The hall is scheduled to be moved, leaving the
corner bare,

It seems as though it sensed its fate, it no longer
appears to smile,

As it did at people, for so many years, coming for
many a mile.

To me it will lose its identity resting in some other
place.

All falls by the way and lost, when unable to keep
the pace.

I took my last heartbroken look at the dream of
long ago.

I felt like I'd lost a very dear friend as the tears
began to flow.

Some will say it's foolish to cling to the past, and
maybe it is so.

But to me it feels like a severed limb, it hurts so to
have it go.

— Freda Butler

Written in memory of our wonderful Eastern
European neighbors who bravely pioneered this
community and aren't with us today. I owe them a
debt for the many pleasurable hours I experienced in
their "National Home" and special thanks to Annie
Storozuk, whose beautiful paintings of stage scenery
brought such pleasure to me and others. No hall
could boast a lovelier setting and I shall remember it
always with pleasure.



Chmelnycki Community Choir — 1922. Sitting: Ivan Storozuk, Director. Front row, left to right: Matt Malaniuk, Nick Kozun, Barbara Hasiuk, Nellie Skoncylas, Pearl Malaniuk, Anne Hasiuk, Irene Dychkowski, Teenie Dunits. Back row: Yakiw Puyda, Roy Saley, Joe Maydaniuk, Bill Chodak, Bill Oryniak, John Maydaniuk, Sophia Malaniuk, Mary Maydaniuk.

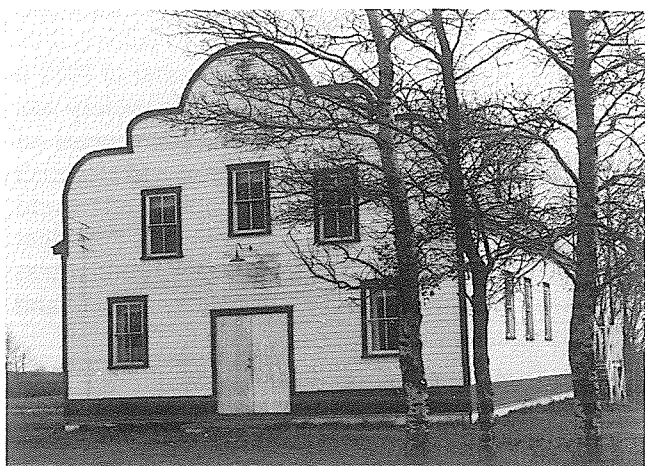
Olha Hall

After the settlers of the Olha district had estab-
lished their place of worship, there was a need for a
recreational centre. In 1928 a parcel of land was
bought from H. Osadec. The corner of the NW

quarter, Section 25-19-23 was designated for a community hall. The people combined their efforts and constructed a community hall which later was known as the "Parish Hall." It was of frame construction with a stage at the back of the hall. The stage scenery depicts an "old country village" and is being presently preserved. There is an old "box stove" to one side of the hall which provides heat. A small basement under the stage served as a kitchen until recently the kitchen was moved to the back of the stage.

Many dramas, pie and box socials as well as dances were held frequently, mostly in the winter until the younger generation took to leaving the farms and living in urban areas. The activities lessened until now an occasional dance or concert is held. The annual fowl supper attracts many people from surrounding areas.

A Saturday night dance is held occasionally and many young people enjoy a good old fashioned country dance.



Olha Hall as seen in 1982.

Despite the poor economic conditions in the early 1920's and 30's, shortages of cash, poor transportation, undeveloped roads, and lack of recreational facilities, the population of the area was socially active. Families gathered at different homes for entertainment. Two piece bands of violin and cymbaly provided music for all night dancing and folk singing. Young people walked several miles to attend social functions and then walked home again in the wee hours of the night.

As early as 1914, the Amateur Dramatic Club was organized by Father Drohomeresky. Their first production, a comedy, was presented at St. John Kant School (built in 1907). Many functions were held in this school house until 1928, when a recreational

centre was constructed at Olha. This center was named the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Society — Prosvita. It became a popular and busy place. Drama Clubs from St. John, Seech, Oakburn, Shoal Lake and Rossburn areas presented their productions here.

The Hall committee comprised church and non-church members. Almost every church member belonged to the Society. There was harmony among the members until a difference of opinion arose in 1945-46. At that time church members took over management of hall activities and the name was changed to Olha Parish Hall. A few of the more active members before the dissolution of the society were: Dmytro P. Kowal, Steve Antonation, Stanley Antonation, Mike Werzak, John Storozuk, Dmytro Prochak, John Dzus, Stanley Drozda, Fred Twerdun, Mike Mychasiw, John Kryswaty, Nykola Kashton, John Shkwarok, Stanley Kurchaba, Steve Bobyk, Nicholas Borody, and Nicholas Dnistransky.

Today the men's and women's church committee maintain the Parish Hall.



Methodist Church about to be moved to a new location for use as the Ranchvale Hall. The movers pictured above in front of the building are: Wm. Craig, Bill Butler, Fred Veitch, Jack Plant, Wm. Finch, Mr. Smith Sr., Fraser Plant and Bob Wilson. This move was made during the winter of 1926 or 1927.

Ranchvale Hall

The Ranchvale Hall was formerly a Methodist Church located on NW¼ 12-21-25 (Gordon Plants' farm). This building, after it was no longer required for church purposes, was obtained for use as the Ranchvale Hall.

The building was moved to its Ranchvale location during the winter of 1926 or 1927 by sleigh and four teams. The move was about 3 miles and the most serious obstacle met was crossing the Birdtail River at Roy Plant's. The movers were Wm. Craig, Bill Butler, Fred Veitch, Jack Plant, Wm. Finch, Mr.

Smith Sr., Fraser Plant and Bob Wilson. The building was then located on NE 26-20-25.

Through the years, the Ranchvale Hall was in popular use for concerts, dances, and other events — particularly during the winter months. As the years passed by, however, the need for a community hall decreased, as more use was being made of facilities in town. Finally it was realized that the Ranchvale Hall had served its purpose and the building was sold, due to declining use.

The building was sold to John Pradinuk in 1946 who moved it to town where it became part of a bakery and restaurant building.

Rosburn Town Hall

The first mention of a Rosburn Hall was included in the Rosburn news column of March 16, 1907. The news was recorded that "H. W. Johnston's new implement building and public hall, 30 × 60 ft., is nearing completion."

This hall was located on the second floor of the building that later became the municipal building. Following construction of the present Municipal Office, the building was converted into the Rosburn Locker Plant.

Carpenters, in remodelling the present Solo Store building in 1983, found evidence of the years long ago when the second floor was the community's public hall. The second floor was removed in the renovations, with the building being converted to a one-storey building.

In Oct. 1934, following purchase of the building lots for a proposed new town hall, the news was reported that the old Presbyterian Church was being moved to the vacant lot south of the United Church. The site occupied by the former Presbyterian Church had been selected and purchased by the Village.

On March 31, 1936, Rosburn Village Council enacted a by-law purchasing the present town hall site. This 100 ft. × 120 ft. lot was to be the location for construction of a public hall. Seven thousand dollars was borrowed for the project and debentures issued. A building committee was selected from among J. G. Stitt, chairman; C. Barlow, Jos. Peden, C. D. Douglas, Geo. Spearman and Richard King.

By mid-August 1936, construction of the new Rosburn Town Hall was nearing completion and preparations for stuccoing were underway. Opening of the hall was Sept. 17, 1936.

During more recent years, the hall has undergone extension, with an enlarged hall area being constructed on the north side. This extension originally included the Rosburn Regional Library, which now has become office space following construction of the new Rosburn Regional Library and Drop in



Rosburn Town Hall built in 1936.

Centre. The Recreation Office and Nursery School are located on the lower level.

The Ukrainian National Home at Pete's Lake

The Ukrainians who immigrated to Canada were determined to hold on to their language, culture and traditions. They realized that in order to achieve this they would have to organize. In September of 1907 a general meeting was called and a reading society was formed in the Ukrainian community northeast of Rosburn. The purpose of the society was to establish a library, subscribe to several newspapers and to hold evening classes for teaching of Ukrainian. President of the society was O. I. Danilchuk, O. Klymkiw was secretary, Dmetro Danyleyko was librarian and Michael Dowhan was treasurer.

The first meeting re: building of a Ukrainian National Home at Pete's Lake was held on June 3, 1923. A temporary committee of the following people was appointed: Kornylo Chopp, Wasyl Antonichuk, Michael Glushka, Steve Karmazenuk, John Yarmey, Nellie Chopp and Mary Yarmey.

On June 10th, a general meeting was called with forty-nine persons present. Several speakers expressed their ideas as to why a National Home should be built.

It would be a centre where all the people of the community could meet irrespective of each individual's political or religious views. Here the social and cultural activities and traditions, which were so dear to the pioneers, would be carried on.

In the weeks that followed many meetings were held to discuss plans for the building, selection of site, etc. A lively campaign was carried on to solicit members and funds. A new official board of officers was elected on November 4, 1923 at a meeting in Hranko School, consisting of: President — Kornylo Chopp; Secretary — William Yarmey; Treasurer —

Wasyl Antonichuk; Vice President — Steve Karmazenuk; Vice-Secretary — Michael Glushka; Librarian — John Klym; Janitor — Metro Gawryluk. It was decided at this meeting to purchase lumber for the building at Bob Peden's mill. The site chosen for the building was on S.W. 21-20-24. The land was purchased from Wasyl Antonichuk for the sum of \$1.00. Each member was to contribute a fair amount of work without pay. The constitution by which the Ukrainian National Home would be governed was drafted by Michael Glushka and accepted by the rest of the members.

It was not till the spring of 1925 that the actual construction began. From the records which were kept meticulously one learns that H. Wood was to be hired as carpenter with Metro Gawryluk as overseer.

The official opening of the "Ivan Franko Ukrainian National Home" at Pete's Lake took place on July 19, 1925. The hall was filled to overflowing for the event. The following day a banquet was held at which the honored guest was Professor Babersky of Winnipeg. In the evening, members of the drama club put on their first play in the new hall.

The main purpose of the Home was to promote education so it was decided to invite prominent speakers to give lectures. The first person to deliver such a lecture was Andrew Danyleyko, a local school teacher. People from the community would gather, usually on a Sunday afternoon to hear the speaker, to ask questions and take part in lively discussion. Some of the lecturers were: J. Dutchak, Professor Babersky, Mr. Mazurkewich, Mr. Sichinski, Mike Wonitoway, Mr. Timchuk, Mr. Kowalishyn, and Mr. Ilchyshyn. They spoke on many topics, always educational and non-sectarian.

Some of the activities that took place that first year were a "Magic Show" put on by N. Lewchuk, and "Box Social" where in the ladies brought a box lunch to be auctioned. Several debates were held.

The first "Christmas Tree" was held on January 6, 1926. The children of Hranko School put on a concert and members of the drama club sang a Christmas Carol. Everyone gathered around the brightly decorated Christmas tree. St. Nicholas made his appearance and distributed bags of nuts and candies to the happy children. This event was repeated every Ukrainian Christmas Eve for many years.

During the winter and spring another concert was presented under the direction of Andrew Danyleyko, also an evening of laughs, and a play by the Drama Club, a concert in June by the students of Hranko School and in August the first anniversary of the opening of the Ukrainian National Home was celebrated with a banquet and speeches. What a number of events had taken place in just one year! There was

no generation gap then. The young and old came out to all the gatherings.

That first year was a sample of work that was carried on for many years. The ladies of the district became organized under the name of "The Society of Lesia Ukrainka". They looked after the banquets, sponsored Mother's Day Concerts, sewing classes, etc.

The young men of the district formed a baseball club. During the summer, on Sunday afternoons, large crowds of people would gather at the "playground" on the southeast end of Pete's Lake to watch their team play against a team from Mears, Marco, Angusville or other places. Combined annual picnics of Perch and Hranko Schools were also held on this playground.

The following are some of the highlights in the life of the Ukrainian National Home at Pete's Lake:

June 25, 1927, the choir, dressed in Ukrainian national costume under the direction of A. Danyleyko, took part in Canada's 60th Anniversary celebrations in Rosburn.

July 1927, the famous W. Avramenko, with his dancers, presented a concert. In 1930, a department of the Canadian National Railways in Manitoba, sponsored a community progress competition. This was to determine which group of settlers in Manitoba made most progress in clearing and tilling of land, building of roads, raising cattle and farming in general. Communities consisting of at least seventy percent of non-British origin were eligible to compete. The Ukrainian community of Rosburn Municipality, along with nine other ethnic groups in Manitoba took part in this competition. Much preparation had to be made beforehand. On the set date of October 16th, everything was ready. The tables in the hall were filled with crafts, embroidery, decorated Easter eggs, sewing, etc. There were demonstrations on spinning, etc. Other tables held baking and other dishes of Ukrainian style food. A Commission of three judges travelled throughout Manitoba to inspect the communities in competition. These were Brother Joseph of St. Boniface College, Dr. McKay of United College, and Mrs. Dave Watt of Birtle, president of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada. They visited several farm homes, schools, and churches in the municipality before coming to the Ukrainian National Home. A concert prepared by Miss Carol Shumanski of Glen Elmo school was enjoyed by the judges and the large audience. A banquet and speeches followed. The day was a great suc-

cess. The Rossburn community was the proud winner of the first prize of \$1,000.

In 1932, three carloads of potatoes from the people of Rossburn were shipped as a free gift to dried out areas, two going to Watson and Rosetown in Saskatchewan and one to Melita in Manitoba. The Canadian National Railways transported the potatoes free of charge.



Pete's Lake Hall committee loading potatoes during the depression.

Donations of money were collected and sent through the Red Cross to people in the Ukraine who were undergoing persecution and hardships after the First World War.

The teaching of Ukrainian reading and writing

was carried on in the summer of 1932 during vacation. Many boys and girls took advantage of this. The teacher was a middle-aged man who was well qualified for this position. He was also a skilled choir director. During one of the rehearsals of the senior choir the tenors weren't paying enough attention. This made him lose his temper. He threw his mandolin to the floor and gave it a smart kick. His boot went right through the mandolin. Everyone became so quiet you could have heard a pin drop.

The most prominent persons who directed plays, taught Ukrainian, and promoted cultural activities through the years were: Andrew Danyleyko, Jim Dutchak, William Wolochatiuk, P. Gayowsky, Miss Mary Perch, Mrs. Phyllis Chopp, John Yarmey and Mike Tokar.

From the time the Pete's Lake hall was built in 1925, till the last meeting that was entered in the old ledger in January of 1938, these are the persons who held office: Kornylo Chopp, William Yarmey, Wasyl Antonichuk, Steve Karmazenuk, Michael Glushka, John Klym, Alex Zaverucha, Matt Gawryluk, Mary Yarmey, Andrew Danyleyko, Irene Antonichuk, Nellie Chopp, Fred Danyleyko, Nick Chopp, Dmetro Yarmey, Mike Zborowski, Fred Babaluk, Peter Gluch, John Yarmey, William Danyleyko, Steve Gawryluk, Anton Yarmey, Charlie Kornyk, Sam Andreitz, John Ryshytylo, and Dmetro Glushka.

In the years that followed, the young people left





Ukrainian National Home, Pete's Lake, 1926. Group pictured standing in front of door: 1st row, left to right: Mirosław Mayowsky (Angusville), Fred Pushka (Angusville), ? Chuchmuch (Angusville), Nettie Antonichuk (Parsons), John Yarmey, Sophie Malaniuk, ? Kornyk, Matt Kalyniuk. 2nd row, left to right: ?, William Antonichuk, Phyllis Kornyk, ? Rubeniuk, ?, ?, Anton Yarmey (in white shirt), Pearl Malaniuk, ? Baydak, ?, Nick Chopp, Ivan Antonichuk (in a coat).

the farms for schooling or employment in the cities. The older farmers sold their land to the few who remained on the farms.

In 1947 the small number of members decided to

move the Pete's Lake hall to Rossburn. In 1979 and 1980 extensive renovations were made to the building. It is hoped that the people of Ukrainian descent in Rossburn will continue to use it for many years.

Contributed by Alice Hrubeniuk

Ukrainian Culture in Rossburn

The first pioneers of Ukrainian origin met in each other's homes to share the scarce and precious Ukrainian reading material. During these get-togethers the people participated in sing-songs, instrumental sessions, ethnic dancing and a sharing of their cultural heritage. Elsewhere in this book under the heading of "The Ukrainian National Home at Pete's Lake" is described the origin of one of the many Ukrainian National Homes that sprang up in the Rossburn area. At that time in history the area was thickly populated and the memberships of these pockets of culture were large and the social and cultural events were well attended.

In the village of Rossburn, people interested in Ukrainian culture were organized as a branch of the Ukrainian Canadian Committee — an International Organization officially representing Ukrainians in Canada. For many years members of the Rossburn branch held their meetings in homes, and choir, drama or dance practices were held in garages or many of the business establishments in the town —



Students attending Ukrainian Summer School at Rossburn in 1952 were: First row: Sam Hrycak, Jerry Yarmey, Robert Ukrainetz, Helen Walko, Olivia Verbowski, Myrna Smycnuik, Lillian Boychuk, Mildred Mamalyga. Second row: Elmer Shmyr, Nick Olynyk, Eugene Drul, Alex Drul, Donald Ukrainetz, Lillian Chwaluk, Phyllis Malaniuk, Teacher — Mr. John Bodnarchuk, Irene Smycnuik, Sonja Wladyka, Eunice Wolanyk, Theresa Glushka, Verna Hrycak. Third row: Allan Boychuk, Boris Olynyk, Sonia Glushka, Adele Trakalo, Joyce Mamalyga, Lorna Gensiorek, Mary Walko, Mary Strank, Ernest Hasiuk, Paul Mamalyga, Bohdan Hyska. Fourth row: Orest Pawchuk, Ivan Hyska, Terry Mamalyga, Orest Smycnuik, Peter Bilawka, Wally Tokar, Walter Olynyk, Joanne Ukrainetz, Lucille Borowski, Diane Boychuk, Elaine Ukrainetz.

anywhere that space could be found. Ukrainian classes for the education of the Ukrainian culture, history or heritage were often held in the public schools during the summer vacations, and the various concerts were presented in the Rossburn Town Hall. Delegates of the Rossburn Branch of the Ukrainian Canadian Committee were represented at the 'Congresses' or Conventions in Winnipeg, and would return with reports which they would present to the public on the progress of Ukrainian Culture in Canada.

As people moved away from the farms to larger farms elsewhere, or to the cities, or to the many towns that originated, or bought up more of the farm land, the memberships and participation in the "National Homes" in the rural areas slowly and painfully decreased and eventually in some of the areas this participation ceased or became too difficult to maintain for the few people which remained in the area. Thus in 1947 the membership of the Ukrainian National Home at Pete's Lake or the "Ukrainian People's Home of Ivan Franko" as it was officially named decided to donate their home to the Ukrainian people of the village of Rossburn. On March 18, 1951 an agreement between both parties was finalized and this agreement stipulated that the National Home was to serve all of the Rossburn area, that the name as registered was to stay unchanged, that the charter which stated that the membership was to be a non-profit organization to uphold the Ukrainian Culture, and was to be open to all people irrespective of religious or political views, must be upheld and honored.

In that year a new Executive was elected: Mike Smycniuk — President, Nick Chopp — Vice-President, Mike Tokar — Secretary, Kornlyo Kornyk — Treasurer, and Dmytro Glushka and John Glushka — Auditors. Many activities continued as a drive to improve the financial situation of the organization was necessary in order to move this "large" building to the village of Rossburn, a distance of some seven odd miles. In the fall of 1952 an attempt was made to move the structure, but on the way the building shifted and the mover refused further responsibility for the move. A temporary road had to be constructed for traffic to by-pass and the "Home" wintered several miles from its destination.

In the spring of 1953 a new mover agreed to move the building only if the roof was removed. Together with this problem, another one had developed, the cement basement that was to house the National Home had caved in, and new walls had to be erected. These and many other difficulties were encountered before the "Home" was firmly settled on its foundation on Second Street in Rossburn. After the building

was in place the roof and the ceiling had to be replaced and assorted repairs had to be completed to bring the building back to a useable condition. These repairs and reconstruction took some forty odd volunteers many hours and many personal donations to complete. During these times the wives of the volunteers were organized and added their support by raising money by various and numerous functions. Finally on November 25, 1953, the first social dance was held, and the "Home" had found a place in Rossburn.

Throughout the years, the members of the Ukrainian People's Home — Ivan Franko held many concerts commemorating Mother's Days, Christmas, Ukraine's Independence Day, the Anniversary of Ukrainians in Canada, and Taras Shevchenko Day — Ukraine's National Poet. These same members constructed authentic Ukrainian floats which took part in the centennial celebrations of Canada and Manitoba. A large float depicting the life of the earlier Ukrainian Pioneers was represented at a couple of parades at the Ukrainian National Festival in Dauphin.

In 1952, the Year of Promotion of Ukrainian Language, summer courses were offered to young people across Canada. Rossburn was represented at the University of Manitoba and at St. Andrews College by several of the youth of Rossburn. The various courses were made up of all subjects — Language, History, Literature, The Arts of Ukrainian Culture, and all were taught by many of the Professionals of these subjects.

Some of the other participation by the members of the Ukrainian People's Home of Rossburn included — representation when application was made to have the Ukrainian Language taught in public schools — a Bursary is given every year to a student



Ribbon cutting ceremony at the reopening of the Ukrainian People's Home, Rossburn in 1980. Elmer Lesiuk is standing on the left and Morley Kostecki on the right for the official ceremony.

with the best marks in the Ukrainian Language being taught at the Rossgburn Collegiate, — Eight Hundred and Fifty Dollars was raised by canvassing and donations towards the Taras Shevchenko Foundation — Traditional Arts and Crafts have often been displayed at various functions. The work of helping to upkeep the Ukrainian culture has been accomplished by the holding of bazaars, dinners, catering, teas, bingos and dances.

During 1979 and 1980 extensive renovations were done to the Ukrainian Centre, and on April 26, 1980 an official opening of the new addition was held, at which Mr. Elmer Lesiuk, the current President was presented with a momento. Some Ten Thousand odd dollars was donated by the members to see that the refurbished building was completed. In addition a \$10,100 capital grant was received from the Manitoba Department of Cultural Affairs and Historical Resources. This was presented to the Ukrainian People's Home president, Elmer Lesiuk, on March 8, 1980. The stage of the "Home" has the original hand painted mural walls and back panels, and the large hand painted canvas is still used as a "drop curtain". The new addition now houses the original hand painted canvases from the Mears National Home which were donated to Rossgburn. In the wardrobe department can be found some seventy sets of complete traditional Ukrainian costumes, many of which are authentically embroidered.

With the enlargement of the Ukrainian People's Home, 1981 has been an active period for the membership, and many cultural events have found their way back into the life of the people of Rossgburn. The Ukrainian People's Home in Rossgburn is open to all who are interested in upholding the Ukrainian Culture and Tradition, and it is hoped that these traditions will be maintained and passed on for generations to come. It is also hoped that the various cultures in our area can co-operate and make Rossgburn, and Man-

itoba, and Canada truly a multi-cultural society, working for the betterment of mankind and for the betterment of the world.

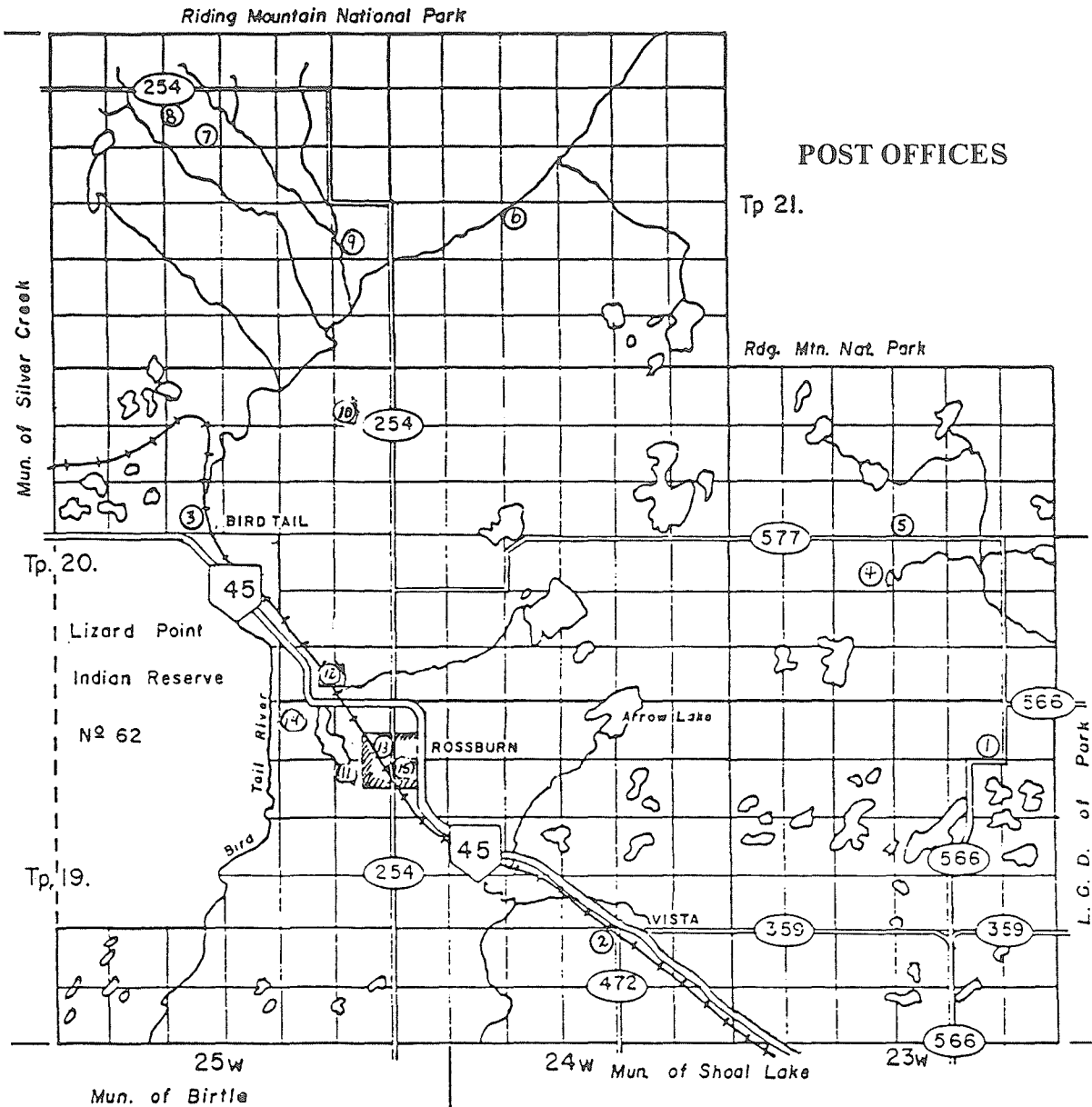


Ukrainian People's Home, Rossgburn, reopening following extensive renovations featured a program of dancing, singing and speeches. These young Ukrainian dancers were: Left to right: David Sheeshka, Clarence Shwaluk, Terrance Woychysheh, Dale Yurchuk, Kevin Shwaluk.



Display of local art at the Ukrainian People's Home, Rossgburn, official reopening in 1980.

Post Offices



1. Olha Post Office
2. Vista Post Office
3. Birdtail Post Office
4. Marco Post Office — 1913-21
5. Marco Post Office — Site #2 — 1955-69
6. Mears Post Office
7. Ruthenia Post Office — 1924-28

8. Ruthenia Post Office — 1929-52
9. Glen Elmo Post Office — original 1911
10. Ranchvale Post Office
11. Rossburn Post Office (1880-1896)
12. Rossburn Post Office (1897-1900)
13. Rossburn Post Office (present site)
14. First Rossburn Post Office (1880)
15. First Rossburn Post Office in the townsite (1900)

Birdtail Post Office

The official records concerning Birdtail Post Office, as received from the Public Archives Division in Ottawa indicate that the Birdtail Post Office was established June 1, 1915. Albert Barkley was first postmaster. He held the position until March 11, 1918. W. A. Medcalf was the next postmaster until closing of the Post Office on Aug. 31, 1918.

The Post Office re-opened on July 1, 1919 with S. M. Middleton as postmaster until March 14, 1920. He was followed by J. W. Heffren from May 15, 1920 to July 18, 1921. Malick Peikoff was the next postmaster from July 19, 1921 until April 7, 1922. Leon Paisner assumed the position from April 8, 1922 to April 9, 1929. Isaac Drabinsky was next postmaster from April 10, 1929 until Jan. 17, 1931. T. R. White then assumed the position from Jan. 18, 1931 until October 6, 1931. Wm. Pidlubny followed from October 7, 1931 to Feb. 9, 1948.

Mrs. Emily Tanasychuk became the tenth Birdtail postmaster on March 1, 1948 and continued until Nov. 24, 1955. Mrs. Margaret Jane Baird held the position next, until May 8, 1956. Mrs. Anne Hamilton served the Post Office from May 9, 1956 until April 30, 1971. Mrs. Deloris Fiarchuk followed, until April 28, 1972. Mrs. June Koloski's appointment to the position was effective April 29, 1972. She remains in the position at the time this article is written.



Location of Birdtail Post Office.

Glen Elmo Post Office

As more and more settlers moved into the district, the need for another Post Office became apparent. Mr. Dan Cameron worked hard and mostly through his efforts Glen Elmo Post Office was opened in 1911. Mr. Cameron chose the name for the new Post Office. He chose Glen for the Birdtail Valley and Elmo after St. Elmo in Ontario near where his home had been.

Mr. Cameron first drew the mail twice a week

from Ranchvale to where it had been taken to by Mr. Strong. Later, Mr. Strong contracted to haul to Ranchvale and Glen Elmo.

In the first number of years, Glen Elmo served the district as far west as Ruthenia, north-west as far as Woytko Maydaniuks and east of the river to where Andrew Barnesky lived.

Mr. Cameron operated the Post Office till he took ill in 1917. His good friend Gordon Plant took over and operated it until his death in 1939. John Plant took over until he moved into town in 1963. John Hlagy was the last Postmaster when the Post Office closed in 1967.

Marco Post Office

Marco Post Office was established February 1st, 1913. Martin Hachkowski was its first Postmaster. He operated it in his residence on his homestead on S.E. ¼ 16-20-23, until February 1st, 1921.

On February 1st 1921, George Lazaruk was appointed Postmaster and he took it over to his residence on S.W. ¼ 22-20-23 and operated it until his death on February 15th, 1944.

Miss Jean Lazaruk was appointed as an acting Postmaster on February 21st, 1944 until May 18th, 1944.

On May 18th, 1944, John Ed Lazaruk was appointed Postmaster until October 29th, 1944.

On October 29th, 1944, Harold Hlagie was appointed as an acting Postmaster until March 20th, 1945.

On March 20th, 1945, John Zimmerman was appointed Postmaster and it was moved to Zimmerman's farm and store on N.E. ¼ 16-20-23.

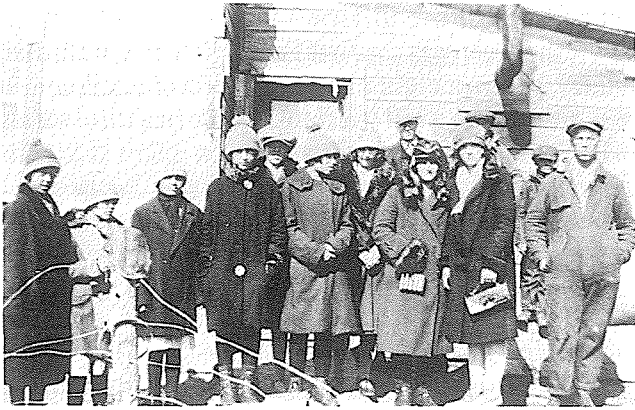
On August 21st, 1945, the store was sold to John Herchak and John Herchak was appointed Postmaster until July 7th, 1951. The store was sold to Joseph Hackowski and he served as acting Postmaster from July 29th, 1951, until September 26th, 1951.

On September 26th, 1951, Joseph Hachkowski was appointed Postmaster and served until June 6th, 1955.

On June 6th, 1955, the Post Office was moved to the residence of Mrs. Kathleen Hlagie on S.E. ¼ 22-20-23, and she served as acting Postmaster until June 19th, 1955 and on this same day she was appointed Postmaster and served until it closed on February 7th, 1969.

Mears Post Office

A new Post Office was needed to serve the increasing population in the eastern part of the valley. A location on Wm. Butler's farm was chosen. The new Post Office needed a name and Mrs. Amy Butler was



Mears Post Office (Wm. Butler Home), 1930. Front row: Nellie Derlago, Ann Kohuch, Nellie Silewich, Ann Maydaniuk, Teenie Baydak, Dora Kawka, Annie Saley, Mary Hasiuk, Alex Sawchuk. Back row: Tony Maydaniuk, Nick Kawka, Fred Kohuch, Walter Pawluk.

given the honor of choosing. She wrote a list of names to send in to Mr. Young, postmaster, in Rossburn. But her husband didn't think he needed the list — he could remember a few names. But wouldn't you know it. By the time he got to town the only name he could remember was the one at the bottom of the list and the one Mrs. Butler liked the least. That name was Meres, a place in England where she had attended school. Worse yet, Mr. Butler also got the spelling wrong and it turned out Mears. At least, the sound was the same.

The Post Office opened in 1925. On the first mail day patrons jammed the office waiting for their mail, for some the first in months. The first to post a letter by registered mail that day, October 13, 1925 was Mr. Billy Schilds.

Mr. Wm. Butler remained postmaster for over nineteen years. He retired in 1945 to live in Rossburn. His younger son, Frank, took over and continued until its closing in January, 1967.



Delivering mail in the early days.

Ernest H. Harris (Ed to most everyone who knew him), who already was hauling mail to Glen Elmo, came on to Mears and continued hauling until 1954. There never was anyone more dedicated to his job than Ed. For thirty-three years in all kinds of weather and over unbelievable roads, he never failed to deliver the mail. The carriers that followed were Joe Kreshewski, Eugene, Jessie and Ken Caldwell, Roy Irwin and Bob Crookshanks (relief carriers).

Just once during all those years was there a mail robbery. Ed was driving his team along a willow-lined road towards Glen Elmo. Somebody jumped out and onto the back of the democrat. His yelling frightened the horses and Ed had his hands full trying to control them. The thief cut open some of the mail bags, no doubt looking for money in the bag of registered mail. That bag happened to be right at the bottom and before the thief got to it, the galloping horses were nearing Glen Elmo. The robber jumped off and disappeared into the bushes. The Post Office Department never did recover what was stolen but after that Ed was allowed to carry a revolver which he kept on the seat beside himself.

The money the Post Office paid wasn't worth the time lost from field and other work. It started at sixty dollars a year in 1925 to forty dollars every three months in 1928 with no allowance for heating the building. Even so, other people in the district tried to petition to take over. Mail days were Tuesday and Saturday and if they fell on Christmas Day or New Year's, we had to sort the mail. Not till 1960, were we allowed to close for those two holidays.

Going for the mail was an excuse to visit and often members of a family argued about whose turn it should be. The only telephone in the area was at the Post Office and Bill Butler and his family delivered



Mears Post Office was located from 1923-1967 in the Butler home (foreground). The buildings were constructed from lumber made from Riding Mountain National Park logs. Some of the logs were so big, the mill couldn't saw them. The view is of the oldest farm site in the eastern end of the Birdtail Valley (16-21-24), the Frank Butler farm.

messages over miles and miles to neighbours, even in the middle of the night. If the mail hadn't been picked up, that was delivered too. This was an example of true neighbourliness.

Another attraction at our Post Office — a 2-ft. thermometer. Everyone liked to check on the temperature. On January 21, 1943, the temperature dropped to 62 degrees below zero and blew our thermometer all to pieces.

Freda Butler

Olha Post Office

Olha Post Office was established Dec. 1, 1908 with Dmytro Luhowy as first postmaster. The Post Office was located at his farm home, one mile north of the present post office. In 1910, Hnat Budiwski purchased Luhowy's farm and he became the second postmaster, effective April 1, 1910.

"Hnat Budiwski had to go out working, so his wife Barbara carried the mail on foot from Olha to Oakburn and back. She states that there wasn't much mail at first in the big bag she carried but it got heavier as time went on. During the long cold winter it was really a problem to walk to Oakburn twice a week to get the mail. After some time her husband saved enough money to buy a horse, so she drove the horse to get the mail from Oakburn," This reminiscence is from the "Oakburn Echoes".

On Jan. 1, 1916 John (Yanko) Antonation became postmaster and the post office was moved to his farm which was about a quarter of a mile west of the present post office. He had the post office in the house at first, then later used a small building on the side until 1940 when his son Stanley moved it to his store on the corner where it still is to this day. Post office records indicate that Stanley Antonation was appointed as postmaster Oct. 10, 1928, a position which he officially retained until Jan. 8, 1947.

Peter Wasilka was appointed as acting postmaster on Jan. 10, 1947, being named officially as postmaster Nov. 25, 1948. Miss Joyce Werzak served as postmaster (acting) from Oct. 10, 1949 until Michael Procak's appointment Jan. 6, 1950. He retained the position until Sept. 13, 1952. On October 2, 1952, Fred Posmituck was named acting postmaster until his appointment on Jan. 12, 1953. He retained the position until July 31, 1963. Walter Swereda was then appointed acting postmaster Aug. 31, 1963. His official appointment as postmaster was effective from Nov. 4, 1963 until Dec. 31, 1971. Mrs. Marion G. Koltusky was the next postmaster, receiving the appointment on Jan. 1, 1972.

Ranchvale Post Office

Ranchvale was the first Post Office in the Birdtail Valley, seven or eight miles northwest of Rossburn. It was situated on a hill overlooking the beautiful valley with the long lines of rolling hills on either side. The new post office was named Ranchvale because the area was known as the Valley of the Ranchers. The Post Office opened on November 23, 1900.

Ranchvale in those days extended west to Birdtail and Ruthenia, north to Glen Elmo and east into Mears and Mohyla districts.

Mr. George Grant was the first postmaster of Ranchvale, and served until 1921 when the Post Office was closed. His tenure was interrupted briefly, when from February, 1910 to July, 1911, George Sinclair was the Postmaster. In 1915, Birdtail Post Office opened and took away Ranchvale patrons.

The first mail carrier for Ranchvale was Mr. George Beirnes. Others were William Strong and Henry Palmer.

The country Post Offices became centers of community services. Ranchvale had a church and a hall and the Post Office surrounded by giant spruce trees.

All is gone now. The Post Office was closed. The church and hall were moved away. Progress is wonderful, but it is sad to see all the old ways fade into oblivion. Soon none will be left to recall the wonderful old Ranchvale Post Office which served so many for so long.

Rossburn Post Office

In "Reminiscences of the Rossburn Pioneers" reference is made to the period following arrival of the first settlers in 1879, before the establishment of a Post Office in Rossburn community in 1880. It is recorded that: "We got our mail twice a month from the Police Barracks at Shoal Lake where it was brought by dog team from Fort Garry." This story recounted by one of the pioneers went on to add, "On several occasions I have made the trip and returned in one day on foot". At that time Shoal Lake was the nearest Post Office.

The first local Post Office was opened in 1880 on the Jim Young farm (25-19-25W) with Maitland Cumberland as the postmaster. His term of office commenced on August 1, 1880.

According to Birtle's history book, "View of the Birdtail", Birtle was the receiving point for mail to Beulah, Birtle, Rossburn and Todburn during that first year. When the C.P.R. reached Portage la Prairie in 1881 and Grand Valley, east of Brandon, the mail came once a week, by carrier, using ponies and dog teams at first, and later horses. The "View of the Birdtail" goes on to state that before long Todburn

and Rossburn had post offices, the mail was coming from Birtle twice a week.

Meanwhile hopes were high that the railroad was coming to Rossburn, but residents were uncertain where. Rossburn rural council minutes noted that letters were written and delegations approached the C.P.R. with no satisfaction. What a disappointment when the line was built twenty miles south. As a result plans had to be made for mail service from Solsgirth to Rossburn via Lone Tree.

Solsgirth came into existence in 1885 and the service was located there. For many years Dan McLeod drove the mail to Todburn, Lone Tree, Rossburn, Seeburn and Ranchvale (commencing in 1901). With the arrival of the railroad in 1905, the mail was brought to Rossburn by train.

Mail continued to arrive via the C.N.R. until April 30, 1952 when the Wednesday and Thursday train service was discontinued. Since that date mail has been received by truck dispatched from Neepawa on a route to Russell serving communities along the "Turkey Trail" and later No. 45 highway.

The second postmaster, Richard Rose Ross, served following Mr. Cumberland's term of office until April 16, 1896 with the Post Office being located on Sec. 25-19-25W. From the address given on the occasion of the unveiling of the Ross Cairn in 1970, the following quote is of interest: "The first school in the area was in the Ross home. A country store was also operated there and not long afterwards the Post Office came under his care. In the store and Post Office he maintained friendly and effective relations with the folk of the Waywayseecappo reservation. This was especially appreciated during the restless days of 1885."

Thomas Buchanan was the next postmaster, whose period of appointment was from June 1, 1897 to April 24, 1900. He was followed by H. B. Cooper who served for a short period during 1900. With Mr. Cooper's appointment the Post Office was moved from the Thomas Buchanan farm (now the Kasey Genovey farm) where it had been located during Mr. Buchanan's period of service. This move brought the Post Office to what was then called the Village Corner. The building where Mr. Cooper also had a small grocery and general store was located on the present site of the Toronto-Dominion Bank.

Following Mr. Cooper's death, William Young was appointed postmaster on February 1, 1901.-Mr. Young bought Mr. Cooper's store where the Post Office was located. The Post Office was moved to William Young's new store premises across the road (site of the present Co-op Store). These new premises had been built following sale of the original Cooper property by William Young to the Bank of Toronto

who were planning a new building on that location. Later William Young sold his newly constructed premises to John Hook who operated the general store while William Young continued on with the Post Office in a building just south of the present location of the Toronto-Dominion Bank. The Telephone Office was located in this same building. This move in location took place in 1912.

A good many years later, Mr. Young decided to retire and the department asked him to recommend a successor. However, he advised them to advertise the vacancy. Eighteen applied, but as returned veterans had preference, fifteen were eliminated. J. G. Stitt was chosen and served as postmaster from August 1926 to August 1961, a period of thirty-five years. When Jack Stitt took over as postmaster, the Post Office was moved to his general store, which he had taken over in 1921, and was situated on the location of the present residence of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Twerdun, just east of the C.N.R. tracks on the south side of Victoria Avenue. In 1948 following sale of his store to Rossburn Consumers Co-op, the Post Office was moved to its present location on Mountain Avenue. Mr. Stitt had undertaken construction of a new building with Alex J. Saley as contractor.

Following Jack Stitt's retirement, Miss C. (Lottie) Stitt was acting postmaster from August 1961 until January 1, 1962 until a new postmaster could be named.

Rowatt J. Veitch became postmaster on January 1, 1962 and served for over 15 years, retiring on October 4, 1977. Dwain G. Lawless was named acting postmaster on October 5, 1977 and served until November 22, 1977. William M. Kushniryk, the present postmaster, assumed his duties in Rossburn on November 23, 1977.

The Rossburn Post Office observed its 100th An-



Rossburn Post Office Celebrating its 100th anniversary, Aug. 1, 1980. Left to right: Bill Kushniryk, Jack Stitt, Lottie Stitt, Rowatt Veitch, Ed Shust.

niversary of service to the community on August 1, 1980. The event was marked by an Open House which started at 10 a.m. to mark the historic occasion. During the ceremony attended by Canada Post officials, postmaster William M. Kushniryk was presented with a framed, congratulatory message from Postmaster General André Ouellet.

Ruthenia Post Office

Ruthenia Post Office was established Dec. 1, 1924 with Peter Gensiorek as the first postmaster. He served in that position from Dec. 1, 1924 until Nov. 30, 1928 when the Post Office was closed temporarily.

Nick Derkach was appointed postmaster on Oct. 15, 1929 when Ruthenia Post Office was re-opened. He remained postmaster until Feb. 11, 1948. The next postmaster following Mr. Derkach's departure from the district was Walter Pushka who received the appointment effective April 1, 1948. He retained the position until April 16, 1952.

The last official appointment of an acting postmaster took place on July 2, 1952. Official department records indicate Mike E. Olynyk's appointment continued until March 24, 1954. Permanent closing of Ruthenia Post Office occurred then.

Vista Post Office

The Vista Post Office was opened in 1905. The first Postmaster was Wm. Miller. The Post Office was in his farm home, situated about a quarter of a mile west of the village.

About 1915, the Post Office was moved to an office in the Western Canada Flour Mills' warehouse, in the village. And the Postmaster was Otto Miller, a son of the first Postmaster.

In 1917, the Post Office was moved to the General Store, and Julius Gourdeau, who had previously purchased the store, was the Postmaster. When Julius Gourdeau sold the store in 1923, the Post Office was moved again. This time, to the small Confectionery Store owned by Geo. Sinclair. And, he was the next Postmaster. A short time later, Geo. Sinclair purchased the General Store, and the Post Office was moved again. Geo. Sinclair continued as Postmaster until 1944; at that time, he sold the store to Lazaruk Bros.

The next Postmaster was Wilfred Miller, another son of the first Postmaster. The Post Office was in a new building near his residence. He continued as Postmaster until his death in 1952. Then, his wife carried on until 1971, when she retired.

In 1971, the Post Office was moved back to the General Store again. In the intervening years, the store had been purchased by the Bakers, and Dick Baker became Postmaster.

Agriculture

The History of Agriculture in Rossburn In the Beginning . . .

Why did the settlers come to the Rossburn area? Although it is said that, over the years, there were a number of reasons for the settlement of the Rossburn area; the first and foremost reason was the abundance of trees and the logging business that flourished as a result of the forests. The first "log-cutting" area was near the source of the Birdtail Creek in what is now known as the Riding Mountain National Park. Thousands of logs were floated down the Birdtail each spring to MacArthur's Mill located at Birtle.

Another reason for the permanent settlement of the Rossburn district was that settlers who had homesteaded the Gladstone-Portage area were flooded out on many occasions and other settlers, knowing of the area's susceptibility to flooding, wanted to find homesteads on higher land. The land in the Rossburn area was not only of higher elevation but was well forested which provided its first pioneers with logs for fuel and building, habitat for a wide variety of wildlife, meadows flowing with grass and hay for their livestock, and a rich soil for the sowing of their crops once some of the land was cleared and broken.

The area was rich in natural resources with an abundance of water and wildlife as the early Natives were able to live "off the land" with what Nature would provide. The lakes and streams were teeming with fish, wild berries such as saskatoons, chokecherries, pincherries, cranberries, raspberries and strawberries grew in abundance as well as hazelnuts and an assortment of mushrooms, the forests were abounding with elk, deer, bear, rabbit and partridge and each slough nestled a flock or two of wild ducks, particularly the mallard species. The area was also a trappers' haven as the lakes and streams provided a home for the many species of fur-bearing animals, namely; mink, weasel, muskrat and later the beaver.

When the first settlers arrived, they had a wide selection of land to choose from; each homestead consisted of a quarter section of land (160) acres. In 1882-83 a pre-emption was introduced. The farmer

was given three years to build a house and a barn and break around 20-25 acres of land. If he did all this, he would qualify for a second quarter section of land.

For clearing the land, they used a grub hoe and a single furrow plow. The grub hoe was used to clear forests. One side was shaped like a hoe, while the other side was shaped like an axe. The Anglo Saxons brought this handy tool with them from Ontario.

The single furrow plow was used to break the land. It was a two wooden-handled machine which was pulled by one or two oxen. The average farmer owned two oxen.

Seeding

Seeding was first done by the broadcasting method, where the seed was thrown from side to side from a seed bag. Red fife wheat was the main crop sown because it served as a source of food. They also sowed barley and oats.

As time progressed, horse-powered machinery was introduced. An early machine that was used at seeding time was the man-made harrows. It had bands of wood bonded together with iron spikes. It was very similar to what is used today.

At this time, a novelty was brought in — a gatling seeder. It was Mr. Cummings who first introduced this machine the only one of its kind ever in the district:

"It fitted on the back of a wagon box and was run by a sprocket wheel and chain fixed to the hind wheel of the wagon. The hopper was above and the grain ran into the flanges. It would sow a swath about 30 feet wide and would sow about sixty acres in a day. It went from farm to farm in the spring for many years."

Threshing

According to Rossburn records, it seems that threshing had to have been one of the biggest events of farming. The methods of threshing have probably evolved the most.

Harvesting was first done with a scythe and then, later, a cradle. Both implements were operated by swinging it along the ground, and they were used to cut grain and hay. The cut grain was then tied into sheaves, and the sheaves were placed into stooks. This allowed the grain to mature until ready to be

threshed. At this point of time, they did not have twine to tie the sheaves, so they had to make their own bands. This was achieved by twisting straw together. These straw bands kept the sheaf tied securely. A good description of this time (around 1880) is shown by a reminiscence of Mrs. Alexander Brown:

"The first year we ploughed five acres and sowed it in oats. When harvest time came, he took a scythe and mowed it down, then took a hand rake to gather it and bound it into sheaves. He stacked it, and then came the trouble of getting it threshed. He bared a piece of ground and poured water on it to make a bed. He made a flail by tying two sticks, a little piece apart and pounded the oats out. To clean them we spread a quilt and when the wind was blowing held up the oats to let the dirt blow out. They sold for a dollar and a quarter a bushel."

As time progressed, technology improved machinery, and soon a reaper was introduced. This implement could be described as a modern-day swather. It was pulled either by a horse or oxen along the field. The cut grain fell on a canvas which carried it to a platform on the side. When there was enough cut to make a sheaf, it was raked on to the ground. The sheaves were then made, stooked and left to mature. Mr. Hugh Warnock gives an insight as to how much a reaper cost:

"We got our crops cut for years with an old reaper of Robert Hamilton's and had to tie the sheaves afterwards. It broke down on our farm one fall and as they knew it could not be repaired it was left in the slough where it is yet. We mowed the rest of the crop and the next year we bought a new Toronto binder from J. Penelton at Birtle for \$165.00."

At that time, there were very few threshing machines, so the stooks had to be stacked every fall. For a few years, the power used for threshing was the old horsepower. John Young and his brother Jim owned the first separator in the district: a six-armed, twelve horse power machine. They went miles away threshing each season. Alex Cummings was also one of the first farmers to own a separator.

Later, John replaced his old horse power outfit with a steam outfit. Fifty to sixty days was the usual threshing run and it used to take well into the winter before all the threshing was done.

A threshing outfit consisted of a steam engine and a separator or threshing machine. At the very start, the sheaves were cut by hand and then spread evenly on a canvas platform. There were two men to perform this task. They would also feed the sheaves into the machine from the stack. The straw was left in one pile and had to be removed by a man with a team. He tied a rope around the straw stack and dragged it out of the way. It was used for livestock feed. Soon a blower was added to the mechanism which blew the straw into huge piles but the machine was still fed by hand. Later, knives were added, and this replaced the

man who had to cut the bands. By this time, twine had been introduced.

Even though these improvements were made, many problems arose. The straw blower built better stacks but created problems with the horses on windy days. There was always trouble at the machine because horses were ready to bolt at the least unusual noise which resulted in runaways. Racks would upset in the field and the teams would take off.

The Men Involved in the Operation

1. 8-10 Stook Teams: They were the men who drove the horses hitched to the wagon with racks to hold the sheaves. They drove to the stooks and pitched the sheaves onto the racks with a three-pronged pitch fork.
2. 4 Pitchers on the Field: These men stayed in the fields helping the wagon drivers load up the racks, one from each side, building the loads as they pitched the sheaves on.
3. 2 or more Grain Men: These men hauled the grain back to the granaries.
4. 1 Tank Man: This man drove a wagon loaded with a huge tank which held approximately 100 gallons of water for the steamer. They usually drew the water up by a long hose and a hand pump. They obtained the water from a slough or river. The steamer would give three loud blasts which meant that it was getting low on water. They used two or three tanks depending on how far away the nearest water supply was. These tanks, which were made from wood, usually dried up over the seasons and leaked badly. They had to be caulked with old rags. It was surprising how often the young tank man had to go to the house for material — especially if there was a cute hired girl there.
5. 1 Straw Man: His job was to see that there was enough straw or wood available. Usually the first days of firing was done with wood until a straw pile was made. If straw was scarce, wood was used throughout the operation.
6. 1 Fireman: He fed straw and wood steadily from the stock pile.
7. 1 Engineer: This man looked after the steamer by servicing it with oil and grease when required.
8. 1 Separator Man: He took care of the separator by performing the necessary duties: oiling, belt repairs, etc.
9. 1 Band Cutter: Before the self feeders, a man stood on a platform, cut the sheaf bands, and stuffed the sheaves into the cylinder of the separator. The stook men threw them from the racks onto the platform from both sides. The band

cutters were made from one mower section and fitted into a leather strap handle.

10. 2 Bag Men: They were required before the grain elevator existed. Put on the side of the separator, both men held the bag as it filled with grain. Then the bags were tied. While one tied, the other loaded the bags on single deck boxes. These bags consisted of around two bushels and weighed around 120 lbs. Some contained two and a half bushels and weighed around 150 lbs.
11. 2 Spike Pitchers: These men stood on the racks with the stook teams at the machines, assuring three sheaves on the feeder at once.

George Shaw owned the largest threshing outfit in this district, and it was later owned by James A. Armstrong. The separator had a 40" cylinder.

The hours were long — from 6 A.M. to 8 P.M. In the evening the men were very hungry and had to be fed. They worked day after day, as long as the weather was good. The men on the stook teams had to feed, harness, water, and groom the horses. The grain man was always last in at night because he would finish the load and then put his team up for the night. The men would return to their sleeping accommodation — a caboose that went with the outfit.

Harvesting has gone from hand scything, tying and flailing, to binders, stooks and separators. From there, it has progressed into the swather and combine to the straight combine in prime conditions. Each method had its own merits and drawbacks. Most of the grain was salvaged in the hand tying, stooking and flailing days. The binder was quick in cutting and tying in one operation, but stooking was still required. The swather had done away with the expense of twine and stooking, but it still has its drawbacks. Swaths take a long time to dry if soaked by the rain. But, if weather conditions are right, the speed of this type of harvesting beats all.

Harvesting in a Woman's World

A farmer's wife was always busy in the early days with the regular inside and outside chores, but when harvest rolled around, it was a hectic race against time. Gangs of men, as many as twenty-four on some outfits, would drop in on her with only a few hours notice. Of course she was always expecting them within a short period of time, and she knew whose farm was next in line to be threshed. There were no phones back in those times and there was no sure way of calculating when they would finish. So Mother had to be ready to whip up a meal for a whole gang on a very short notice.

Usually, pies by the dozen were baked every other day and put everywhere imaginable to cool (window sills, beds, dressers, etc.). There were no

freezers or refrigerators where one could store them well in advance.

How to keep meat fresh throughout harvest time was a big problem. Most was kept in salt brine or smoke houses.

Vegetables were peeled by the pailful. Cakes and cookies were made by the dozens. There was always lunches to make (which were taken out to the field for the men), dishes to wash, tables to set, and during all these extra jobs, Mother and children did the farm chores around the yard. This included feeding chickens, pigs, milking cows, gathering eggs, taking cows to and from pasture, separating the milk from the cream, among other things. She also had to raise a family.

Harvesting is done with trucks and combines at the present time so she doesn't have to make sheaves and stook. Usually there are two men involved with the operation, and the housewife has no extra cooking to do for large gangs. She has the freezer, refrigerator, and fast convenient foods to help her out. Life is a lot easier for the farmer's wife.

After the Grain was Threshed . . .

The grain was hauled in two to two and a half bushel bags and they were emptied into a bin. They had to make steps out of the bags so they could get the bag high enough to dump it. But as time moved on, farmers changed to small portable granaries that were moved along side the separator. This saved a lot of time because the grain was poured directly into the granary from the machine. These granaries were pulled by horse and oxen.

"Speaking of the grain of the early days, which the Pedens bound with itself as did their neighbours for many years, they sold their first wheat to the Government farm for seed and received two dollars and a half for the wheat and a dollar and a half for the oats. They were sure they were going to be rich in no time but they were soon to sell a thousand bushels of oats for ninety dollars. So they had their ups and downs of fortune. When they first hauled their grain to Solsgrith and Kelloe it was stored in flat warehouses on trucks before the elevators were built."

In 1881 wheat was selling for \$1.00 a bushel.

This quote illustrates what the prices were like around 1888:

"We discussed the prices-14 cents per bushel for oats and 25 cents for wheat, but one load of oats even at that price would pay the taxes or buy 300 pounds of sugar or 8 sacks of flour."

The farmers would also have their grain milled into flour, but a grist mill was required. They would travel to Birtle, for there they had one.

"The Rosssburn grist mill was not started until 1919. In 1905 the CNR was built into Rosssburn and with it came the grain elevators which made life a little more pleasant."

At that time, their flour was No. 4 grade.

Tractors

When tractors were introduced, some used them

only for threshing because that was the most important. Some used their tractors for plowing which pulled two to three furrow plows. Larger tractors might have drawn up to eight furrow plows.

The first gas tractor introduced was before World War I. The Hart-Parr was one of the first kind, and also the Rumley. After these came the Case, the Waterloo, and the John Deere.

Livestock

Most farmers in Rossburn Municipality milked cows at one time or another. This usually was the only money wives had to purchase household necessities, especially groceries. It was the only ready cash they had for months on end until harvest time.

Milking was usually the first and the last chore done in a farmer's long day. The chore of bringing the cows to and from the pasture fell on the wife or children. At night, the cows were usually held close to home in a night pasture or corral to save time in the morning. Most cows were brought in all year around and tied in stalls or fastened into stanchions for milking but many preferred to milk the cows outside during the summer months in the corral. This was fine if the cows were quiet and would stand still throughout the ordeal.

The farmers soon got into cattle raising. Short-horns were the most popular breed in the beginning. Some farmers had registered herd sires. John Brody and Alex Cummings raised registered Aberdeen Angus.

The pioneers always had horses. In fact, Alex McDonald raised registered Clydesdales. The Youngs raised registered Percherons.

Each farmer owned more or less each type of animal. This included turkeys, chickens, ducks, pigs, horses, and a few head of cattle.

"One of the events of each season was the round-up for taking the cattle out to sell. The day before starting for our shipping point, every beast was run into a big corral located on the flats of Harry Sleigh's farm. Then we let out the ones that were not to be sold and had the others ready. Starting early the next morning there would be seven or eight men on horse back with about as many trained dogs. It took all day of hard driving to get to Shoal Lake. We could not stop for dinner but lunched in the saddle. We always stayed the night in Shoal Lake, usually at the Marshall House. The whole bunch of cattle were sold to the one buyer, as a rule John Menzies, who shipped them to Winnipeg. In the years of 1895-1900 the prices ran from twenty five to thirty dollars each for good two-year old steers. The biggest cattle men in the Valley in those days were the Grants and the Plants, who worked together and lived together for many years. They wintered their cattle back by Gunn's Creek, some of the women going with them to cook. In the years after 1895 they had a creamery, and one year the Grants themselves milked forty head of cows. The creamery, however, did not last more than four or five years."

Catastrophes

According to Rossburn records, it seems that the worst catastrophe that hit the Rossburn Pioneers was the frost of 1888.

"The men scattered straw around the fields and burned it at eleven o'clock, hoping to warm the air; Robert Hamilton, the Taylors, and everybody, but it did not save the crop. It rotted where it stood." Some built smudges around the grain which kept off a certain amount of frost.

There was one more catastrophe that occurred and that was a bad snowstorm of March 1904. The seeding was late, but the crops were good in the fall.

Statistics for Township 19-24 in Rossburn Municipality

— From the records of John MacPhail.

1887 — There were three hired men and no maids

— Wages were twenty dollars per month in the summer

— Several farmers were planting black and red currants

Livestock

1892 — 200 sheep

1891 — 143 milk cows

1891 — 25 brood mares

1891 — three stallions

In 1891: prairie land was selling at \$3.00 per acre; improved land was selling at \$5.00 per acre; there were 25 farmers who averaged 50 acres of cultivated land a piece.

In 1899, there were: 55 horses; 250 cattle (breeds Durham and Hereford); 40 sheep (breeds Cotswell); 50 Berkshire hogs.

In 1899: wheat yields were 15 bushels per acre; oat yields were 20 bushels per acre; barley yields were 20 bushels per acre.

First variety of named oats to be grown here was Tartarian Black Oats.

First variety of named wheat was Red Fife.

One of the first registered seed growers was Alex MacPhail who started in 1932, and was later followed by Bert Mitchell.

submitted by K. M. Kostecky

Agricultural Report — 1886

The following article, written by Harry Aylwin, was compiled from historical Department of Agriculture statistical reports submitted by Mr. Alexander MacPhail, and published in the Rossburn Review April 6, 1979.

The report of June 1, 1886 for Township 19, Range 24, tells us that general condition of livestock was good, no disease was prevailing and there was sufficient fodder.

The crops looked well and the weather was showery and very favourable. None of the 1885 wheat crop was still on hand and only 25 percent of the previous year's oat crop still retained.

Mr. John MacPhail, correspondent, reported 110 acres summerfallowed in 1885, 300 acres of fall plowing in 1885 and 300 acres of plowing done that

spring for crop that year. Spring plowing commenced April 12, 1886. 363 acres of Fife Wheat was sown beginning on April 8 and completed on April 20. 200 acres of oats were sown of the Black Tartarian variety and 150 of six rowed barley had been sown between May 1st and 15th. The report further stated that there were no noxious weeds prevailing in the Township in 1885.

Mr. MacPhail's report the following year for Township 19, Range 24, County of Russell, mailed on June 1st, 1887 showed livestock condition again to be good and healthy with no disease prevailing and sufficient fodder again on hand.

The condition of crops on June 1st was again very good as were the meadows and pastures. Mr. MacPhail reported that only 25 percent of the previous year's wheat crop was still on hand and 30 percent of the oat crop.

Wheat seeding of approximately 400 acres began on April 6th and ended on April 21, seeding of 250 acres of oats commenced on April 15th and ended on April 30th, while barley seeding of 200 acres commenced on May 10th and ended on May 25th. That year the report also shows 15 acres was sown to potatoes and 10 acres of field roots.

Summerfallow in 1886 amounted to 175 acres and fall plowing to 400 acres. Spring plowing of 285 acres commenced on April 14th. Once again no noxious weeds prevailed the previous crop season.

We then jump to May 1st, 1890 for the next crop report. In the interval D. H. Harrison had been replaced as Minister of Agriculture by Thomas Greenway, as noted by the reporting forms.

Spring plowing commenced on April 12, 1890. Average wages per month with board were \$18.00. That year's crop included 600 acres sown to wheat, 325 acres sown to oats, and 200 acres sown to barley. They must have liked potatoes in those days as 25 acres were planted and 15 acres to roots.

The livestock was again looking well. The weather during seeding time was favorable for work and growth and crops were far ahead of average, with meadows and pastures reported as splendid. The type of weeds prevailing were reported as pigweed and lamb's quarter. Arbor Day was not observed that year and sufficient farm labour was reported. Mr. MacPhail reported the cream is taken to Shoal Lake Creamery.

The next report was dated May 15, 1894 with 500 acres of wheat sown, 650 acres of oats and 140 acres of barley, with 25 acres again sown to potatoes. Spring seeding started on April 10 and was general on April 18. No grain had been held over from the previous year's crop. The year's weather was very favourable for seeding with the condition of mead-

ows and pastures being reported as splendid. The weather at time of report was very dry as there had been no rain for two weeks. We also note that the 1894 report listed the Municipality as Rosssburn.

The final report was for 1895 and showed seeding had commenced on April 1st and was general on April 10th and completed on May 26th. Wages that year had taken a slump from \$16.00 a month the year before to \$15.00 a month. Wages per month on a yearly basis was only \$120.00 a year. No grain was again carried over from the previous year and no cattle were being fed for beef during the winter. Grain was growing very even and was further advanced than in previous years. Pastures were way ahead of any previous years.

It might be noted in the 1890 report that there were 30 farmers in the Township with an average of 39 acres, whether that meant in crop or in total area we don't know.

A Recollection About "Wheat Seeding in Early March"

This article was written by Ed. Harris and published in the Rosssburn Review during the spring of 1969.

In last week's issue it was mentioned that March temperatures averaged the 2nd warmest in the records for this part of the province, and one of our older residents mentioned that the winter over-all was the finest he could remember. This is likely right. We are indebted to E.H.H. for the following letter in which he recalls what was the warmest March in his memory. Just one, little note, however should be given to how that March 60 years ago ended up (which was something that did not happen in '68) and maybe could occur yet this spring!

"I read with a certain amount of interest, that item in your last issue re some old timer's statement that this last March was the warmest March, he could recall in the last sixty years. The same which gave my old memories a kickback to the year either 1908,-09 or 10. I am not quite certain which year it was. It's a long way back to those days. And a year or two does not make much difference to us oldtimers now-a-days.

At that time Mr. Peter Black, a railroad contractor, owned the farm that is owned by Mr. B. Mitchell and his son John. Mr. Black in those days used to winter the railroad horses on the farm. Sometimes we would have fifty or seventy horses on the farm, and would use them to put in the crop, before they went on to some of Mr. Black's railroad contracts. In those days I was a kind of synthetic manager of Mr. Black's farm. And I remember some of the gang harrowing on the first of Mar., and starting the

seeder seeding wheat on the fourth of March in one of the three years I mentioned above.

We continued the farm operation all through March. We did not seed any oats in March as we considered it was too risky to seed these in early springs as they were more apt to freeze in the early stages, than the wheat would. But when we had seeded the amount of wheat we intended to seed I put the teams on the plows. We had six or seven of these, 12 and 14 inches. So you can imagine the amount of work we could do with a big gang like we had. And these operations continued all through March until about the 25th. By this time the wheat was up three or four inches. And remember, through all of March we did not have one nip of frost, that beats last March by a country mile. And then the blizzard gremlins pulled off one of their springtime jokes.

This was on the 27th of March, this happened to be on Saturday night. In those days we used to go to town for our weekly supplies. We did not have any cars. All our travelling was done by horses, single or team, nearly always this would be done on Saturday night. I remember that on this Saturday night we had just got into the yard with the wagon. We had been using wagons since the middle of February. The snow had all melted around the second week in February, so we could not use the sleighs. It started to rain, not very heavy, as we pulled into the yard. The peculiar part was that it wasn't one of those cold spring rains that we sometimes get in March or April, but a nice warm summer rain. There was a gentle breeze blowing from the south-east. As we unhitched the horses, and put them in the barn, those half crazed blizzard gremlins switched their weather turntable right around, and in less than five minutes one of the worst blizzards I have run into during my long sojourn in Manitoba was howling out of the Nor'west. You couldn't make anyone who hadn't experienced that swift and sudden change, believe that it could change so savage and fast, after the beautiful summer weather we had all through March. Just on a guess I'd say the temperature averaged between 45 and 60 all March.

And that mad blizzard raged all through the night. The next morning Sunday, our wheat which had been so beautiful and green the day before, was frozen black as the Earl of Hades waistcoat. And the ground was harder than the hobbs of (you know where.) I am sure it must have been 10 below and it stayed that way for about two weeks. But lucky for us the wheat all started again, but it was no further ahead, than the grain we sowed in the middle of April. So you see you can never tell what the lousy gremlins of winter have got canned up for us, and are ready to inflict on us any old time that they happen to be feeling mad at us.

But I think you will agree that this was the warmest March, all through, on record. It's a long way back, and I have never been lucky to see another March like that one in all my life (oh well never mind, none of us old timers like to be reminded about what Old Father Time has done to us.)"

Creameries and Cheese Factories

The industrious pioneers of the municipality were, back to the earliest days, interested in ideas that would prove profitable and beneficial to the community.

The "Reminiscences of the Rossburn Pioneers" recorded that "in 1887 a group of men organized what they hoped, and proved, to be a money-making concern — a cheese factory. It was to be a co-operative company. Jos. Sharman was president and R. Carson was secretary. Others interested were W. Armstrong, J. J. Stitt, S. S. Warnock, the Pedens and the Rosses. The building was put in the valley along the river where the pasturage was ample, for the farmers rented their cows each summer (six or seven each) until there were as many as sixty or seventy cows to milk. One or two men would be hired to milk these. Jimmie Scarret, a young Englishman, made himself remembered by milking from thirty to fifty cows twice each day. Wm. Crowe was one of the early cheese makers.

The factory operated about four years, then a site nearer the present village, 13-19-25 to be exact, was given by Mr. Sharman. Five hundred dollars was granted for the building and the running. Up to this, the company had prospered with good dividends, but about this time, times changed, with more of a turn to stock farming. The price of cheese fell, difficulties arose over the legal agreements and a lawsuit followed. This was saved by the wording of the agreement but after all the company collapsed."

Then another enterprise appeared on the dairy scene locally and history records, a different location, different investors and an attempt to operate a successful creamery enterprise.

The Birdtail Stock Co. was a business enterprise of the 1890s and early 1900s. The company was formed by valley farmers and other investors, prominent amongst those involved being the Grants and Plants.

It is known that they used to drive their stock over to Shoal Lake for rail shipment when Shoal Lake was the end of the line. This annual cattle drive was an important event.

The cattle business was diversified to the point where a creamery was established. This creamery was located at Ranchvale (SW 36-20-25) and was operated by the Birdtail Stock Company with Angus



Hauling milk and cream to creamery. Standing on the dray are George Kelso (right) and Howard Alexander (left).



Bob Buchanan hauling cream to Rossburn Creamery in 1922.

Grant as butter maker. They milked as many as 40 cows. The power was a three horse tread-mill. The butter produced was of good quality — it was then teamed to Shoal Lake. The creamery remained in business from about 1895 to 1900.

A news report in a paper published at that time recorded in July 1898, that “Messrs Grant and Plant of the Birdtail Stock Co. were going in extensively for butter-making.” This business enterprise was listed in Henderson’s Directory in 1900.

In March 1902 a newspaper item commented “Rossburn is looking up now. The cheese factory

which has been standing idle for some years, is to be fitted up with a butter plant and operation started as soon as convenient. Mr. Young intends operating it with his store.”

The creamery apparently operated on a seasonal basis, as on May 17, 1906, an item is noted that “The Rossburn Creamery opens this week with good prospects for an increased patronage.” In the next Rossburn news column it was noted that “Hough and Wickware butter factory re-opens this week with Mr. Sutherland as manager.” Later that fall, in November, a news item appeared that “Hough and Wickware’s Creamery is closing after a successful season.”

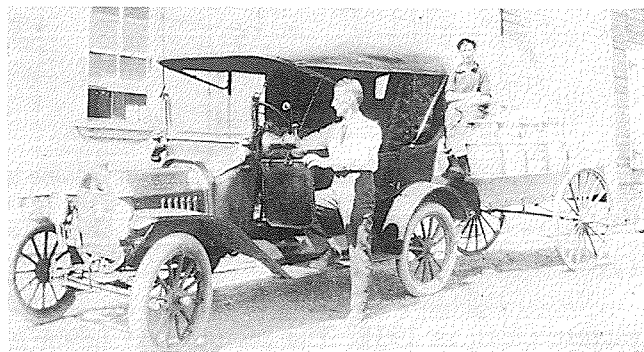
A recollection by one of our older residents is that of dropping off cream cans at the creamery on the way to Perth School. W. J. (Bill) Crowe was the creamery manager at that time.

As far as can be ascertained and through business listings in Henderson’s Directory, the business operated at a location 2½ miles south of Rossburn on the west side of the road. Many Rossburn residents know of the “cheese factory hill”, or the “creamery hill”, as its location was referred to.

A building and business then was established at another location just north of Rossburn, approximately mid-way between the present fair grounds and the intersection at the mile corner. It was also located on the west side of the road on 2½ acres of land purchased from Jasper Strong.

More can be learned of the creamery in its location north of town, by reading the Kelso story in the reminiscences section of this book.

In April 1918 it is recorded that “The new plant has been installed in the creamery, and everything is in shape for the reception of cream. Mr. George Kelso has been engaged as assistant buttermaker. Owing to the great demand for butter made from the pasteurized cream, and the increased output during the past few years, the new plant, which is modern, is greater in capacity and one of the best in the



Dave Hough, owner of the creamery. George Kelso on top of the cans, 1917.

province. The proprietors, Hough Bros. are now in a position to handle a large quantity of cream and give satisfaction to their patrons."

The business was purchased in 1924 by Smellie Bros. Ltd. and was eventually closed. The building was moved from its location just north of town to a vacant lot on Railway Ave. across from the Douglas Hotel in June 1932 by Jim Strong. It was planned to operate a garage in the building.

It was not until June 1946 that Rossburn's next creamery commenced operation under the management of R. N. Hutton for Smellie Bros and Co. The plant was located on the present Manco site and further information can be found in the Rossburn businesses section in this book.



Jack Farrel, manager and buttermaker, Rossburn Creamery, 1917.

Oxen Supplied the Power

Walter Hachkowski's team of oxen is shown in a picture taken in 1934. The picture was taken in Charlie Hachkowski's yard near his farm home. From left to right are Ted Wosney (Walter

Hachkowski's nephew), Nick Gibzey (who worked for Charlie Hachkowski that winter), Walter Hachkowski (holding the lines), Joe Hachkowski (Charlie Hachkowski's oldest son). The rest of the family are seen standing at the right. Note — the collars and hames are one, the pole hung on the neck yokes. The neck yoke hung with 2-inch leather straps around the oxen's necks. Walter Hachkowski worked these oxen between 1933 and 1938. They did every type of farm work including sowing, harrowing, cutting hay with a No. 7 International Mower, pulling a Massey Harris binder or hauling sheaves to the machine. One of the oxen would do everything his owner desired — whether it was to pull a cutter single or a stoneboat through the storm to brother Charlie Hachkowski's home. If the road was blocked, Walter Hachkowski used to ride "oxen — back" across the section, corner to corner, to his brother Charlie's farm. He had been farming 34 acres of land on NE ¼ 31-20-23 before taking over his father's farm in 1938. Martin Hachkowski's (Walter's father) farm was located on SW ¼ 21-20-23.



Winter transportation is provided by this team of oxen in 1934. There was no problem with cold weather starting in a frosty January morning with this "oxen power" in harness.

Century Family Farms Awards

Recognition of Manitoba Century Family Farms is an honor that has been received by several families who have farmed or held ownership of the same land for at least one hundred years in the area.

One hundred years is certainly noteworthy that land ownership should be retained in one family. With the increasing size of farms, a century of ownership in one family will become even more unique.

On November 4, 1981, Elwyn and Janice McFee-tors, formerly of Rossburn, were presented with a Century Farm Award certificate at a banquet in Brandon at which a number of other farms were similarly recognized. They received in addition to the Award Certificate, a Red River Cart with an engraved plaque. The inscription reads:

"Century Family Farms 1981.

Mr. & Mrs. Elwyn McFeetors, Brandon
From the City of Brandon."

The farm receiving this recognition was SW 19-19-24 which was homesteaded by J. J. Stitt. The ownership of this farm then transferred to S. J. (Orville) McFeetors and subsequently to J. O. (Elwyn) McFeetors.

On December 10, 1981, Hugh and Dorothy Armstrong received their Century Family Farms Award at a banquet held at Shoal Lake. In addition John and Jean Mervyn, of Rosburn, were similarly honored although their land which qualified for the award was just outside the R.M. of Rosburn boundaries.

The Hugh Armstrong farm (SW 4-19-24) was homesteaded by John D. McKinnon. The order in which ownership has been held since has been: John L. McKinnon, Catherine Armstrong, then Hugh Armstrong.

Meanwhile the Jean Mervyn farm (NW 31-18-24) was homesteaded by Wm. H. Armstrong. Next owner was Thomas S. Armstrong, then Jean Mervyn.

These farms also received Century Family Farm gate signs.

The Alexander MacPhail farm was the next farm to be similarly honored with the Century Family Farm award. The Century Family Farm gate sign was also awarded to Alexander MacPhail.

Alexander MacPhail was presented with the Century Family Farm award certificate on Aug. 21, 1982.

The farm (SW 11-19-24) was first homesteaded by John MacPhail. Next to hold ownership of the

Farm Life Through The Years



Sawing wood brought together neighbors and friends. John Matiowsky and son Andy are pictured sharpening the saw.

farm was Catherine MacPhail (his wife), then Alexander MacPhail (their son).

A noteworthy point of interest is that these three Century Farm gate signs are to be found within three miles.

At the time this book is written this writer has been unable to determine any other Century Family Farms being recognized in this area. It is apparent, however, that other farms in the area, qualify for this Century Farm award. Let us hope that all qualifying farms are so honored.

Fifth Generation Farm

In March 1891, T. J. Lawless, his wife (the former Margaret Wiggins) and three children, Etta, Eva and Lorne, moved from Gorrie, Ontario to Rosburn. They settled on the E½ of E½ of 31-19-24 and farmed there until 1916 when they retired to live in Rosburn. He left his son Lorne on the farm. T. J. Lawless died in 1936.

Lorne married Annie Cormack and they farmed on the same quarter section. They had two sons, George and Barrie, whom he farmed with until 1950, when Lorne passed away. George and Barrie farmed together until 1958, at which time Barrie moved to another quarter section.

George married May Stewart. They have three children; Dwain, Glenda and Kerry.

In 1978 Dwain started to farm with his father. In 1980 he married Debra Pugh. They have a son Shaun.

This makes the 5th generation of the Lawless family on the same quarter section.

(Lawless)



Rowat Veitch's team of drivers. They could reach town (about 5 miles) in 20 minutes.

Farm Life Through The Years



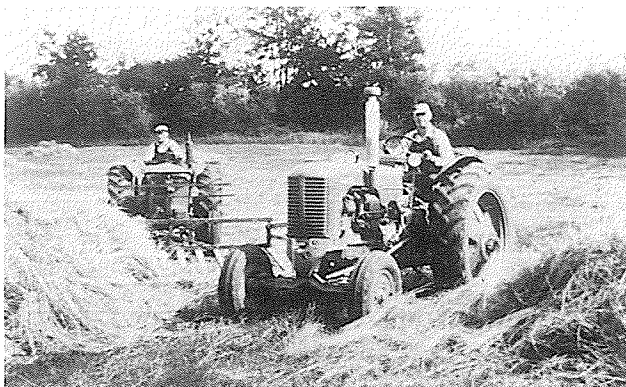
Matt Charney's winter van supplied transportation for the family. Oldest son Tom is holding the reins.



Dick Yaskiw's Rumley threshing machine and Rumley tractor in operation in 1921.



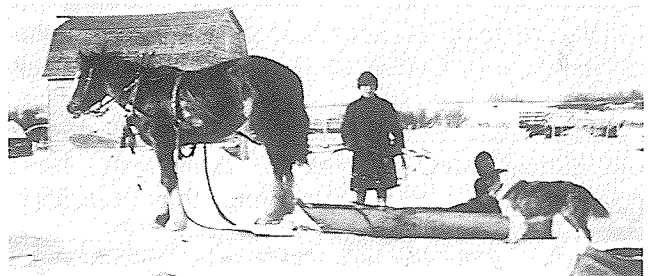
Cutting grain with a binder pulled by two horses in 1934.



It's haying time on the Nychek farm. Bill Nychek and Paul are busily working at the annual summer task.



Heading out by team to the park to cut logs in about 1940. Gordon Plante is seen on the sleigh and team at right.



There was no waiting for the school bus in those days — just hitch up the horse to the toboggan and go! Dave and Alex Cleland on their way to Bruan School.



Transportation in the early days.



Wm. Hyra's Mogul tractor and threshing machine in 1930's. Jessie Hyra (wife) at wheel.

Farm Life Through The Years



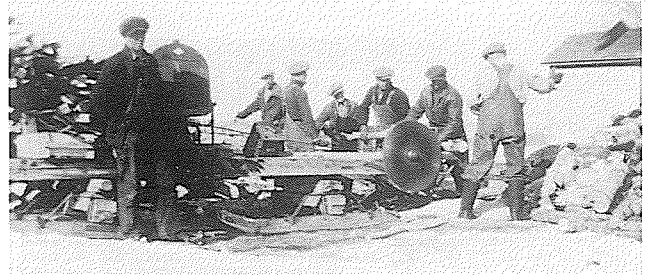
Stook loader loading sheaves.



Alexander MacPhail farmyard.



Seed plot on NW¼ 10-19-24. This stand of Selkirk wheat is pictured in July 1962.



Alex Cleland (left) in charge of Bill Finch's sawing outfit — a 4 cyl. Buick engine from an old car is providing the power, 1935.



A 6-8 h.p. stationary gas engine used for sawing fire wood; used extensively in the 30's and 40's.

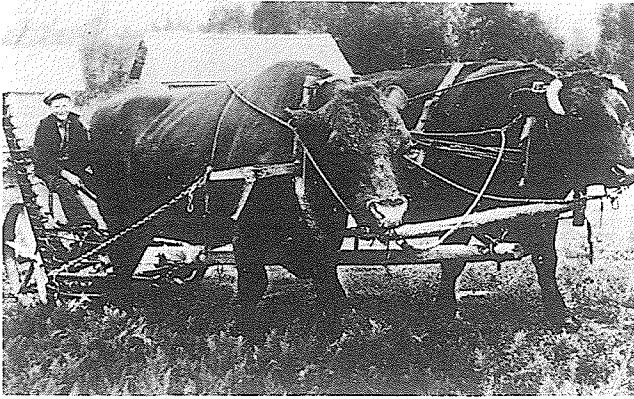


Ice saw machine in operation.

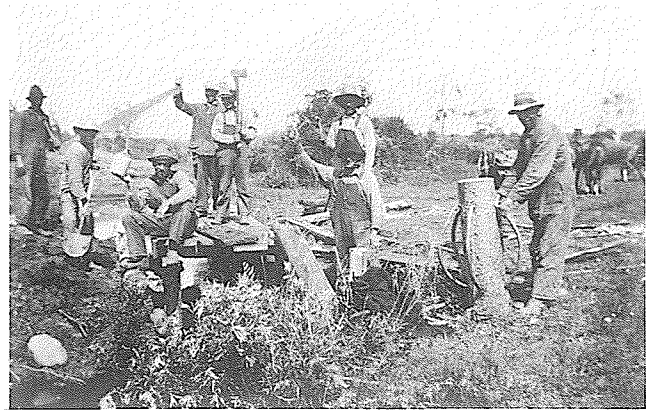


John Deere steel wheel tractor pulling a binder at Tanasychuk's farm.

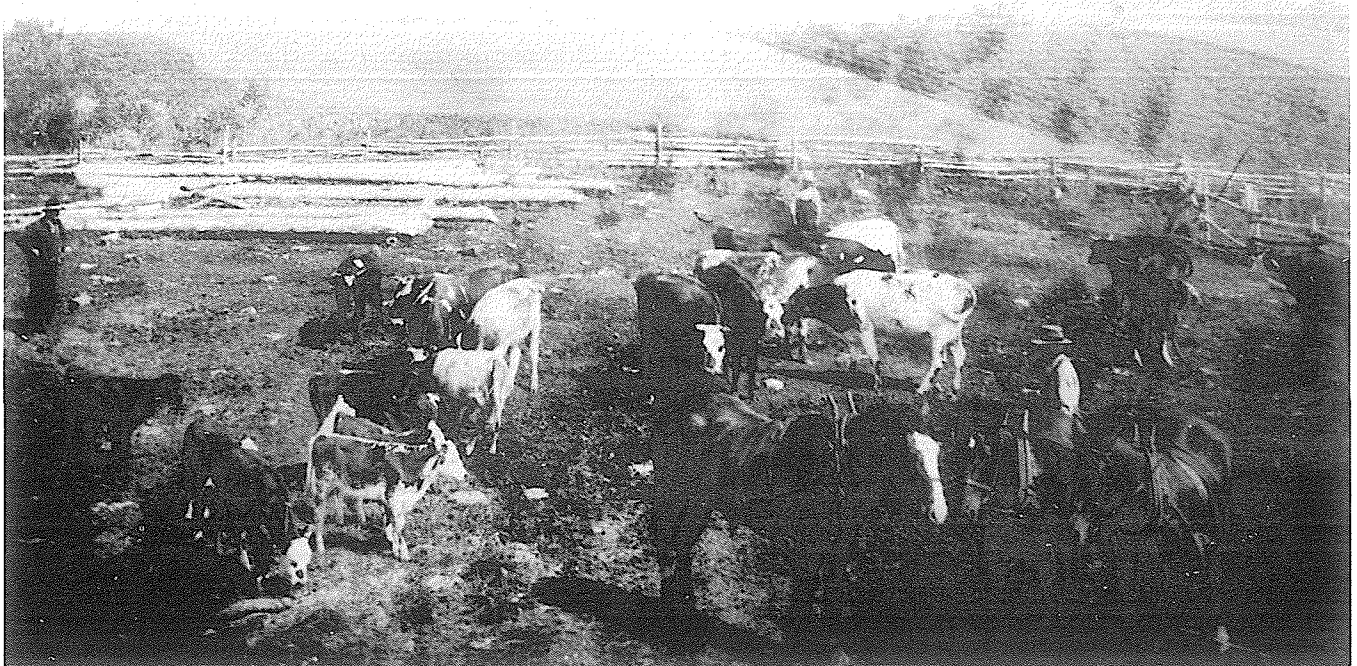
Farm Life Through The Years



Oxen supplied the power for the mower and farmer (seated) as seen in this picture taken on the homestead of Peter Kash-ton's father.



Men repairing a culvert on the road by Antonichuk's place. One can see pump house, barn, pig pen, calf corral. Left to right: Bill Kalynuk, John Levitsky, John Danyleyko, Willie An-tonichuk, John Antonichuk, Fred Topolnisky.

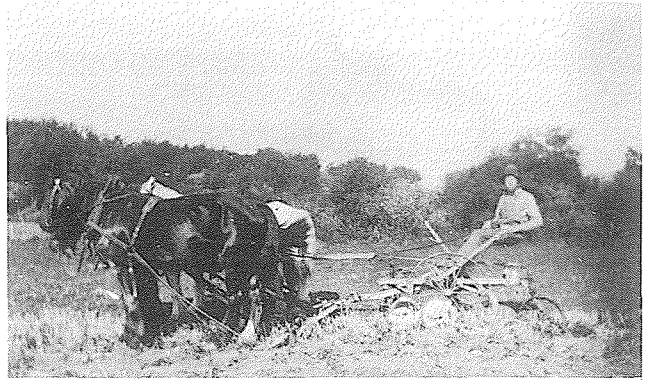


Iwan Karmazenuk's farm about 1904, NW 2-21-25, Ranchvale (later Glen Elmo P.O.).

Farm Life Through The Years



Sitting on a "tile drive" block of wood with 4 handles used by 4 men to drive the posts into the ground. Left to right: Fred Topolnisky — holding jug, Willie Antonichuk — holding spade, John Antonichuk — holding saw, Allan Elvers — holding saw, Otto Elvers — axe, John Levitsky — with straw hat, Bill Kalyniuk — black hat, Wasyl Antonichuk — by tile drive.



Alexander MacPhail plowing the field with four horses and a fourteen inch gang plow.



A typical farmyard scene from the early days. Note the thatched roofs, that were so common-place at that time, to be seen on both the home and farm buildings in the yard. This picture is believed to have been taken in the Lakedale district, north-west of Rosburn.

Farm Life Through The Years



Threshing crew ready to move to next location. "X" indicates W. A. Peden and George Stewart. Jim Irwin is running the engine.

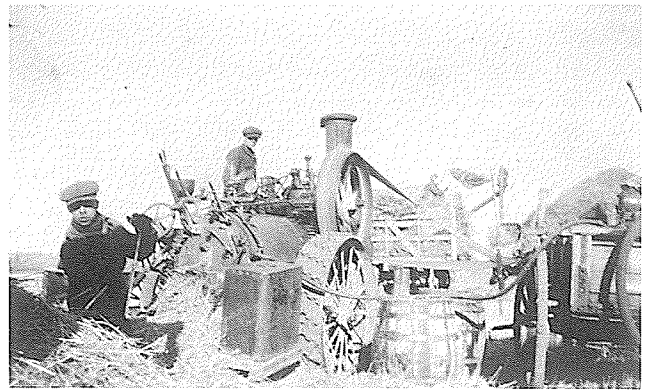


Threshing outfit at work.

Farm Life Through The Years



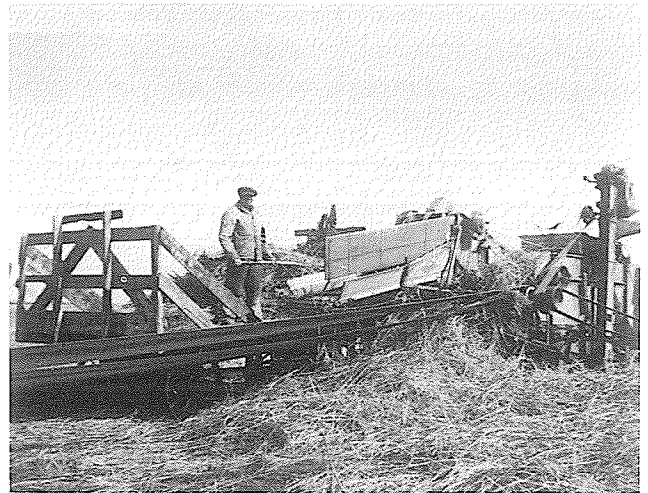
Sawing wood at Alex Kohuch's, 1938. Left to right: Charlie Pawluk, Clement Derlago, Fred Kohuch, Stanley Maydaniuk, Roy Kohuch, unknown, Mike Saley, Walter Pawluk.



Butler's threshing outfit, 1927. 14 H.P. engine being supplied with water from wooden water tank. Otto Elvers (fireman) pitching straw, at left. Walter Butler, Engineer.



Jim Armstrong's threshing outfit at the Jas. Brown farm in 1917. Left to Right: Art Chesney, Jim Brown, Jim Armstrong and Bill Stitt.



Alexander MacPhail finishing the wheat threshing May 11, 1951. Over half the crop was out all winter 1950-1951.



Butlers going out to cut hay with two mowers.

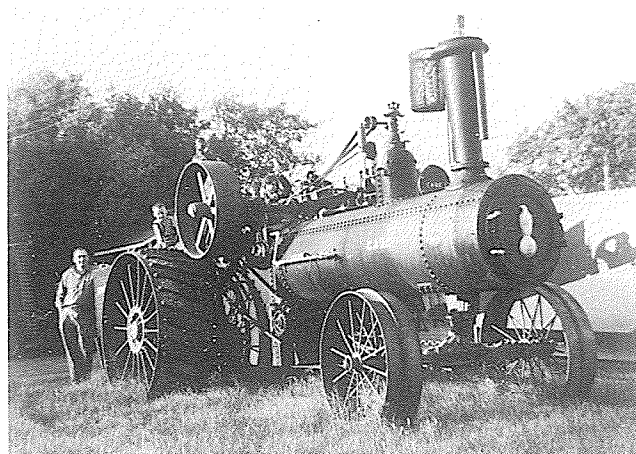


Going out to rake and slipe hay, 1934. Bill Butler on rake. Helpers, left to right: Besse (Walker) Fowler, Freda (Walker) Butler, Gertrude (Butler) Brown, Walter Butler, Frank Butler.

Farm Life Through The Years



Tractor Progress.



Case Steam Engine.



W. A. Peden and son Ray ready to dig potatoes (about 1925) on 33-19-24.

Farm Life Through The Years



Emma and Nellie Elvers carrying milk, 1941 — a step saver.



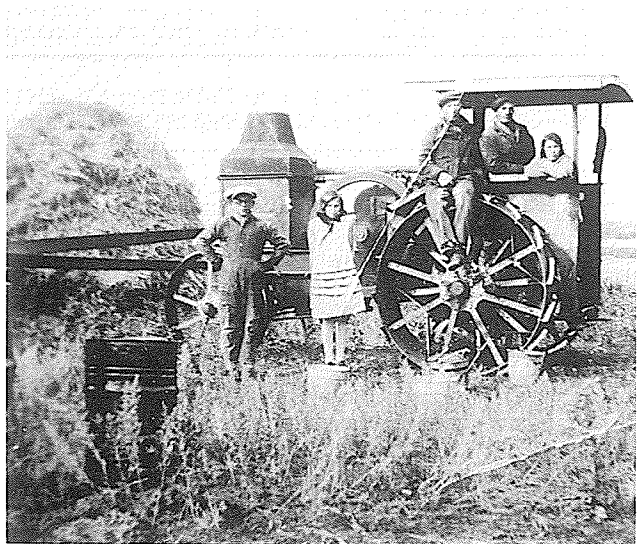
Joe Zimmerman hauling wood from the bush.



Hauling grain with grain wagons and horses on Wm. Butler's farm.

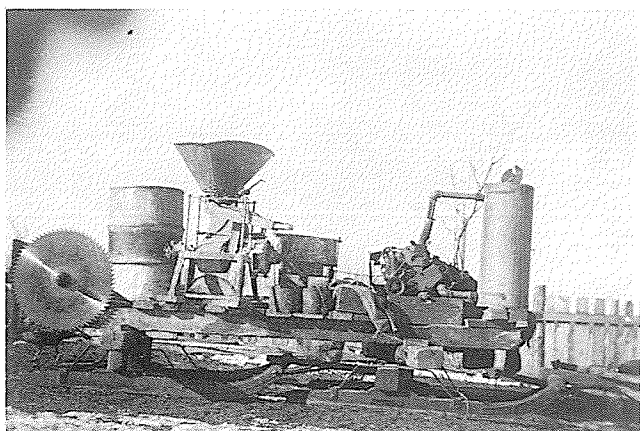


Anton Lepischak chopping wood.



This photo was taken in 1925 of a Rumley tractor. Standing at left is John Spilchuk, with Dora Semaniuk next. Mike and Matt Malaniuk are on the tractor and Pearl Spilchuk, also standing in cab.

Farm Life Through The Years



Jim Smith's sawing and crushing outfit in the 1930s.



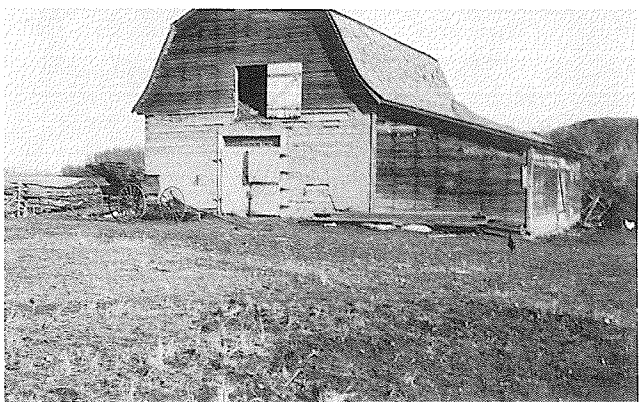
Jim Brown farm — Mr. Michael Maduke.



Yesterday's Doctor — The Prairie Publishing Co. Near Rosburn, Manitoba a sod-barn built about 1930, photo taken 1962. (Manitoba Archives photo).



Four horses supply lots of pulling power for this farming operation.



Wasył and Nastia Prosyk's farm yard in the Marco district about 1911 or 1912.

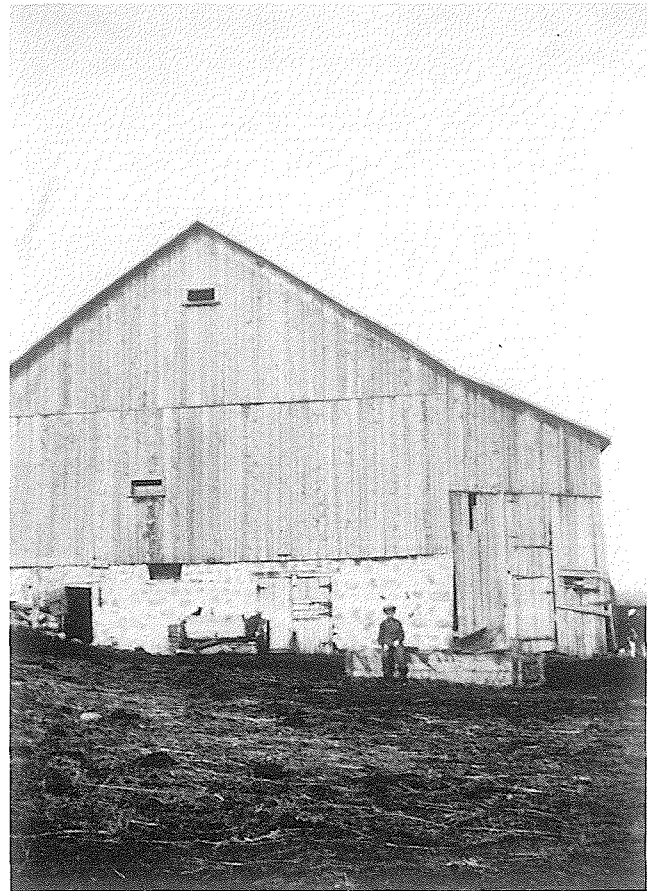


This 1934 picture shows lots of "Horse-Power" ready for work. Seen in the picture are: S. F. Hughes, Dick Cochrane, Chuck Angus. Standing, right to left: Steward Bell and Bob Pritchard (on horses right to left).

Farm Life Through The Years



The 1948 September sun made threshing go a little faster for John Mاتيowski's son Andrew, who is pitching sheaves.



Ontario style barn built by Joe Stitt.



Tom McDonald's 4-horse grey team, "George and Bill, Dot and Dapple." Tom McDonald farmed where Mike Rzytylo's farm is presently located.



Farming in 1917 with implements of that era.

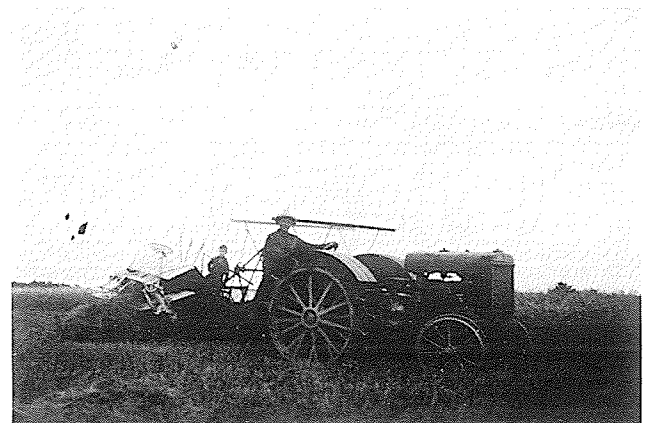
Farm Life Through The Years



Reliving the past — Threshing Bee at MacPhail's farm, south of Vista, 1981.



Nicholas Kashton with his team of oxen, 1900, in the Olha district.



W. J. Hamilton (Billy) on a John Deere Model D tractor with a 10 ft. IHC power binder. This was in the late twenties and was the first power unit in the area.

Farm Life Through The Years



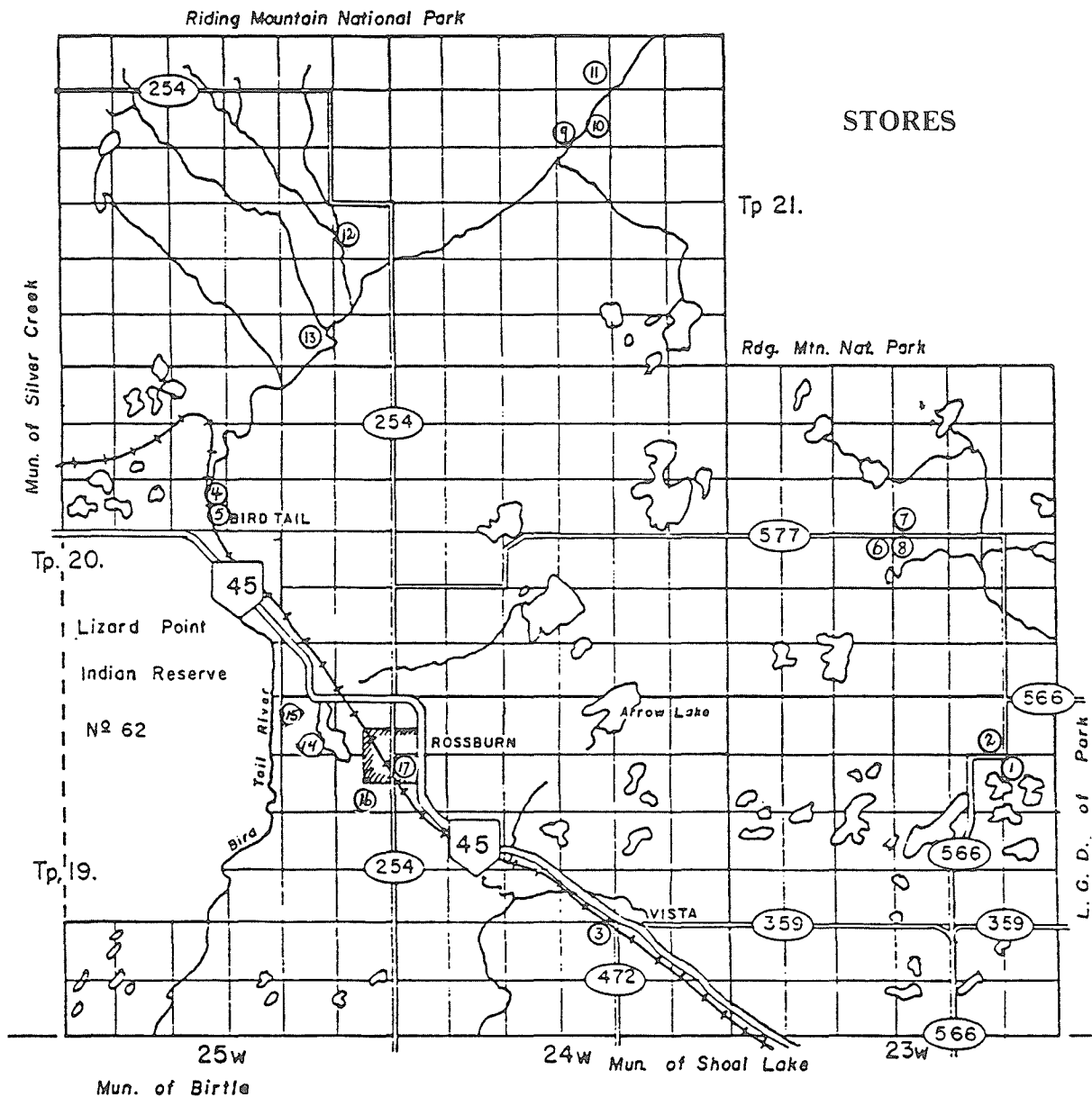
Slinging hay the old-fashioned way — hay being slung into the loft of a barn in a set of slings operated by a team of horses.



Geo. Finch with a hitched pair of oxen, 1903.



Horace Carson making his rounds with a Belgian stallion and a two-wheeled cart, 1927.



1. Olha General Store — Fred Twerdun — 1939
2. Olha Post Office and Olha General Store
3. Vista Post Office and Store
4. Birdtail Store — Brightwell — 1935
5. Birdtail Store — Heffren — 1921
6. Marco Store — John Zimmerman — 1935
7. Marco Store — John Kokurudz — 1945
8. Marco Store — Stanely Zapuchlak — 1957
9. Mears Store — Sawchuk-Kohuch
10. Mears Store — Derlago-Kozun

11. Mears Store — 1928 — Mike Silewich
12. N. A. Kisbey Store — 1931-44
13. Peikoff Store (Peikoff family's first store in Rossburn district)
14. Saffery & Mowatt's Store (Peden residence)
15. Crearer & Herchemer's Store (Ross residence) later operated by R. R. Ross
16. A. C. McColl's Store
17. H. B. Cooper's Store, Rossburn

Businesses and Professions



One of the earliest photographs of Rossburn is this view of the village taken after completion of the railroad construction as far as this community from the east. The Presbyterian Church (with steeple) in the centre of a snow-covered village landscape was located on the site of the present Town Hall. The large two storey building in the foreground was then known as The Empire Hotel. A few scattered homes and business places complete the townsite.

Rossburn Businesses and Professions

The history of Rossburn's business section and professional people reflects that of the community itself. Rossburn has seen periods of good times, much expansion and rapid growth. This has alternated with times of recession, even depression, when the village saw little change. However, through these changing times, Rossburn has grown considerably and today presents the appearance of a vibrant, modern town ready to face the challenge of the 80s. The story that follows is that of the business section itself, its professional people and the part they had to play in the ever-changing scene of life in Rossburn.

After arrival of the first pioneers in the spring of 1879, their farms were chosen and log houses erected on them. A little land was broken, some potatoes, etc. planted, and their families brought out early in the fall of that same year 1879. The need for local

stores was soon realized, as in that first winter following settlement, the pioneers to obtain supplies made several trips to Winnipeg, Portage la Prairie and Gladstone, spending many days on the trail. Originally the nearest post office was at Shoal Lake with the mail delivered once in three weeks.

Shortly after this a man named Mowat started a small store in part of Mr. Wm. Peden's house but he only stayed about a year. A man by the name of A. C. McColl then started one on the farm once owned by Matthew R. Hamilton. He, too, grew faint hearted and left. Later a store was started by Crearer and Herchemer in part of Mr. R. R. Ross's house and an agitation for a post office was started and carried to a successful conclusion, the post office being named "Rossburn" after Mr. Ross and kept in the same building as the store. So things went on.

New settlers coming in with their families caused

the older ones to think of the education of their children, so a school district was formed and a log school house built, which served as school and church for all denominations for some years; until during the ministry of Rev. Lang some thought it was time some more suitable place of worship was built.

Under the leadership and perseverance of the Rev. Lang, the Presbyterian Church was built in a central location; it was built in the year 1891. Shortly after this D. McIntosh started a small blacksmith shop on the opposite corner. As the road running north and south and the one east and west crossed there, it was known to many and for many years, as the "Corner".

Next came a man by the name of H. B. Cooper who started a store on the farm once owned by Thos. Buchanan but he was induced to move to the corner and the post office, which had been kept by Thos. Buchanan, was moved too, still retaining the name Rossburn and the one that it was still called by a century later. After Mr. Cooper's death, his business



Photo of businesses located on Mountain Avenue (east side) taken in 1920s. Left to right: Fox's Confectionery, E. V. Wilson's Law Office, Wickett's Drug Store and corner of Clubley's Meat Market.



Bank of Toronto building. Post Office and Telephone Office were located in frame building immediately south of the bank.

was bought by William Young and carried on by him until he sold it to John Hook during 1910.

Next came the Methodist Church on the other corner and the four corners were now occupied. So toiling, rejoicing, sorrowing, these pioneers spent their days and were in hopes of seeing their dreams fulfilled.

With the arrival of the railroad, the town expanded quickly as one business after another was established to serve the needs of a growing agricultural community.

The stories of some of the history of these businesses and professional people follows.



A group of hunters pictured on Mountain Avenue in 1914. Left to right: Peter Sutcliff, Jim Irwin, Vic Johnston, Tom Buchanan, Jack Peden, Ivan Caldwell, Tom Peden (standing beside front of sleigh).

Rossburn Business Section

During the year 1879, advertisements and pamphlets telling of free homesteads and of the immense fertile lands of the great north-west and dreams of the great fortunes so soon to be made, induced a few men, down in western Ontario, to leave their old homes and seek their fortunes in the new country.

Leaving their old homes early in April, they landed at St. Boniface, the terminus of the railway. After crossing the river on a ferry they loaded their belongings on carts and started their westward march. Wading sloughs, fording rivers, trudging on day by day, looking for a location more rolling and not so likely to be flooded as any passed over, they continued westward until early in the spring they landed on the banks of the Birdtail Creek.

During the winter with the thermometer anywhere between forty and sixty degrees below zero, these men made several trips to Winnipeg, Portage la Prairie and Gladstone for supplies and spending many days on the trail.

In the 1890's and early 1900's, businesses were gradually established as outlined at the beginning of

the chapter. Buildings were erected and Rossburn started to take shape as a small village.

H. B. Cooper's Store which had been sold following his death, to Wm. Young had been replaced by a large new general store on the other corner of the main intersection. Thus the north-east corner of Rossburn's main intersection boasted a large two story general store building. Wm. Young sold this business to John Hook in 1910. A written account in 1911, published many years later in the Rossburn Review, stated that "By 1911, Rossburn could boast of three general stores, owned by J. Hook, V. W. Johnston and Hough Bros. and Wickware, who also owned and operated the Rossburn Creamery; two hardware stores owned by G. M. Watson and V. W. Johnston; two implement buildings belonging to V. W. Johnston and his brother H. Johnston who also owned a hall where the entertainments of the town were carried on; furniture store and undertaking business carried on by Ross and Stewart; a lumber yard owned by McIntosh and McFeetors of Neepawa and a branch of the Bank of Toronto under the management of Mr. Tucker; a harness shop owned by John Scott; a confectionery store owned by Mrs. G. Sinclair formerly of Ranchvale, and a drugstore owned by Mr. Rutherford. There was a skating rink where young people spent many an evening during the winter, two elevators, a two-roomed school, two boarding houses and a number of other private buildings.

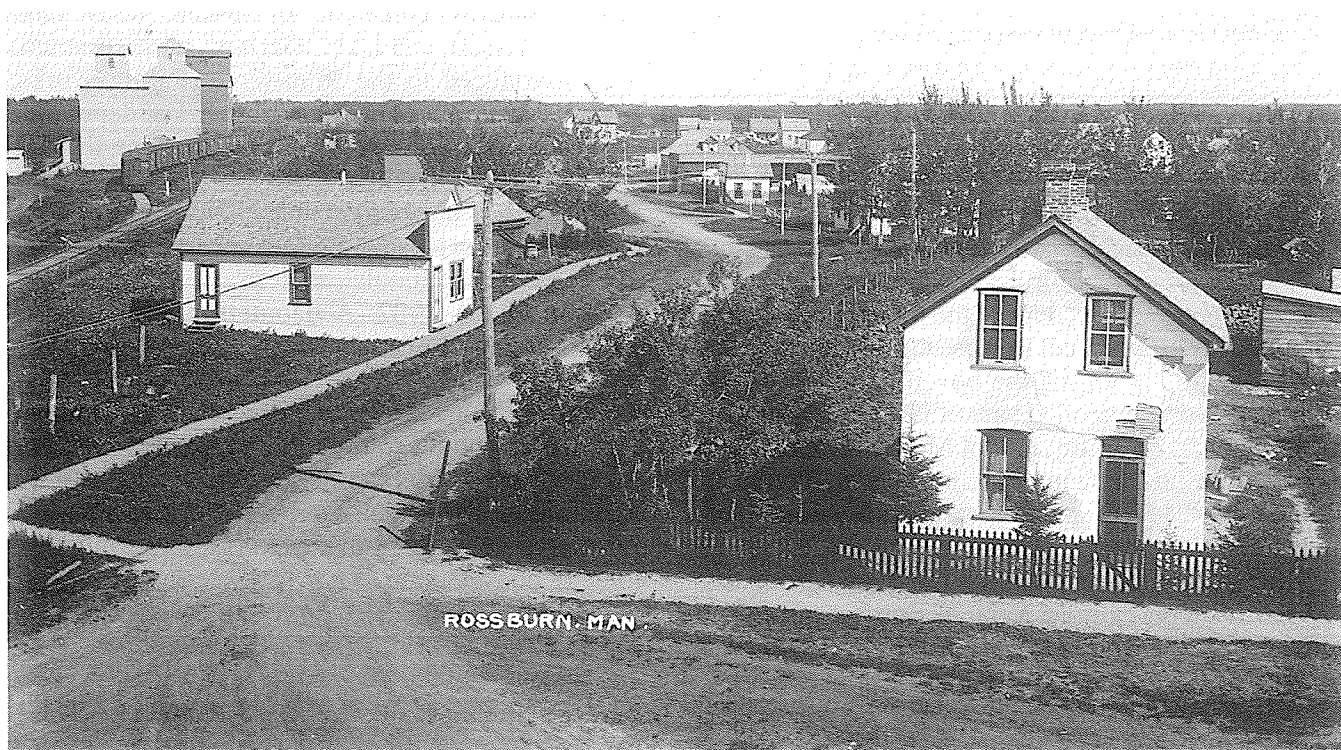
Rossburn also had two doctors; namely Dr. J. W. Evans and Dr. S. M. Rose and a Notary Public, Mr. M. S. Lee."

In 1926, a write-up in the Winnipeg Tribune gave the following description of the village and tells of the trading centre it was developing into:

"The railroad came to Rossburn in 1905 and incorporation took place in 1914. Today there is a population of 450. Financially the town is in excellent shape and has no debenture debts. Its business men are all of the "booster" type, who have an abiding faith in the future of their town and who are anxious to further the interests of the entire district. A number of them have been for many years in the same spot.

The following is a list of some of Rossburn's most prominent citizens: Wilson and Wilson, H. P. Reed, lawyers; Dr. S. S. Peikoff physician and W. Wickett, druggist; A. F. Howe, jeweller; H. Schwartz, J. G. Stitt, general merchants; Adam Bros. hardware merchants; C. A. Menzies, implements; J. J. Crowe Lumber Co., J. A. Lindsay manager; W. A. Clubley, butcher; J. L. McKinnon, garage and repair shop; Mrs. A. F. Walker, boarding house; Mr. D. Hough who is Secretary-Treasurer for the Village (and R.M.) who will be glad to furnish information regarding the town and district to all parties interested.

The eight elevators in operation throughout the district are important factors in its commercial and

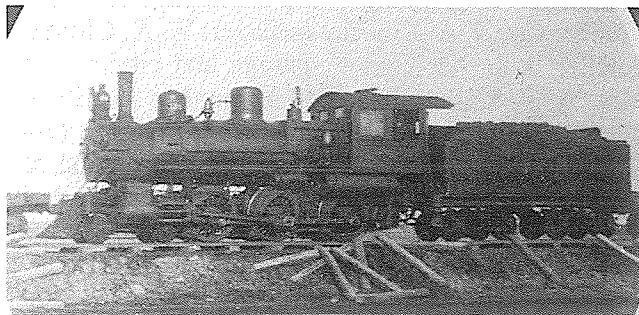


View of Rossburn looking north along Railway Street. Three elevators stand out, with row of grain cars ready for shipment.

business life. Financial matters are handled by the Bank of Toronto.

Rosssburn is a picturesque little place, practically every home being surrounded by poplar and spruce trees. A conspicuous feature of the town is a handsome war memorial which was erected at a cost of \$2,500. The base is of granite and the statue of solid marble. There is a Union Church in the town and a Mission Church. An excellent six room school gives instruction in all grades. The Great War Veterans, the L.O.L., C.O.F. and I.O.O.F. are all strongly organized bodies whose social and philanthropic activities are of great value to the community.

Rosssburn has a first class park prettily situated and an excellent half mile track. Provision is made for gratification of all who have an inclination toward sports in the various forms. There are football grounds, a baseball diamond and two tennis courts and the building of a new skating and curling rink is now under completion."



The first train as it came into Rosssburn in 1905.

Arrival of the Railroad

Newspaper accounts from that era, provide most of the factual information of events that took place finally resulting in the laying of steel to Rosssburn. It is known that the final charter for construction had to be altered to bring the railroad into Rosssburn and not some miles east. An account of the events leading up to the final laying of steel to Rosssburn was given by Dr. Morley Young during the unveiling of the Ross cairn back in the centennial year of 1970. Dr. Young's speech, on that occasion, told of Mr. R. R. Ross and John Brodie interviewing and petitioning Premier Roblin and Mr. McKenzie, of railroad fame, in this connection, with happy results.

A chronological account of the events prior to completion of the railroad as far as Rosssburn in 1905 follows; as taken from newspaper reports in the Free Press and the Russell Banner:

June 20, 1901: H. A. Mullins, M.P.P., was at the government buildings yesterday morning interviewing the Minister of Public Works in regard to the



Railway construction to Rosssburn in 1905 is depicted in this photo.

construction of a railway line west from Neepawa through Rosssburn and Russell. He states that he has secured promise of relief.

A deputation consisting of Messrs. W. B. Lenard, of Russell, and D. C. Gerrard, of Shellmouth, were introduced to the Minister of Public Works, Friday, by Mr. H. A. Mullins, M.P.P. The deputation asked for the construction of a railway line through Rosssburn and Russell. Mr. Rogers gave promise to relief, and it is understood that a line will be built by the C.P.R. from Neepawa to run northwesterly through the above named municipalities.

January 30, 1902: A deputation consisting of Messrs. Peden, Carson and McKee of Rosssburn municipality, waited on the Roblin government last week to urge having a railway constructed from some southeastern points to run through the Rosssburn and Silver Creek districts. The deputation had with it a very largely signed petition praying for the road.

March 6, 1902: Railway extension is the chief topic of conversation.

August 7, 1902: The surveyors for the new railroad are now at work in this neighbourhood.

January 8, 1903: The people here are enthusiastic over the coming of the C.N.R.: a branch of which is expected to reach Rosssburn in time to carry out next year's crop. The steel is laid on the branch to be

extended through here some miles out of Neepawa, and grading is completed as far as the Little Saskatchewan River, and it is expected the steel will be laid on the portion already graded the first thing in the spring. Rossburn is probably the oldest settled district west of Portage la Prairie.

January 15, 1903: The railway surveyors are again in our midst. The old settlers are now in hopes that they will see a railroad through here in the near future.

April 2, 1903: The farmers of Rossburn will have a local market for their coarse grain this summer. The railway contractors are already on the ground buying up supplies. Grading will start in Rossburn as soon as possible.

October 29, 1903: Probably the final survey has been made of the C.N.R. through here. The line as surveyed runs through the Village of Rossburn and crosses the Bird Tail Creek at Jas. Young's.

May 19, 1904: Messrs. McDonald and McMillan, railroad contractors, have taken the contract for grading 45 miles on the Rossburn-Clanwilliam extension. Messrs. Kippen and Lennord have also taken a contract for grading on the above extension.

September 1, 1904: We have at last good prospects of the railroad reaching here this autumn. No more drawing grain 15 miles.

September 8, 1904: CANADIAN NORTHERN ROSSBURN EXTENSION — Wednesday's issue of the Winnipeg Telegram contains the following:

Dr. Roche, M.P., is in the city and was at the government buildings yesterday morning with a couple of petitions from the people at Marquette, and of the local constituency of Russell, asking the government to do its utmost to have the Rossburn branch of the C.N.R. extended as far as possible this fall.

"It is understood," said Dr. Roche, "that the intention of the C.N.R. was to stop at the Village of Rossburn, but it is felt locally that the railway might easily be extended to the boundary, as it is only six weeks away from Rossburn now."

"I have seen Mr. Rogers who has given me a promise that the government will use all its influence with the C.N.R. to get the work pushed on this fall at least as far as Shellmouth."

The Hon. Robert Rogers, who was seen later on the subject said: "Yes, I have had a talk to Dr. Roche about the petition of the people in his district. We quite see the strength of their case, and the government will certainly do all in its power to induce Messrs. McKenzie and Mann to push on the work as rapidly as possible to the Western boundary of the province. I have great hope that we shall be able to succeed, but you might also interview Mr. Mackenzie and see what he has to say about it.

A reporter for The Telegram was awaiting the special train from Kamsack last evening and immediately interviewed Mr. Mackenzie on the subject.

"I will see what can be done," said the president. "The exact condition of the work is not known to me at this moment, and I shall have to consult the engineer as to what is possible."

May 4, 1905: The people of Rossburn have at last seen the steel rails which the old pioneers have been looking for upwards of 25 years. They expect a mixed train a week at least.

July 27, 1905: Rossburn is steadily growing. Quite a number of new business places have been erected, and others are in course of erection. The C.N.R. have now a large gang building, a station and water tank. These buildings when completed, will be a credit to Rossburn as well as to the Canadian Northern Railway.

September 2, 1905: The first regular train over the Neepawa-Rossburn extension of the C.N.R. left on Monday in charge of Conductor Murphy. It took a considerable consignment of freight, some empty cars for grain shipment and a passenger coach. This train goes out every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9:45 reaching Rossburn at 17:00 o'clock. Returning it leaves Rossburn every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 8:00 and reaches Neepawa at 15:20. It then proceeds to McCreary and returns.

October 12, 1905: Our station agent, S. D. Ward from Oakville, arrived last week, and with his family soon expects to be settled in their new house.

Mr. and Mrs. M. McKee who have been spending the summer with friends in Ontario returned home a short time ago and had the honor of being the first passengers to arrive in Rossburn on the C.N.R.

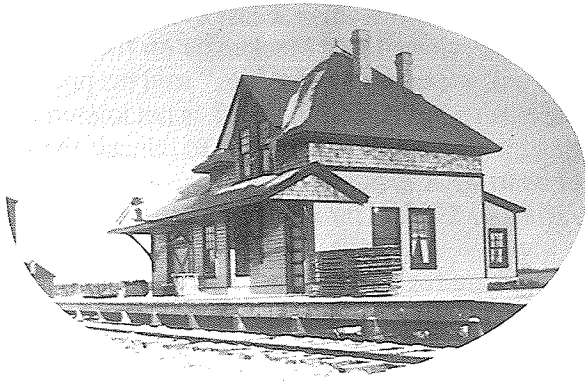
October 26, 1905: The C.N.R. has opened a tri-weekly mixed service on this section of their line. Trains on Monday, Wednesday, and Fridays connect at Neepawa with the Dauphin and Winnipeg train at 8 a.m. Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, passengers changing at Neepawa.

March 15, 1906: Through service to the city is promised about April 1st. Citizens of Rossburn and vicinity are correspondingly joyful.

May 24, 1906: Construction work on the C.N.R. will resume about the beginning of June.

May 31, 1906: Chief Engineer McLeod of the C.N.R. was in Russell for the past couple of days looking over the grounds with a view of getting the proposed Rossburn extension under way.

July 12, 1906: There are all kinds of rumors in circulation in regard to the reported awarding of the C.N.R. contract from Rossburn, but as a matter of fact there seems to be very little definite information to bank on. The Chief Engineer was over the ground again last week, and we believe he has given out that



Rossburn C.N.R. Station as seen shortly after construction in 1905. Water tower appears at extreme left of picture.

the contractors would start grading at once, anyway the signs are more hopeful for some work being done on this extension this season.

It is ironic that in the late 1970's a severe battle is being waged to retain the railroad line that 75 years after its construction is threatened with abandonment, with two Rossburn residents again in the forefront — John Mitchell, President and Ernie Antonow, Secretary of the Rossburn Rail-line Retention Committee.

Branch Line Extension

Extension of the CNR branch line from Rossburn to Russell was an important project in the minds of early pioneers living west of Rossburn on the south side of the Riding Mountains.

The chronological list of events concerning the Canadian Northern Railway extension indicates that in May 1906 construction of the line was expected to resume in June of that year. Chief Engineer McLeod of the CNR had been in Russell looking over the ground for the line extension. Later that summer, with rumors prevailing in regard to the awarding of the CNR contract from Rossburn, the chief engineer again looked over the ground for the proposed route and it was hoped that the contractors would soon be at work. In mid-November 1906 it is recorded that the contractors were still at work and it was hoped to complete grading to Russell by freeze-up. There were still three or four miles to make the different connections.

Records tell us that it was back in December 1908 that the first passenger train on the CNR travelled west of Rossburn and reached Russell on the CNR branch line extension from Rossburn to Russell. That first train consisted of a baggage car and two first class coaches.

The new train service had a schedule that took about twelve hours to travel the line from Winnipeg,

west through Rossburn and on to Russell. In those early days, you could leave Winnipeg at 9:55 in the morning and get all the way to Russell at 8:45 in the evening. Of course, that was a great improvement over previous modes of transportation. Apparently, according to records of those days, this passenger train service that meant so much to the early settlers when long trips were required, connected with a new through train to Duluth, U.S.A., and also with the "Flyer" whose destination was St. Paul, Minnesota. This train service was a real milestone for people living along the line, west of Rossburn. It must be remembered that train service had existed as far as Rossburn, only, from the fall of 1905.

Early pioneers remember that these early trains ran on a much different schedule than in later years. They used to come out from Winnipeg on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturdays — returning to Winnipeg on Wednesday, Friday and Monday. There was also good freight train service, with trains coming from Winnipeg through Rossburn on Monday, Wednesday and Friday — returning to Winnipeg on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

The rail line extension resulted in the surveying of a townsite at the siding at Birdtail in May 1910.

Changes In Railroading

With construction completed on the Canadian Northern Railway branch line extension of the Rossburn subdivision, the company was not destined to serve the area for many years.

Financial difficulties were besetting the Canadian Northern and Grand Trunk Pacific railroads, although it appears that at each successive step, they were, in fact, government creations. In a history published in 1968, entitled *Canadian Pacific*, the author J. L. McDougall wrote: "Canadian Northern had come into being with bond guarantees from the Province of Manitoba. Thereafter it drew upon the federal government and upon the provinces with a magnificent impartiality. Its extension to Vancouver rested on a guarantee from the Province of British Columbia, that from Port Arthur easterly upon a guarantee from the federal government."

After 1914, with the financial problems continuing to plague the two railroads previously referred to, it was not long until the government created the Canadian National Railways to operate the systems which were in deep difficulty. Thus it was that the Canadian National Railways came to serve the Rossburn subdivision following the Canadian Northern Railway system.

Through the ensuing years, the presence of the Canadian National Railway in Rossburn was an important one. Steam locomotives continued to provide

the train-power, until an important development occurring in railroading across the country, reached this branch line. On Feb. 7, 1957, the first diesel engine to run on this line, passed through Rossburn as it carried its load of freight up the Rossburn subdivision. However, declining volume of small freight and express, was gradually diminishing the work-load for local station agents, as trucks gradually gained a larger percentage of the business. By the mid-1970s, the need for local station agents had decreased to such a point, that Rossburn, along with many other rural points, saw its CNR station doors close for the last time to the public. Thus an era in the history of the community ended.

A record of local station agents has been difficult to obtain — but the following list, partial as it is, has been compiled.

S. J. Ward was the first CNR agent at Rossburn serving late in 1905 and 1906. During 1908, the position was filled by J. G. Henry, although it cannot be ascertained the length of his stay or just when he assumed the position. S. F. Hughes was another agent who was here — he was preceded by Mr. McLeod. It is recalled that Arnie Prior was the CNR agent here towards the end of the First World War years, as in reminiscing, it is remembered that he provided information ahead of the passenger train's arrival as to which soldiers returning from the services were aboard. Val. Schappert is another agent who served during this era, or a few years later. During this period there were quite a number of relief agents who temporarily were posted to Rossburn.

Other station agents recalled during the interval between the First World War and Frank Partridge's arrival were: Fred Arbagast, Walter Scott and a Mr. Walker.

Frank Partridge was station agent during the 1930s — serving from approximately 1930 until 1940. Several relief agents followed for short periods, until Pat Walsh took over in Aug. 1942. He remained until the end of June 1953. Jack Epp, who had previously served as a relief agent about 1940, then was station agent for the remainder of 1953 until May 1954. He returned as agent for a while in early 1956 and for several months in late 1957. Jack Thomson and Earl Symonds were agents during 1956. Earl Symonds also had brief stays during 1958, 1959 and 1961.

Art Ellis was local agent from Jan. 1958 until the end of September 1963. Next to follow was Ed Lussier from Oct. 1963 until July 1966. Chuck Walmsley, who followed as CNR agent after Ed Lussier's departure, was the last local CNR agent, remaining until June 1975.

Auctioneers

The first auction sale held in the Municipality of Rossburn was conducted on April 14th, 1893, according to information J. I. Huston provided the Rossburn Review back in April 1953, the 60th anniversary of the Auction Sale date.

"The sale was held one and a half miles west and one half mile north of Rossburn on the farm of the late R. R. Ross, section 35-19-25. Mr. Ross was the proprietor and Frank Wilcox of Birtle was the auctioneer. Mr. Ross retired from farming at that time but continued to operate a store and the Rossburn Post Office, which was at that time located on his farm.

There were only two buildings in the present townsite at that time. The Presbyterian Church which was located where the town hall now stands, and a blacksmith shop located where Mr. Nataros' store now stands. The Presbyterian Church was no longer used after Church Union and was later moved to its present location south of the present United Church to be used as a clubroom. The late Mr. Dan McIntosh, a brother of Wm. McIntosh of Regina and formerly of Rossburn, operated a blacksmith shop."

Down through the years, Bob Peden was the local auctioneer who conducted most auction sales in the area. "R. Peden's Sale Register" in the Rossburn Review recorded many sales he conducted throughout the area. This profession is one which is of great importance in a rural community and filled a great need.

In more recent times, Mike Kustiak, who had been auctioneering in Oakburn for a number of years, moved to Rossburn in 1966. He continued auctioneering and in August 1968, began auctioneering jointly with William Arnold, of Lake Audy. Mike Kustiak continued to operate an auctioneering service jointly with William Arnold until his passing in 1973. Percy Armstrong is another of the old time auctioneers recalled.

In 1974, R. Hal Hedley, who had commenced auctioneering at Sandy Lake while CNR agent at that point, moved to Rossburn and the Arnold & Hedley auctioneering partnership was formed. At the present time, this auctioneering firm is covering an ever-increasing area as the demand for their services increases.

Banking in Rossburn

The Bank of Toronto, known in later years as the Toronto-Dominion Bank, has been around Rossburn for three-quarters of a century to serve banking needs of the community.

The need for banking services was felt away back in those early pioneer days. A meeting of Rossburn businessmen was held in April 1906 with reference to the need for a bank. "All present were agreed as to the



Bank of Toronto under construction in 1912.

need for a bank. Steps were taken to secure the services of such an institution which, it was hopeful, would bring a bank to Rossburn."

Later in October 1906, we note another item that "Citizens of Rossburn appreciate very much the entrance of the Bank of Toronto in our midst, under capable managership of Mr. Duncan of Toronto with Mr. Scott of Portage la Prairie as teller. The new institution is giving perfect satisfaction to all concerned. The bank evidently proposes remaining permanently in our midst, as they have purchased a valuable lot on Main Street, upon which a building will be erected as soon as possible, giving excellent opportunity for full banking operations."

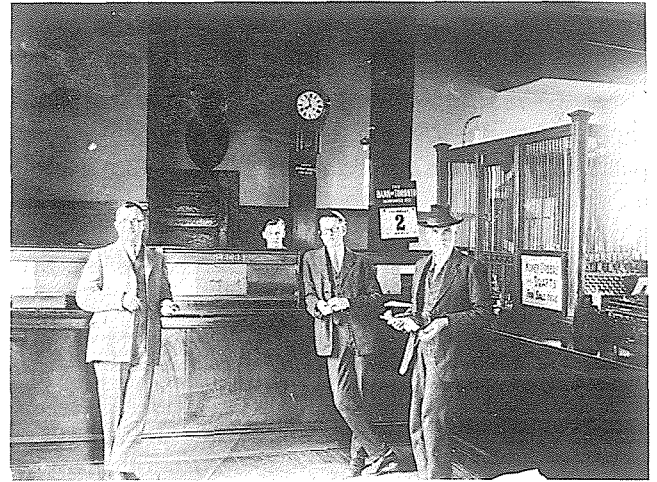
Then in November 1908, we note that F. E. McArthur who then was the local manager of the Bank of Toronto had received notice of his transfer to the managership of the bank at Portage la Prairie. We then note that in April 1909 the general managership of the Bank of Toronto have effected a change in the managership of the local branch of the bank. F. E. McArthur who was the manager here some time ago, but who was lately in Pilot Mound, has been transferred to Rossburn, and Mr. Morgan leaves for Winnipeg. Next to serve as manager here was C. R. Tucker who left in May, 1914 for Glenavon, Sask., followed by Mr. Paton who stayed for a short while.

J. J. Hay took over as manager late in 1914. Then on March 18, 1923, we note that the Mayor and Council accompanied by the businessmen of Rossburn gathered at the Bank of Toronto where the manager J. J. Hay and Mrs. Hay were the recipients of an address by the Mayor followed by a presentation. He and his family left for Gravelbourg, Sask., to assume the managership of the Bank of Toronto there. Mr. C. Dawson of Swan River took over Mr. Hay's position here, remaining here until Dec. 1944.

Bank managers here have been as follows since those early days: C. Tolund — Feb. 1945 to Sept. 1948; K. Holmes — Sept. 1948 to Oct. 1953; C. H. Langridge — Oct. 1953 to Dec. 1961; H. H. Metcalf

— Jan. 1962 to June 1975; W. Mohr — June 1975 to Sept. 1979; L. McLarty — Sept. 1979 and presently serving as manager.

The first building in which the Bank of Toronto was originally established was a frame building just south of where the present location is. This location had been sold to the Bank by Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Young who had operated a general store there. The present Bank of Toronto building was built in 1912 on its present location. At that time its staff was increased to three from two. Construction costs of the present bank building at that time seventy years ago was \$10,170.15.



Interior of the Bank of Toronto. The two gentlemen on the far right are William Young and Bert Glavin.

Barber Shops

One of the professions well represented in Rossburn's business section through the years has been barbering. A contributor to this book when asked about his recollections of barbers in our community said: "Barbers have been numerous through the years, but some of them have been shortlived."

An early reference to a local Barber Shop was in a news item in May 1906. The item stated that A. McNutt's Barber Shop and Confectionery had been moved to the west end of the Smith Block.

Jones Barber Shop had been established by May 1913. In May 1914, he is recorded as moving his Barber Shop to the Alexander Block on Railway Avenue.

Another of the old-time barbers was Thomas Harry Midgley. He commenced barbering in 1914 in a building that previously was a Furniture Store and later a Funeral Parlor. Harry Midgley then bought a building on Main Street in which he continued business until 1918. He sold out to Fred Brethour.

Fred Brethour opened a Barber Shop and Pool

Room in about 1918 in the two-storey building that used to be located on the site of the present location of Nick's Store. He moved to Winnipeg with his wife and family in Feb. 1923. Following his departure, among the operators of this Barber Shop were: Sam Isador who moved to Winnipeg in 1924 and Peter Ewanson who ran the shop from 1924-1932. Bruce McDonald next operated the Barber Shop and Pool Room in this location from 1932 to 1941. Nick Stupnisky then purchased Fred Brethour's building which had been closed for a short while, and operated the Barber Shop in addition to various retail businesses for many years. John Maydaniuk and John Gregorash had operated this Barber Shop and Pool Room for a short time before the business was re-opened by Nick Stupnisky in 1942, when he purchased the building. During the years various barbers have operated the barbering business in Nick's Store location. Bill Semaniuk operated a barber shop for several years in the addition on the north side of Nick Stupnisky's Store commencing in 1946.

A barber shop also was operated in conjunction with the old Peikoff Pool Room and Bowling Alley, just east of the present location of the People's Store on Victoria Avenue.

In Feb. 1918, village council passed a motion to notify the barber in Peikoff's Pool Room that he was liable to a business tax of \$50 for selling certain confectionery items.

Joe Urbanowski came to Rossburn in 1917 from Esterhazy, Sask., and opened a Barber Shop and Pool Room in Peikoff's old Pool Room. Shortly after, he built his own Barber Shop with living quarters above. This building was converted to the Rossburn Theatre during the mid 1920's, but the Barber Shop was maintained after, in the same building where Joe Urbanowski continued his barbering trade.

Bill Smith is recalled as being one of the barbers who carried on his trade in that location. Nick Chopp barbered there in 1937 before purchasing the building in 1938 where he operated the pool hall. Nick Stupnisky operated the barber shop in that location during the winter of 1937-38.

Henry Artibise, of Dauphin, opened a Barber Shop in the building adjacent to the drug store in October 1932 and operated it for a few years before returning to Dauphin.

Mike Ternovetsky commenced barbering in Nick Stupnisky's shop in 1949 and has continued this profession at various locations until this article was written. John Maydaniuk operated a barber shop at various locations during the 1940's, 1950's, and 1960's.

Walter Weselak commenced barbering in Ross-

burn during the late 1960s in various locations. In 1975 he purchased the former Rossburn Pharmacy building where he operated a barber shop until 1979 when the Weselaks moved to Shoal Lake and sold the building, which is now the residence of Tony and Georgina Luhowy.

Bruce Kowal also operated a barber shop locally in 1968 and early 1969. His business was located on the north side of the Rossburn Hotel. The barber shop was later converted to become part of the living quarters.

Beef Ring Was A Way Of Life

The Beef Ring, as it was known, was a way of life for some of the older people of Rossburn — and other parts of Manitoba as well.

In talking to Emerson Strong and also Morris Clubley, the beef ring started back about 1922. People in those days didn't have all the conveniences that are available to us today, such as electricity to run our fridges and deep freezers. That is probably one reason why the beef ring was started, so that the people in those days could get fresh meat each week. Thus they wouldn't have to keep it too long. I'm told that there were about twenty families in the beef ring that was started by Jasper Strong, and each week a different family would supply a beef for the beef ring. The beef was butchered on Friday night. Saturday morning these families would come to the slaughter house and pick up their portion of beef which would last until the following Saturday; until each of the families had supplied a beef.

The Strongs operated the beef ring from the slaughter house for two or three years and in 1924, Mr. Jasper Strong built a butcher shop just north of J. J. Crowe Lumber Yard and later operated the beef ring from the butcher shop. As time went on, more and more people joined the beef ring. Emerson Strong told me, sixteen or seventeen families from Angusville joined and that he would make sixty to seventy orders of meat and deliver to Angusville once a week.

The Clubleys also operated a beef ring. Their beef was butchered on the farm, one mile north and one mile west of Rossburn (Sec. 2-20-25) which is now owned by Larry Huston. The meat was taken into the butcher shop which operated in the building, now known as the Drug Store.

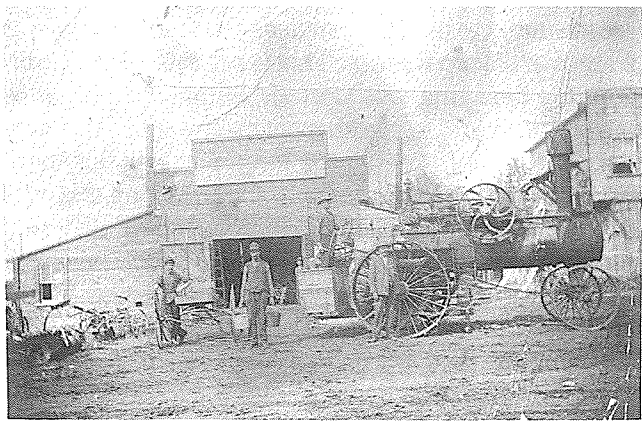
Earle Taylor

Blacksmiths

The village blacksmith was a tradesman of great importance in the community's life from very earliest pioneer days right down to the present time.



Tom Harrison's first blacksmith shop with Miller's (later T.C. Peden's) home in the background. In the buggy: Rev. and Mrs. Coone, standing by Mrs. Tom McKee; at the door — Tom Harrison, Maude and Cassie. Out in front, to the side, Joe Peden. Photo taken in 1902.



Josh Harlow's blacksmith shop (1910); just to the south of where the United Church now stands.

Shortly after construction of the Presbyterian Church, Dan McIntosh opened a blacksmith shop on the opposite corner of what was to become Rossburn's main intersection. As the roads running north and south, east and west crossed there, this was known for many years as the "corner". History records that he stayed for a couple of years before moving to Birtle and then to British Columbia.

Another early blacksmith was Josh Harlow's father whose business was located just behind the present location of the Dew Drop Inn. In the late 1890's he had come along to open his business and became known as the blacksmith who pulled teeth with a buffalo robe which he spread on the floor serving as the dentist's chair. He used a home-made pair of long pincers as forceps and without any pain killer as we presently know it, he would extract the tooth or two or three of them. In those early days when he was sort of a combination of Blacksmith, Dentist and a general fixer, he batched in a portion of the same building

as his blacksmith shop. Later Josh Harlow came with his family and worked at first in his father's shop — later moving to a new shop just south of the present Tinsmith Shop on Mountain Ave. south.

Tom Harrison came to Rossburn in 1900 where he operated a blacksmith shop until he retired in 1940. He passed away in 1945. Historical reports show that near the year end in 1900 he bought the blacksmith shop from Robert Peden. He had a shop located just west of Slon's Garage present location (about where the M/M Store is now situated). He was a specialist in horse shoeing and had a thriving business for about forty years.

Other blacksmiths included Joe Burnell from St. Lazare, who operated a shop on Mountain Ave. south for many years. Alex McKinnon was Rossburn's "new blacksmith" in 1914 and 1915. Jim Wilson is another blacksmith recalled by residents of decades ago.

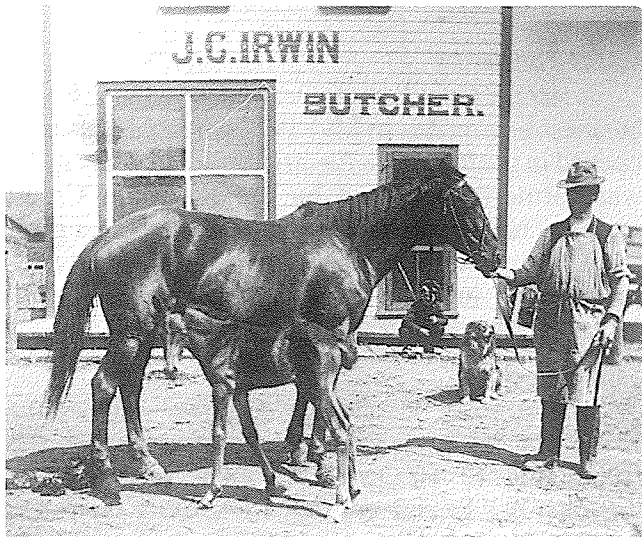
In 1917, Joseph Blaskiewicz started a blacksmith shop in the Village of Rossburn. Along with duties as a blacksmith, Joseph built many coffins for people who at that time could not afford to pay the price charged by the funeral home. In 1939 after many years of hard work he left the blacksmithing trade. He sold the blacksmith shop to Wm. Kachan who continued Blacksmith work, in addition to operating an implement and general repair business. Wm. Kachan also was known as a watch repair man.

John Dupont is also remembered as the owner of a blacksmith shop in the 30's.

Nick Slobodesky had his first blacksmith shop across from Roy Irwin's garage and Ed Harris' livery stable on Mountain Ave. south. The shop opened in 1932. He stayed there for three years and then moved to a shop north of Slon's Garage in 1935. There he stayed for 23 years. While in the business of fixing farm equipment, shoeing horses and fixing sleighs etc. he had several apprentices. Some of the men were Matt Borowski, Mike Antoniwi and his son Mel Slobodesky. He also had Safrone Shermata who did wood working and fixing sleigh runners. He sold his shop in 1954 to Kasey Genovey and moved to Shoal Lake. Kasey Genovey rented the blacksmith shop he had purchased, to his brother Victor from 1954 to 1965. The building was then sold to Maron Slon who tore the building down.

Mike E. Antoniwi has operated a blacksmith shop at the present location since December 1953. Periodically the living quarters at the rear of the blacksmith shop building have been "home" to various residents. Mike Antoniwi purchased the blacksmith shop located on Third Street from Frank Woychyshyn in December, 1953. Mr. Woychyshyn had operated the blacksmith shop for a year in that

location after converting it from a garage which he had purchased from Joe Kostas in August, 1952. He had repaired the building and covered it with roll-brick siding. Originally the building housed a power plant operated by Harry Brugman. As this portion of the story is written in late 1981 Mike Antoniow is still carrying on the trade of the "Village Blacksmith".



J. C. Irwin's butcher shop, located on the east side of Mountain Ave. This photo was taken in the pre-1910 era.

Butcher Shops

One of the more important businesses in the early days was the butcher shop, known in more recent times as the meat market. Conveniences, such as electric refrigerators and deep freezers were nonexistent and unknown in those days. The butcher shop filled an important need until the coming of the locker plants in most communities across the west, made frozen perishable food available to all — a development that also has seen brighter days as they too are no longer in the demand of the 50s and 60s.

Back in 1904 it was first reported that there were rumors of a butcher shop starting up in Rosssburn. Then in October 1904, one month after the earliest mention of the hopes for the establishment of a butcher shop, J. Wilkie, butcher, rented living quarters — R. W. Peden's house. In May 1905 it was noted that a Mr. Garrett, of Beulah, was in town making arrangements for a butcher shop. What type of businesses (if indeed they developed at all) resulted from these earliest ventures is not known to this writer.

During 1907 or 1908, Jim Irwin established a butcher shop, which John (Jack) Cumming took over in April 1909. In March 1909, Jasper Strong arrived in Rosssburn and opened up a butcher shop over Wm. Young's old store. During 1910, Jasper Strong took over from John (Jack) Cumming in Jim Irwin's for-

mer shop. He later rented out the business to Herbert J. Shipley effective June 1, 1915. It was during Jasper Strong's time in the meat business that Jim Kelso who was a butcher, was employed. We then note that in April 1919, he also opened a butcher shop, although no further information is available.

Meanwhile the Shipleys purchased the butcher shop business from Jasper Strong which they operated until 1921 when they sold to W. A. Clubley who had come to Rosssburn that Spring. This business was located in the building occupied by Calvert Pharmacy at time of writing in 1981. After Shipley's Meat Market was sold to W. A. Clubley, Jasper Strong then opened a butcher shop in a building just north of the Beaver Lumber yard.

Following Jasper Strong's retirement, Emerson Strong carried on the business in that location until November 16, 1950 when it was purchased by Norman Clubley. In 1951 the butcher shop was moved to the location where it remained in operation until late fall, 1974 when Norman Clubley retired. In the original location where Jim Irwin had established a butcher shop, Morris Clubley took over from his father, W. A. Clubley in 1929, and the business was closed when Morris Clubley joined the RCAF in 1941. W. A. Clubley sold the property and building to Chas. Bell who operated a medicine and novelty shop there.

The butcher shop that Norman Clubley operated for many years is no longer located at the north end of the business section on Mountain Avenue's east side. The property was sold to Rosssburn Credit Union and the building was moved away to make room for expansion of the Credit Union premises.

Note: Additional information authenticated later reveals that Bob Wiggins operated a butcher shop on the east side of Mountain Avenue for a number of years prior to 1909. He was indeed operator of one of the earliest butcher shops in Rosssburn.

Carpenters and Contractors

Throughout the years, the carpentry and contracting profession has attracted various Rosssburn residents for a livelihood.

While complete records from early times are no longer available, it is recalled with the aid of assessment information that the following residents were amongst those actively involved in the building industry.

In 1898, William Taylor assisted by Jas. Dewar, built the Rosssburn School located east of the village. Wm. Collins did the foundation work and chimney, in addition to the plastering. It is also known that Wm. Taylor was the carpenter in charge of building several other schools in the area.

In May 1903, it was recorded that T. Blacke opened a carpentry and general woodworking business on Mountain Avenue. In 1908, Wm. Lloyd was listed in directory information as a carpenter in the Rossburn village.

However it is remembered that back in the early days, carpentering was also a skill possessed by many residents when building projects were undertaken.

Another of the early carpenters and contractors was Dick King. He built many of Rossburn's buildings including the Rossburn School. This frame two storey building was located near the site of the present Rossburn Elementary School. The building was demolished following construction of the present Rossburn Elementary School.

During the 1930s, when the first assessment records are available, a number of residents were listed as being employed in that profession. Amongst those were Rowland Craig, Jack Mitchell, Hugh Warnock, Joseph Peden, Wm. Bridgett and Dave Mitchell, who specialized in various aspects of carpentering and contracting.

In most recent years, Harry Komhyr was a local contractor, who undertook numerous larger construction projects, successfully tendering on these out-of-town buildings: Major Pratt Collegiate and addition (Russell), Pioneer Lodge (Birtle), Kinsmen Court (Minnedosa), Strathclair Credit Union, Schools at St. Lazare and Oakburn, Wawanesa Mutual Insurance Company Staff Building (Wawanesa), Rossburn Credit Union-Russell Branch Office.

Locally Harry Komhyr's projects included: RCMP barracks, Ukrainian Catholic Church, Rossburn Lions Manor, Rossburn Municipal Office and Rossburn Credit Union Offices. His first contract job was raising the rafters at the Rossburn arena. This was accomplished by using cables, a stump puller and manpower.

Steve Maydaniuk, a local carpenter, has constructed many of Rossburn's houses. He has built 64 homes and other buildings in Rossburn since he built his first home in town in 1947. During the years he built 6 houses of his own in Rossburn. He built ten of Oakburn's houses. In addition he built many homes and other buildings throughout the district and surrounding area.

Morris Michalchuk is another local carpenter who has served the community and area for a number of years. His work has included a wide variety of projects ranging from new construction to renovation projects. In 1961 M. & K. Construction was formed

in which Brian and Bruce Kowal were also in partnership with Morris Michalchuk. This firm was dissolved in 1968. Since then he has operated under the business name of Parkland Builders.

Other carpenters from the area have also been actively involved in the construction trade. The skill and talent required by this profession has certainly not been lacking locally.

Coin Laundry

Rossman Coin Laundry was added to Rossburn's business enterprises in May 1972 when this business opened in the Rossburn Electric Building. This space was formerly occupied by the Rossburn Credit Union. This service facility has proved to be a great asset to the community and has been especially appreciated by summer tourists and campers.

Draymen

The story of Rossburn's draymen can best be written by referring the memory of readers to the name, Howard Alexander. His many years as town drayman is a legend in itself. Many were the rides, the children of Rossburn used to have by hopping on Howard Alexander's dray. He was the town drayman for 49 years, and 8 months.

He took over the dray business of Panny Irwin in 1908. This was one of the earliest dray businesses in Rossburn.

In reviewing old newspaper clippings, other names are remembered. An April 1908 news item recorded that Jasper Strong had relinquished the dray business after a short time and returned to the farm. In June 1918, an item noted that Sam Fox had taken over the draying business conducted by R. J. Costello, and noted that Sam was an old hand at draying. It is also recorded that other draymen of the era were: Stewart McKinnon, Cliff and Clarence Baldrow, John Cumming and the Hendry Bros. who bought Jim Irwin's butcher shop and dray business in 1909.

Following Howard Alexander's retirement after nearly 50 years as dray-man, Sam Silewich, then Wm. Mitchell and John Plant made the dray deliveries by truck. Finally the need for a town dray was no longer evident, and the dray remains but a memory of the past.

With the coming of motorized transportation, the era of the team and dray came to an end-but nostalgic memories still remain of a by-gone era.

Electric Light Came to Rossburn

I came to Rossburn in the spring of 1931 with Delmar King, who I met when we both attended an aviation school by Western Canada Airways in Win-



The gasoline engine and later the diesel engine for Harry Brugman's lighting plant were housed in this building.

nipeg. I had been one of the engineers in the electric power plant in Churchill, Manitoba during the construction of the grain elevator. We talked about electric plants, and Mr. King thought we could start an electric plant in Rosssburn.

I purchased a generator and converted a car engine to drive it. We started the plant in the spring of 1931. We wired several houses and connected them to the system. Later that spring Mr. King decided to return to his old job at Grand Beach. I continued to operate the plant. Mr. King returned in the fall and decided to manufacture snowplanes instead.

The gasoline engine was replaced with a diesel engine in the fall of 1931. On Saturday, May 6, 1932, about 10 p.m., the belt came off the diesel and caught my right arm, which was severed. After some time in Shoal Lake Hospital, I returned to Rosssburn and operated the plant.

On January 1, 1934 I married my wife Dorothy, and we settled in Rosssburn.

Shortly after that the diesel was replaced by a steam plant. Wood was plentiful and I had a steam engineer's license.

Times were tough, money was scarce. One elevator operator told me he was paid \$50.00 a month in



Steam engine used to power Rosssburn's electric plant was housed in above building by Harry Brugman in 1934.

the winter, and \$100.00 in summer. However, you could buy two pounds of the best steak from Morris Clubley for 25 cents. Our son, Dennis, was born December 28, 1935. When time allowed, Jim Andrew and I would practice Morse Code in preparation for an amateur radio station license. We obtained our station license in 1937. Jim was VE4ALG, and I was VE4JX (my present radio station call sign in Florida is W40KH).

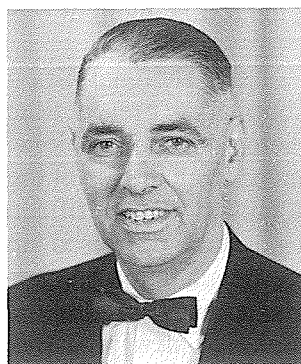
The Manitoba Hydro was starting to electrify rural Manitoba. In 1938 the Hydro contacted Rosssburn to consider connecting to the system. I notified the selectmen that I could never supply the power required by the Town of Rosssburn. The transition was made in the fall of 1938. We moved away to Morris, Manitoba and then to Winnipeg.

I went back to school and graduated in 1944 from the University of Manitoba with a Bachelor of Science degree. I worked for Canada Packers as a feed supervisor until the fall of 1946, when I returned to school again as a graduate student at the University of Minnesota in St. Paul and graduated with a Master's and PhD degree in 1948.

I was on the teaching staff of the State University of Washington until 1950. From there I joined the teaching staff of the University of Maine in the Department of Animal and Veterinary Sciences at Orono, Maine.

I retired from the Department in 1974 and reside with my wife Dorothy at 6405 41st Ave No., St. Petersburg, Florida. Our son, Dennis, and his family reside in Ocala, Florida.

by H. H. Brugman



Harry Brugman in 1944. He had operated Rosssburn's first lighting plant.

Elevators

The importance of elevators in the community cannot be under-estimated. With the arrival of the first train on the Canadian Northern Railroad in 1905, the grain elevator companies were always ready to meet the challenge.

The first record of an elevator is recorded in a Rosssburn news column of Oct. 12, 1905. It noted that

the Export Company's elevator was completed and ready for business with R. W. Peden named in charge. There is no further mention of an elevator operating under that company name.

Records of the Canadian Grain Commission showed that for the crop year 1911-1912, there were two elevators in Rossburn, namely Canadian Elevator Company with 25,000 bushel capacity and the Northern Elevator Company with 30,000 bushel capacity.

In 1914 and 1915, the Northern Elevator Co. and Canadian Elevator Co. were listed in the Rossburn telephone listings. By 1917, the British American Elevator had been built, as they could be reached on the telephone by the farming community.

George Bolton bought grain for the Northern Elevator Co. for 18 years from 1905 until 1923.

In researching 1944 files, three elevator companies were operating facilities locally at that time. Those listed were Manitoba Pool Elevators (W. R. Kendrick — Agent), National Grain Co. (A. E. Brothers — Agent), and Canadian Consolidated Grain Co. (Wesley Strong — Agent).

It should be noted that the Northern Grain Co. elevator formerly served as British American Grain Co. elevator in earlier years.

It is known that Wesley Albert Strong served the farming public as a grain buyer for Canadian Consolidated Grain Co. from August 1928 to the summer of 1946. This elevator was located just south of the present Rossburn Pool Elevator and was later moved to serve as an annex to the National Grain Co. elevator (now the Cargill elevator).

When the National Grain Co. elevator was remodelled in the early 1950's, the following item was recorded:

"The construction crew of the National Grain Company is working in Rossburn at the present time and extensive repair work is being done to the elevator. The cupola has been removed from the top of the elevator and the crib will be built twelve or fifteen feet higher. The entire elevator will be raised up about two feet higher on a new foundation. A new pan or pit has already been installed, replacing the former one which was smaller. The new pit is the same size as the one used in the new Pool Elevator at Rossburn.

The old elevator and annex south of the Pool elevator (at one time owned by the Canadian Consolidated Company) will be moved to the south of the present National elevator to be used as an annex. The elevator and annex will be moved on a special track for that purpose and when in place will be closed in under one roof. With the increase in height of the present elevator, together with the former annex, and

the new annex being constructed from the former Canadian Consolidated elevator and annex the National Grain Company will have an elevator with a capacity of approximately 100,000 bushels.

The diesel engine will fall by the wayside and the elevator will be electrically operated throughout. Six electric motors will be required to do the work of the old diesel engine which is to be shipped to an elevator in Saskatchewan.

The National coal shed will be moved from the present location to provide room for the new annex. The coal shed will be moved to the location of the old elevator and annex when they are moved.

With favorable weather conditions, Mr. J. VonHagen, the local manager of the National elevator, plans to be able to accept grain deliveries again about the middle of July."

Following J. VonHagen's years of service as grain buyer for the National Grain Co., Vic Matusko was appointed local agent and served in that capacity for over twenty-five years. During the years, there were numerous improvements made, and it is also during this period of time that the National Grain Co. elevator became the Cargill Grain Co. elevator.

During the 1940s, a buyer for the National Grain Company was A. E. Brothers. He followed E. V. McIntosh as agent in June 1942.

In a separate article the history of the Rossburn Pool Elevator has been recorded and it documents much of the history of the local grain business from the local beginnings of the Co-operative movement in the grain trade.

It should be recorded that on June 1, 1953, Joe Zemianski delivered the first load of grain to Rossburn's Manitoba Pool Elevator which replaced the former elevator destroyed by fire in December 1952. This elevator had a capacity of over 120,000 bushels.



A steel annex at Rossburn Pool Elevator burst on Nov. 28, 1967 spilling a quantity of grain on the ground and on the tracks. The annex buckled about two-thirds of the way up. Fifteen thousand bushels were in the annex at the time of the incident.

Fires

Fires played their role, too, in the past history of Rossburn. Some of the major conflagrations included these accounts of destruction.

"A disastrous fire occurred in Rossburn early Tuesday morning, January 4, 1909, when the Johnston block, including the hardware and general store of Mr. Johnston's, a drug store, bakery, harness shop and butcher shop were totally destroyed. It is supposed the fire started in the bake shop, and it spread so rapidly that Mrs. Johnston and family had barely time to escape in their night clothes. The building destroyed was the best in the village and the loss including stock will amount to about \$40,000 with only about \$10,000 insurance. The loss is particularly heavy on Mr. Johnston and Mr. Rutherford, druggist as besides losing their stock, their homes were also destroyed."

"Fire breaking out at 2 a.m., October 31, 1935 completely destroyed Max Naherniak's general store and all stock and household articles, except a few clothes and Alex Johnston's bake shop but most of Johnston's furniture was carried out. The cause of the fire is unknown but it broke out in the rear of the old hospital building occupied by Naherniak. R. Hamilton Jr. another resident of the hospital building escaped loss, being able to recover all household effects. Both Johnston and Naherniak losses are partially covered by insurance. Mr. Johnston commenced on Monday to clean up the debris in preparation to rebuild."

"E. M. Peikoff suffered an estimated loss of \$40,000 when fire destroyed his general store at Rossburn early last Wednesday morning, April 3, 1940. The blaze was first noticed just before one o'clock and a general alarm was sounded, but little could be done to save the doomed building and all efforts were put forth to save adjoining buildings. Mr. Peikoff and his family resided above the store and they barely escaped in their night attire. All the contents of the store and the furniture and clothing of the residence was destroyed. The loss was partially covered by insurance, but many articles were burned that cannot be replaced thus adding to the personal loss of Mr. and Mrs. Peikoff. Only through the work of the volunteer fire brigade were the drug store of Barlow and Dutton, the general store of L. Paisner and the meat market of M. K. Clubley saved. These buildings were ignited by sparks several times. A high wind was blowing and it was feared for awhile that the entire business section of the village would be wiped out. Mr. Peikoff had made no definite plans for the immediate future but he anticipates rebuilding at Rossburn this summer."

"There was a big fire here Saturday night,

November 23, 1940. The burned building was Ed Harris' livery barn. It is believed that the fire started in a large stack of hay which was in the barn. Mr. Skorobohach's building was in great danger of burning. There was a strong north wind and for some time it was feared that the entire Main Street would be wiped out. The Russell Fire Brigade came to the rescue."

"Fanned by a 40-mile an hour northwest wind, a fire on Oct. 3, 1952 which broke out in the second storey of the Man. Dairy & Poultry Co-op building spread rapidly to adjoining buildings causing damage over \$30,000. The first alarm was turned in about 5:30 p.m. Within a few minutes the interior of the building was a mass of flames. The fire then spread rapidly to adjoining buildings, destroying the vacant building formerly occupied by Nick Sicinski as a shoe repair shop, John's Cafe (owned by John Lazaruk) and Anton Yarmey's Groceries and Confectionery. By ten o'clock that night the fire appeared to be well under control but a second out-break in a 60' x 20' barn was a 12' x 16' lean-to around 11 p.m. spread to adjoining buildings. The building was owned by John Herchak and used as a garage and warehouse. The second blaze also destroyed a 12' x



Remains of downtown business section after devastating fire, Oct. 1952. Buildings in background, left to right: S. Nataros Dept. Store, Hryciuk's Massey Harris Shop, Dave Cleland's General Store and John Herchak's Store.



Tragic fire of 1952 — remains of downtown business section after devastating fire.

16' warehouse owned by A. Yarmey, a small coal shed owned by John Lazaruk, and an 18' x 22' warehouse owned by S. Nataros. Extensive damage was also caused to the exterior of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Nataros' house. The new Municipal Office, directly north of the Poultry Co-op building was only slightly damaged. However, the locker plant, to the north of the Municipal Office, was on fire several times. Damage was confined to the top of the south wall."

"A fire which broke out in the top of the Pool Elevator in Rossburn on Saturday, December 6, 1952, shortly after 6:00 p.m. destroyed the elevator and two annexes containing about 60,000 bushels of grain. The elevator is valued at approximately \$50,000 and the grain loss is as yet undetermined as a large portion of it may be salvaged. A crew of men commenced clearing the rubble on Monday morning and the grain that was unharmed was being unloaded into grain cars. The two National elevators and the C.N.R. station and National coal shed were threatened but fortunately there was very little wind and the fire equipment present was able to keep the blaze from spreading. A C.N.R. locomotive was despatched from Neepawa but as no water cars were available their assistance was limited."

"On Tuesday, March 12, 1963, fire struck a severe blow as the Rossburn Pool Elevator was destroyed in a fire which was still burning in the remaining huge pile of grain on Thursday, March 14. Two C.N.R. freight cars were also destroyed in the blaze. Fire was first noticed about 9 p.m. The loss came as a severe blow to the local Elevator Association who were still paying for the building which was built in 1953. The estimated cost of the elevator in 1953 was approximately \$120,000 and contained at the time of the fire 114,000 bushels of grain. It was one of the largest and best equipped elevators in rural Manitoba."

"Early Thursday morning, June 20, 1968, fire completely destroyed Frank Melnyk's older garage building located across Mountain Avenue from the new garage he had constructed.

Four new Case Tractors and a new Case combine on the north side of the old Garage building were destroyed or badly damaged.

Fanned by a strong southeast wind, the situation at times was quite serious with the roof of the United Church twice catching on fire, as did the shingles on the Town Hall roof on one occasion.

The old Roy Irwin Garage as it was known for many years, had been a landmark at the Southeast end of Rossburn."

Undoubtedly through the years many other fires occurred in Rossburn, smaller in size, but nevertheless bringing hardship for those who suffered loss.

Among those fires were: Mrs. Mary Brown's boarding house completely destroyed by fire in December 1927. On April 13, 1928, Wm. Campbell's livery barn was a total loss by fire. However, the foregoing will serve to maintain a permanent record of extremely serious fire losses in the business community.

Furniture Store & Undertaking Business

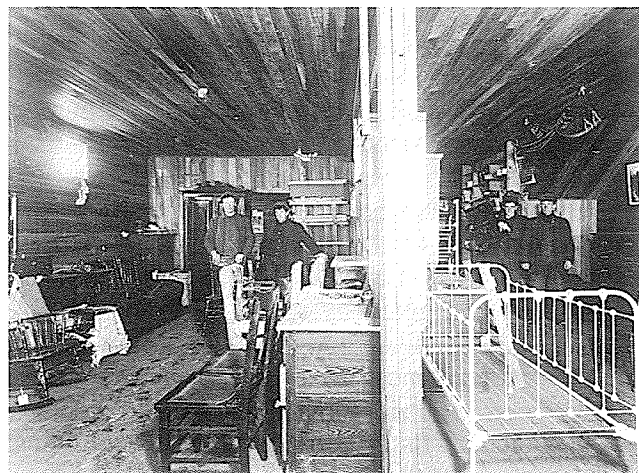
A history of Rossburn written about 1911 indicates that Ross & Stewart were operating a furniture store and undertaking business at that time. This firm was formed early in 1907 when Alex Stewart and Hugh R. Ross formed a business partnership to handle lumber and furniture at first.

In October 1912, this firm's advertisement in the Rossburn Times outlined their products and services which included undertaking, furniture, paints and oils.

Howard Alexander next operated the undertaking business and furniture store. As was the style in older times, furniture stores and undertaking businesses often were operated jointly.

About 1913 he purchased the building from Hugh Ross that was located on Railway Avenue where the present Monarch Woodworks is located (across from the hotel). This building was moved around 1920 to the site on Mountain Avenue presently occupied by the Macleods Store. This building has been renovated through the years, greatly increased in size by new construction and the second storey removed, since it became the Macleods store.

In this building he continued to operate a furniture store until the 1930s; and undertaking business, with the last registration date for the hearse being 1950. In addition to this, Howard carried on his Draying business. The building, lower floor, was



Interior of Howard Alexander's furniture store as seen in 1906.

converted to a restaurant. The second floor was used as a funeral parlor until the building was sold.

The two hearses owned by Howard Alexander can be seen in the Elkhorn Museum. They are a horse drawn hearse and a McLaughlin-Overland 1918 model hearse.

In addition Howard Alexander also ran an ice business and delivered throughout town from the ice house, back of the furniture store. Deliveries were made on Tuesdays and Fridays — before refrigeration.

Garages

Garages have served the public since the early days of motoring when cars first became popular.

The first listing appearing in the provincial telephone directory of an auto livery and garage in Rosscurn occurred in 1918. The listing of "W. L. McIntosh, auto livery and garage" telephone 51, remained in the Rosscurn listings until 1922. However in 1924, the telephone directory indicated that 51 was the telephone number for C. N. Locke, garage.

Another of Rosscurn's first garages was listed as the McKinnon & Munroe Garage, phone 65. This garage was first listed in 1921.

Press clippings have documented some interesting items concerning these businesses. As an example the following clippings have been taken from various news columns: June 6, 1918 — W. L. McIntosh has installed an electric lighting system in his garage. June 16, 1921 — Joe McKinnon has taken over a building in town and is fitting it up for a garage. On April 29, 1926, it was recorded that J. L. McKinnon was operating a garage and repair shop. April 17, 1930 — Dupont Bros. have a new up-to-date garage building on Main Street. April 15, 1937 — The King Garage is now open under the management of Andy McCrae. In 1946 — Garages were listed as being operated by J. W. Kotesky, Roy Irwin, Silewich Bros. and Maron Slon.

The assessment records of the Village provided other information. The garage owned by Richard King was taken over by W. Harold Mitchell in 1935 and not mentioned in later years. Harry Brugman, who had operated Rosscurn's first lighting plant, also had operated a garage during his time in business in Rosscurn according to village records.

One of the first garages referred to was operated by Clarence (Claire) N. Locke on the present location of M. Slon & Sons Ltd. Garage. After Maron Slon purchased the property in 1938 and erected a new garage, Claire Locke became an employee of Slon's Garage, staying with the firm until his death. Maron Slon became the Ford dealer in 1940. It is

interesting to note that Metro Gawryluk was Maron Slon's first gas customer on May 5, 1938 where the garage was built. He was again the customer of a new Ford car after Maron Slon took on the Ford dealership.

Through the years Maron Slon has expanded and modernized his building and the business has been a real asset to the community.

It also should be noted that Maron Slon and Sons Ltd. Garage was extended in 1968 to include a body shop. This has proved to be a very important asset to our community.

During the mid-1930's Roy Irwin's Garage was first recorded as the Irwin and Burton Garage, later becoming known as Irwin's Garage.

Roy Irwin operated the garage at the south end of town on Mountain Ave. until his passing. This was purchased by Frank Melnyk in 1962. On the night of June 19-20, 1968, it was destroyed by fire. Frank Melnyk's new garage and implement dealership which has been constructed in 1965 on the west side of Mountain Ave., across from the former Roy Irwin's Garage, was officially opened April 23, 1966. It was purchased by Kachan-Kostecki Ltd. from Frank Melnyk in 1968 and still serves the public at the present time.

In June 1932, Jim Strong purchased the old creamery building at the north end of town and moved it to a vacant lot on Railway Ave. across from the Douglas Hotel. The building was converted into a garage. He operated a garage for a number of years at this location. Next to operate this garage for a short while was Matt Malaniuk.

Silewich Bros. were the next operators of this garage business. Nick Silewich however moved to B.C. and left the garage operation to his brother W. Silewich after a few years.

A new garage was built on this location in 1947, 50 ft. frontage × 40 ft. in depth. This was operated by Wm. Silewich for a number of years and was located directly across from the Rosscurn Hotel. This garage was closed in 1964 and the property and building was purchased by Harry Twerdun. The building was converted into the shop for Monarch Woodworks. It is interesting to note that at one time in the late 40's and early 50's, Silewich's Garage handled the Minneapolis-Moline and Oliver lines of farm equipment — and also sold Studebaker cars.

Matt McKietruk operated a garage business in the building which has now been converted to the Parkway Co-op Farm Supply building. In Aug. 1963, Matt McKietruk expanded his business by constructing a new garage at the intersection of No. 45 highway and #254 at the north of Rosscurn. Official Opening was Nov. 8, 1963. He has been dealer for

Allis Chalmers and the New Holland line of farm equipment in addition to operating a general garage repair business. For a short while a coffee bar was operated at the front of the same building.

In 1963, Joe Danyluk built his first garage, a frame building, on the east side of Mountain Ave., just north of the former Roy Irwin's Garage. He built a new garage in 1974 on the same location, and moved his first garage to the back of the lot. This building was of cement block construction.

Undoubtedly, more could be written about the garages that served Rosssburn and community — but this article tells at least some of the story.

Hairdressing

The hairdressing profession has been well represented in Rosssburn throughout the years.

Compiling the names of hairdressers locally can only be done in earlier years with the aid of available municipal records, which are incomplete.

In 1939 Stella Yurchuk was listed as a hairdresser in Rosssburn. Edith Moulson's listing in Municipal records appeared first in 1940. Edith Moulson (who married Clair Peden) had her hairdressing shop in their residence on Victoria Avenue, after they moved to that residence in 1948. She had opened a hairdressing shop on Main Street in April 1940 a local news column reported.

Other hairdressers locally up to the present time have included: Audrey Moulson, Mrs. Marion Pomehichuk, Mrs. Nettie Hrysak, Mrs. Millicent Mychasiw, Mrs. Lucille (Baubie) Puhacz, Emily Cloud, Mrs. Marianne Frieze, Mrs. Joyce (Nychuk) Mott, Mrs. Debbie Stitt, Mrs. Karen Hodgson, Marcie Koscielny, Deanie Kostaskey, Mrs. Shirley Kalyniuk. Linda Kostaskey and Arlene Hardy operated a shop known as LinLene's in the Hilltop Building on Centennial Road, formerly Railway Avenue.

Hardware Stores

An important part of the business section of any rural community has traditionally been the hardware store. Although it is realized that the general store was probably the focal point of rural life and business, yet the general stores in their attempt to cater to the wide-ranging needs of the population, were unable to specialize in the wide variety of hardware items so necessary in day to day living requirements.

The earliest reference to a hardware store is that V. W. Johnston came to Rosssburn in 1903 and built a hardware and general store which was burned out in a disastrous fire on Jan. 4, 1909. The Johnston Block in which this business and others were housed, was an

attractive building for such an early period of Rosssburn's history.

A hardware store was established in Rosssburn by Cam Bedson during 1905. Further information regarding Bedson's hardware business, indicates that J. C. Bedson secured a lot in May 1905 from Thos. Peden Sr. with the intention of erecting a tinsmith and hardware store. In Feb. 1906 it was noted that Harry Wheeler who had been assisting R. C. Bedson in his hardware store, returned to his former employer in Binscarth. In May 1907, Alfred Coupland, of Teulon was employed by Cam Bedson as tinsmith. Also operating a hardware business in Rosssburn until about 1912 was George Watson who sold out to Ivan Caldwell. The Rosssburn Hardware, as Ivan Caldwell's business was known, could have been reached in those olden days at phone 10 using the old crank-type telephones. This well-known businessman of the early days came to Rosssburn from Virden to establish a hardware business and tinsmithing service in the community. He erected a building on Mountain Avenue next to the present Solo Store and Locker Plant, approximately where the present municipal office is located. He continued in his business until 1921 when he moved to Limerick, Sask., where he operated a tinsmith business. Adams Bros. (Bill and Al) took over the hardware business and remained in Rosssburn until 1927. Bill Clough then operated the tinsmith business and continued in that business until 1943. Meanwhile the store was taken over and expanded into all types of general store merchandise by M. Paisner. When M. Paisner discontinued the store business, the building was then used as an egg grading station, until destroyed in the fire of October 1952. Old newspaper reports indicate that in June 1929, a Mr. Mabley opened the hardware store for business again, because it had been closed. However, no further mention can be found of his business, so it must be presumed to have been of short duration.

For many years following departure of Adams Bros., the hardware needs of the community were stocked at the Beaver Lumber Co. store (or J. J. Crowe Lumber as it was known in the early days). With Jack Lindsay as Beaver Lumber's manager, Rosssburn's main hardware needs continued to be filled by that business, until in July 1950 Norman Major established a Macleods Store in the building he had purchased in the fall of 1947 from Alex Kitler. Prior to establishing the Macleods Store franchise, Norman and Barbara Major had operated a cafe in the building they had purchased on the east side of Mountain Avenue, as had also been operated by the previous owners of the building. It had been operated by the Kitlers as the Paris Cafe. The building which became the Macleods Store had been moved to its

location about 1921 by Howard Alexander who had purchased it in 1913. The building was originally erected by Hugh Ross and stood about where William Silewich's Garage and more recently, Monarch Woodworks' newly renovated building is now located. In 1960, the Majors remodelled and lengthened the store building, taking off the second floor living quarters, which were replaced by living quarters at the rear of the store premises. The business was purchased by Tony and Georgina Luhowy in March 1976 and they have since further modernized the store interior.

In 1949, J. L. Blaskiewicz had established a hardware store business in a building just east of the old Rosburn Theatre on Victoria Avenue East. This he continued to operate until his retirement due to failing health in 1956. The hardware store building was then torn down and replaced by residential property.

On July 6, 1956, R. A. Scherloski, of Langenburg, Sask., established a Marshall-Wells Store in a building rented from Harry Drosdoski on the corner of Mountain Avenue opposite Slon's Garage at its intersection with Third Street. Mr. Scherloski had bought out the hardware business of Mr. Blaskiewicz, a long-time businessman of the community previously mentioned, and the stock was moved to the new location. Mr. Scherloski had opened a furniture and appliance store one year earlier in the same location which was expanded to include the hardware business. The building had been built by Harry Drosdoski in 1950 for use as a poolroom. In June, 1960, Norman Scarrow purchased the business from R. A. Scherloski. Norman and Ethel Scarrow have continued to operate the business since then, purchasing the building from Mr. Drosdoski some time later after purchasing the business. The business has more recently been known as Scarrow's Link Hardware.

Reference has been found in an old issue of the Russell Banner that it was reported in Nov. 1906 that Eakin's & Griffin's Hardware Store was being moved from its site to one on the west side of Mountain Avenue opposite V. W. Johnston's General Store. Little else can be learned of this early business except that in January 1907 it was reported sold to Marshall & Ross.

Times have changed through the years, from the days when the stores used to be a gathering place, particularly in the winter months around the stove, and later on Saturday nights, when stories and gossip used to be exchanged and even pranks planned. Nevertheless, whether we think of the hardware stores of old, or the modern, attractive businesses of the present, all had their part to play in the story of Rosburn's history.

Harness Repair Shops

The first references to a Harness Repair Shop are two items in the news column in May 1906. One item stated that "M. D. Bentley opened his harness business in more "commodious" quarters in the new Johnston Block on Main Street." The other item stated that "D. V. Bentley, harness-maker, suffered malicious damage to the foundation and other parts of the building being erected."

Directory information indicated W. A. Buchanan operating a Harness Shop in 1907. Stewart Bentley was listed as a "Saddler" in 1906, while Hugh Bentley was listed in the harness business.

John Scott, harness-maker, opened for business in William Young's old store on the south-east corner of the Mountain and Victoria intersection, in Jan. 1909. This site is the present location of the Toronto-Dominion Bank. Mr. Rutherford, the druggist, opened for business at the same location in Jan. 1909.

In those days, John Scott was regarded as a very punctual businessman. An item appeared in the Rosburn Times "Wonder Column" that "instead of ringing the town bell at 12:01 P.M., everybody watch John Scott go home to dinner, he is always sharp on time."

In 1913, John Scott, harness-maker, was listed as being located at the north end of the business section between A. Shields Livery Barn and Bedson's Hardware.

John Scott carried on his harness repair business in the building that is the present location of Rosburn Electric Ltd. He passed away in 1920 and in 1923, Mrs. Scott also passed away.

The 1914 Directory Listing referred to John Scott as a "Saddler" — an old time term referring to harness repair.

R. G. Brown was reported in August 1920 to have opened a new Harness Shop. Also about the same time, it was recorded that Mr. Hiney was operating another Harness Shop.

Kost Sidoryk started up a Harness & Shoe Repair business on Mountain Avenue in the early 1930s. This business was located in a building just north of the present location of M. Slon & Sons Ltd. Garage. His brother Pete Sidoryk joined him in a business partnership. Later Kost Sidoryk left and Pete Sidoryk remained here in business for about four years. Wm. Cluff followed him in with a Tinsmithing business in the same location; meanwhile Pete Sidoryk went to Angusville and carried on business as a Blacksmith. Pete Sidoryk's listing in the 1934 Voters List as a Harness Repair Business operator is the last listing in local records concerning this business.

However, with the increasing use and importance of motor vehicles, horses (and harness repair shops)

declined in importance — and the harness repair work was generally carried out in connection with the shoe repair business. The shoe repair business thus gained in importance and the businesses were generally listed as Shoe Repair Shops, with harness repair becoming just a sideline.

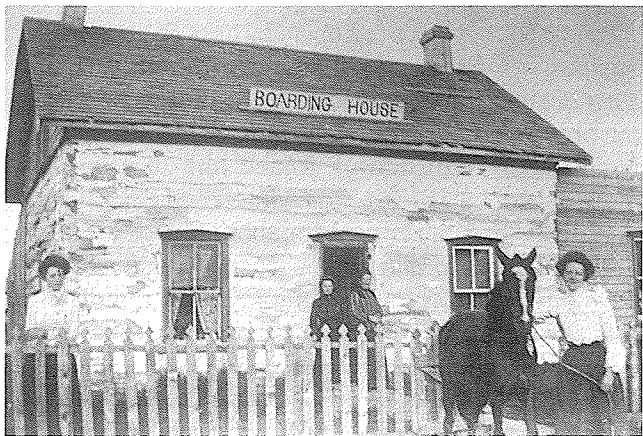


The intersection of Victoria and Mountain looking south on the east side of the street. J. Scott's harness shop is shown on the present location of the T-D Bank, while the Bank of Toronto is situated in a frame building to the right of the harness maker's building. The Queen's Hotel is located further to the right.

Hotels

Hotels and boarding places have been part of Rossburn's history from early days. This story will deal mainly with the hotels — although it is well known that boarders were catered to in a number of village residences. Any mention in detail of these will have to be found in the family history section if the families so choose.

Early accounts suggest that in 1894 the population of Rossburn was about twenty people. Amongst the buildings that made up the village was a boarding house that later became known as the Queen's Hotel.



Mrs. King's boarding house. Mrs. King is standing beside the horse while Mrs. Young is beside the fence.

This business enterprise was operated by Mrs. John Preston (nee Sarah Hamilton), who later married Richard King. Originally a log house had been built to be used as the boarding house. This was enlarged in later years into the Queen's Hotel.

In 1901 a newspaper report indicated that T. Harrison had secured the position of porter at the Queen's. The next recorded mention of the Queen's Hotel was a report in August 1903 that the business had been sold to a gentleman from Neepawa. This buyer intended starting a livery and feed stable in connection with the business. In October 1904, another newspaper report stated that a Mr. Smith was building a boarding house that would be quite an addition to the town.

In June 1906, the hotel and livery business was purchased by E. McCann, of Solsgirth. His intentions were to build a cement block stable and barn to accommodate the travelling needs of commercial men when stopping over at the hotel. Next we find that in March 1909, the Queen's Hotel, which by then was under the proprietorship of Parfitt Bros. had been completely renovated and was open for business again. The Partridge family, of Oakburn, next operated the hotel for a short while. Another change of ownership occurred shortly after with Mr. and Mrs. Robert Johnston and family taking over. The 1914 telephone directory listed the Queen's Hotel, R. J. Johnston Prop. Phone 6.

During the 1918 flu epidemic the building was used as a temporary hospital and three deaths occurred there. They were: Mr. Lang (a traveller), Hugh Johnston (son of the proprietors) and Thomas York.

On Sept. 1, 1920, Mrs. M. Wilson, of Russell, opened the Queen's Hotel with a new staff and full equipment. Mrs. Wilson, who had years of experience in the hotel business, had formerly run the King George Hotel where she had been very successful. At that time it was said: "she caters to the wishes of the travelling public and does all in her power to please them". In Dec. 1921 the hotel was again under new management. Mr. D. F. Sare was open for business "at the right prices and the very best of rooms and meals". In October 1923 Mr. D. Sare and family left to operate a hotel at Boissevain. In Nov. 1923, Mr. Pollon and family moved into the hotel and it was once again open for business. Next to operate the hotel was a Mrs. Passmore in 1926, followed by Mr. and Mrs. Dan Pradinuk. The Queen's Hotel was destroyed by fire in 1931 bringing to an end a business with an extremely interesting history.

Another item records a boarding house operated by a Mrs. A. F. Walker in 1923. A further item tells of a fire in Dec. 1927 that completely destroyed Mrs. May Brown's boarding house. The fire, at first

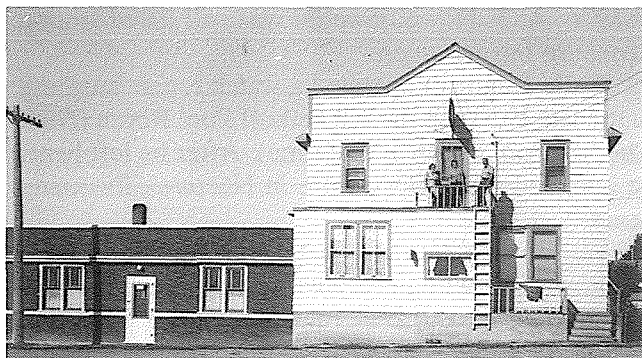
thought to be extinguished, destroyed the house in spite of the efforts of fire fighters.



The Empire Hotel as viewed in 1909.

About 1905, Hugh Ross built a tin-covered building that was to become the Empire Hotel. Shortly after, Dave Mitchell came from Foxwarren to manage the hotel, and in turn Loughlin McKinnon took over the business that in later years was to be known as "The Beehive". This building was located on Railway Ave. near the present hotel site.

In September 1914 Mrs. M. Wilson and Peter took over operation of the business for a while and the name was changed to the "King George Hotel". From 1917 to 1927 Mr. and Mrs. Wasyl Strank rented the hotel, with the front part of the building being used for a second-hand store. When the building was sold, Mr. and Mrs. Strank moved to the location where the Rossburn Library and Drop-In Centre now stands. They erected their own building on that location in 1927. They operated a store for a number of years, closing it during the 1930's.



The Hotel Douglas during the 1940's.

In August 1927, C. D. Douglas, formerly of Oakburn, commenced construction of a new hotel that was to become known as the Hotel Douglas, on the site of the former building. A large clientele of the

travelling public was gradually built up. In April 1940, Chas. Douglas commenced an addition to the hotel (that was further extended in July, 1949) which for many years served as a beer parlor. In May 1946, after selling the hotel, Mr. and Mrs. Douglas left for Barrhead, Alta. The old tin-covered building which they had purchased, the former "Beehive", had been replaced by what was considered at that time to be, one of the finest country hotels in the province.

Peter Wladyka, Bill Wladyka and Peter Drosdoski purchased the Hotel Douglas on May 1, 1946 and operated the business until May 1948 when they sold to Mike Smycnuik, Harry Smycnuik and Tony Smycnuik. Mike Smycnuik continued to operate the hotel which was then known as the Rossburn Hotel until 1960 when he became a partner in the Welland House Hotel, St. Catharines, Ontario and moved there.

In Sept. 1966, Orest Smycnuik commenced construction on the south side of the hotel building of an extension which resulted in the beverage room being moved from its old location on the north side. This portion of the building became known as The Sportsman's Lounge while the former beverage room was converted to living accommodation. The official opening of this extension to the hotel he had taken over in 1960 was held during March 1967. Mr. and Mrs. Orest Smycnuik continued to operate the hotel until 1971. It had been renamed the Chalet during their ownership. Mr. and Mrs. John Husack operated the hotel next, with their ownership lasting from 1971 until 1973 when they sold to Mr. and Mrs. Gary Montgomery. Under their ownership the Rossburn Hotel continues to provide excellent service.

In 1972 an 8-unit motel was moved to Mountain Avenue in town north of the Pentecostal Church. The venture, originally investigated by a group of businessmen working through the Parkland Development Corporation was eventually undertaken by Harris Huston. The units were constructed by H & R Industries in Dauphin. The Double H Motel opened for business on February 1, 1973. This business was sold to Wm. McKietuik, and the units were eventually resold and moved out of town in 1974.

The Hotel business has had a most interesting local history and has always filled an important need for the public.

Implement Agencies

Implement agencies have always played an important role in the business life of our farming community. One of the earliest available references to the implement business, in March 1905, is a newspaper account stating that a Mr. Clinie had arrived

from Ontario and had bought Mr. Young's implement business. Then, in May 1905, it was recorded that Hugh R. Ross had expressed intentions of building a large implement warehouse with hall above. Possibly the next report in May 1907, in some manner was linked to the earlier report. This item stated that H. W. Johnston's new implement building and public hall 30 ft. x 60 ft. was nearing completion and the public hall would fill a long felt need. In April 1908, R. R. Ross had accepted a position with H. W. Johnston in connection with the Massey-Harris business.

The next available reference to implement business in Rosssburn was in 1911, when it was recorded that two implement buildings formed part of Rosssburn's business section — they belonged to V. W. Johnston and H. Johnston. H. Johnston's implement warehouse on Mountain Avenue had been built to house Massey-Harris machinery. V. W. Johnston was the dealer for Case machinery and Case cars. From 1914-16, according to telephone directories of that time John McFeetors' name appears in connection with an implement business in Rosssburn.

Wm. Peden Sr. was the first IHC dealer at Rosssburn of which we have record. Years later, it is known that he had an IHC dealership at Oakburn, about 1925.

From 1916 until 1952, C. A. Menzies served as the IHC dealer in the town. In 1937 a newspaper report stated that Mr. Menzies had torn down his old shop and in May 1937 was erecting a new building. It is remembered that the IHC shop was used for teas, showers and even a wedding. Reminiscing back to 1932 according to notes signed on machinery purchases and still available, a valuation of \$10 a head was placed on a cow and horses were valued at \$75 a head.

Verbowski Bros. have operated the I.H.C. agency since Nov. 1, 1952 when it was purchased from C. A. Menzies. Mike Verbowski continues as the proprietor of an expanding business serving an ever-increasing area. This farm service business continues to serve the community that has been faithfully served for so many years.

Another implement dealer of the 1930's was Richard King who was the Massey-Harris dealer and located across Mountain Avenue from C. A. Menzies I.H.C. dealership. Mr. King also sold flour as a sideline. The next Massey-Harris dealer was Joseph Blaskiewicz which he continued with until 1949. Rosssburn's last Massey-Harris dealer was Nick Hryciuk who conducted his business from a building that is presently known as the Parkway Co-op Farm Supplies. The building was built in 1948. Joseph Blaskiewicz was the Cockshutt dealer from about

1936 until 1943 when William Kachan took over the Cockshutt dealership. He continued with this agency in his building on Victoria Avenue East until he later joined in a partnership known as Kachan-Kostecki Ltd. in the mid-1960's. This firm was the White Farm Implement dealership for a number of years. The business operated in the south end of Rosssburn on the west side of Mountain Avenue in a building constructed by Frank Melnyk for his Case Implement dealership, which officially opened in April 1966. Frank Melnyk had purchased Roy Irwin's Garage including the Case dealership which was located on the east side of Mountain Avenue just across from the new building. This older building which had been a south end landmark for many years, was later destroyed by fire.

Peter Wladyka previously had taken over the John Deere dealership and constructed a new building in 1948. The building was located on the site of the present Rosssburn Credit Union. He kept the dealership until 1963, after which only repair work and parts sale were carried on. In 1970 he sold the building to Wm. McKietiuik who moved it outside the town limits on Mountain Avenue north for use in connection with McKietiuik Freighters trucking operations.

Jewellery and Watch Repair Shops

The first mention of a jewellery business in Rosssburn comes in a report of the disastrous fire in January 1909. The news story told of Parrot's Jewellery store being amongst the businesses destroyed.

In October 1915, J. Cohen & Sons, watchmakers, advertised in the Rosssburn Times that their office was in Peikoff's building. "All work was guaranteed for two years."

In 1923, the Rosssburn news column noted that Mr. Howe, jeweller from Birtle had located in town. In 1926, A. F. Howe, jeweller was still listed among Rosssburn businessmen.

Wally Raginski operated a watch repair business in the late 1930's in the old Peikoff Pool Room (Nick Chopp's Pool Room at that time). After he left here, he operated a jewellery store in Neepawa for many years.

Wally Peleshok ran a watch repair shop in Nick Stupnisky's building in a lean-to on the north side of the building next to Dan Pawchuk's store. This was known as Wally's Watch Repairs. Wally Peleshok operated this business from 1950 to the spring of 1953 when he moved to Winnipeg. Bill Prokop had previously operated the business before moving to Russell.

In the late 1960's, Wm. Hrabluk operated a watch repair business under the name of Star Watchmaker,

in the former shoe repair shop on Third Street. He later moved his business to a small building adjacent to the Elite Cafe on the west side of Mountain Ave. Prior to these locations, he had operated a watch repair office in the house located across Railway Avenue from the Rossburn Hotel. Since then, however, no jewellery or watch repair shop has opened in Rossburn.

Laundry Business

In June 1915, the Rossburn Village Council gave instructions to "have the laundry building removed from the street running west from Mountain Ave. and moved to Lloyd's Carriage Shop."

Records indicate that in 1920, Rossburn had a laundry operated by Funn Lee.

Lawyers

The legal profession has been represented in our community through the years, although in recent times, Rossburn has been served by lawyers from other towns who have maintained an office locally on a once a week basis.

In the early years the legal profession was represented by M. Lee, E. A. Burbank and E. Sirrett. It is recorded that in July 1907, E. A. Burbank, of Solsgrith, opened a law office in Rossburn and planned to come to Rossburn each Friday, holding office hours in H. Johnston's building; later becoming a resident lawyer. He was followed in 1913 by E. N. Sirrett who was also a resident lawyer here for several years. M. S. Lee's office was at the back of the Hook General Store building.

W. W. W. Wilson and his brother Elmer Wilson were next to serve the legal needs of the community. W. W. W. Wilson kept the law office going until his brother, Elmer Wilson's return from the First World War in 1919, when he became a resident lawyer remaining here for a number of years.

In 1931, Elmer Wilson went to Ottawa to serve as Pension Advocate with the Veteran's Bureau in Ottawa. In December 1937 it was recorded that W. W. W. Wilson expected to move into his new office in C. A. Menzies I. H. C. building shortly. He carried on his Rossburn law practise until 1961.

Another member of the legal profession to serve our community was Harry Greenberg. His office was located about where Scarrow's Hardware is presently situated. He practiced law here during the 1930's.

In recent years, other members of the legal profession with office hours locally included: J. N. Mandziuk, Robt. Smellie, B. Musick, Geof Fulton, Morris Butcher. Offices were located in various locations in the business section.

Manitoba Dairy and Poultry Co-op, Rossburn Branch

The Manitoba Dairy and Poultry Co-operative was organized in 1922.

Each local including Rossburn had poultry shipping days. A government grader, graded the poultry which then was boxed in wooden crates, and loaded onto railway cars to be shipped to larger points.

The Egg Grading Station was opened in Rossburn in 1940. For a number of years prior to the big fire of October 3, 1952, the egg grading station was located in a two storey building on Mountain Avenue, approximately where the Pool Hall now stands, next to the Municipal Office. Being forced to obtain new premises after being burned out by the fire, premises were obtained on Mountain Avenue South in a building formerly occupied by Tony Melnyk's store. These premises were moved up next to the Creamery site and shortly afterwards, when the Egg Station was closed, the building was moved to the back of the Creamery property where it was converted to a garage.

In 1959 Manco purchased the Creamery from Smellie Brothers, starting operations January 1st, 1960.

In 1967, some of the cream producers in the area felt they should be selling their milk to a plant that would process it into cheese.

A number of producer meetings were held to discuss the possibilities of a plant in Rossburn.

With the help from the Chamber of Commerce, they were able to persuade Manco to build the Rossburn Plant. Manco requested the people of Rossburn to raise fifty thousand dollars in Saving Certificates, which was successfully canvassed in the area.

The Manco Plant was built in 1968, starting to take milk in the latter part of December 1968. The official opening of the Cheese Plant was June 17, 1969.

Additions were built in 1978 and 1979, and the butter operation was moved to the new building, where the butter and cheese operations are in the one building.

The cost of the cheese plant built in 1968, and equipment, was \$295,000.00. The Rossburn Manco Plant employs up to thirty people at peak time, summer.

In 1979 we processed 8,750,227 litres of milk.

We make eleven kinds of cheese.

In 1979 Manitoba Dairy and Poultry Co-operative became two separate Co-ops: Granny's Poultry Co-op, with one Hatchery and one Poultry Processing Plant, Manco Dairy Co-op with nine creameries, four cheese plants, and three fluid milk plants.

Manco Dairies, co-operative is the main Industry in the Rosssburn area.

L.C. (Pat) Johnston was the Director for the years 1969-1980.

Doug Andrew was elected as the Director in March 1980.

Manitoba Hydro

In the fall of 1938, a 6,900 volt, single phase power line reached Rosssburn from Oakburn, being converted to three phase the next year. This supply line was seventeen miles in length and required 298 poles. In Rosssburn, 26 street lights were erected and eighty customers connected. Lloyd Playfair was the first District Supervisor at Rosssburn, but in 1939 the district headquarters was moved to Shoal Lake.

Due to the farm electrification program, a large number of farm customers were added to the Manitoba Power Commission system in 1953. At that time it was decided that the Village of Rosssburn would be the headquarters for a District Supervisor to maintain service in the area.

H. L. "Mac" McMillan arrived in Rosssburn from Hamiota where he had been employed as an assistant District Supervisor, in June 1953 as the first "Hydro man" in the area.

During the summer a warehouse and office was built at the corner of 4th Street and Railway Avenue, consisting of a frame building, metal covered 16' x 24', with a plank floor and an office 6' x 8' in one corner. The office furniture consisted of a built in desk, two chairs and an electric heater. The remainder of the building was used for storage of material, tools and equipment, and was also an ideal place to hang and skin deer and elk after a successful hunt.

There was a pole ramp built on the west side of the building where a supply of poles were kept for replacement and new construction projects.

The only toilet facilities at that time was a "One holer" that Garf Lindsay and Mac undertook to build and it turned out to be a major project as they both lacked experience as carpenters. However, Murray Hryciuk had a "one holer" in his B.A. Oil Bulk Station yard on the west side of the C.N.R. tracks that they were using as a model. A great many trips were made across the tracks for measurements etc., but it was finally completed and painted "Hydro Blue", it sat proudly just north of the warehouse for a good many years.

Doug Joiner was the first district helper hired in Rosssburn and when he became a lineman was transferred to a Hydro construction crew and worked in several points in Manitoba.

Garf Lindsay is still employed with Hydro as a District Operator at Somerset.

Bill Cameron is located at Melita as an Assistant District Operator.

Danny Kornyk was employed with Hydro for quite a few years before he resigned to work for Ontario Hydro.

Bill Bonchuk worked for several years in Rosssburn and is presently employed in Brandon as a meter reader.

The late John Bonchuk worked for several years in Rosssburn and Russell, before retiring in 1977.

When the Rosssburn district was formed, it included Rosssburn, Vista, Birdtail, Marco, Olha, Rogers, Seech, Horod, Ruthenia, Mears, Glen Elmo and Ekford and all the farm customers in these areas.

Eric Peterson's line crew completed building the farm lines in the R.M. of Rosssburn during the summer of 1953 and the Rosssburn staff energized the lines and installed the meters during the summer and fall.

Lawrence Archer's line crew completed building the farm lines in the unorganized territory east of the Rosssburn Municipality in the late fall of 1953. The Rosssburn staff again energized the lines and installed meters during the fall of 1953 and during January and February of 1954. Some of the roads were impassable for wheeled vehicles, so we hired Mr. Alex Cleland with his snow plane to take us into these areas.

The customer furthest from Rosssburn in those days was a Mr. Arnold who farmed east of the Lake Audy Ranger Station. Later in the 1950's a Hydro man was stationed in Elphinstone and the areas of Horod and Seech were then in the Elphinstone district making the Rosssburn district more compact.

The rural roads in the early 1950's were, to put it mildly, not good. The road north to the valley from Pokropany's hadn't been built. The only road to Glen Elmo and Mears was north from the Bruan School corner, and nearly every spring the valley road would be under water from the foot of the hill at Glen Elmo Church to John Plant's farm, when the Birdtail River went on a rampage and over flowed its banks. It would sometimes flood in the summer also, after a heavy rain. However, the valley road had a good gravel base so there was no danger of getting stuck if a person could keep on the road, which was easier said than done as in places the water would be 12" deep and running fairly fast. However, it was the roads that had no gravel that caused the most trouble, especially in the spring when the frost was coming out.

One episode that comes to mind happened during the spring break up when the power went off at Matt Bidochka's farm. I was able to drive as far as Charlie Derlago's farm with the truck. As this happened late at night the Derlago's were in bed; I left the truck in the yard, put a bridle on a horse that was in the barn,

rode over to the Bidochka farm, got the power on and rode back to Derlago's and that old horse never got off a walk. I made sure it didn't as I'm sure if it had started to run, I'd have fallen off and ended up walking back to the Derlago farm.

I think this also illustrates the great co-operation and help we received from the farm people in the community. If we ever needed help day or night, it was gladly given.

When the Rossburn Hydro district was set up in 1953, all the power was supplied from the Oakburn Sub Station at 7200 volts. However, as the electrical load increased, it became apparent that a different source was required. When the all electric Rossburn Collegiate was built, a new line was installed between Oakburn and Rossburn and was energized at 33,000 watts. As a temporary measure there were two portable Sub Stations set up in the field approximately ½ mile east of Matt's Texaco Service. They served the purpose for the winter of 1965-66, when a permanent Sub Station was built in the summer of 1966 approximately ¼ mile east of Matt's Texaco and is still serving the area.

In July, 1966, the McMillans left Rossburn to manage the Glenboro district for Hydro and the late Mr. Jack Sedor replaced them and managed the Rossburn district for several years before moving to Winnipeg where they lived until Jack passed away.

Mr. Dwight Thompson followed Jack Sedor and served the district until 1979 when he was the successful applicant for a position in a large district located in Swan River, Manitoba, and left Rossburn in the fall of 1979.

H. L. McMillan

(Kurt Janzen was transferred from Winnipeg in March, 1980 and is now the Assistant District Operator for Manitoba Hydro.)

Microwave Relay Station (CN/CP Telecommunications)

CN/CP Microwave Relay Station situated on part of NE¼ sec. 35 TP 19 R 23 WPM approximately ¾ mile north of Olha of PTH 566, is one of approximately 136 stations situated about 30 miles apart from Montreal to Vancouver to form the CN/CP Transcontinental Microwave System.

The Microwave System was started in Montreal with the first test tower August, 1962 which leap-frogged across Canada to check for positions of tower sites. It took just 26 months from an idea to completion in November 1963.

This system was connected to existing systems east of Montreal to St. John, making it 4000 miles long plus N.W.T. with connections to U.S.A., Europe and Asia (via cable and satellite).

The system is used for general communications

from telegrams, telex, PWS to high speed data transmissions. It replaces the wire lines strung on telegraph poles along the railroad tracks and is far superior for reliability and stability.

The tower at Olha is 352 feet high with six transmitters and six receivers (three east to west and three west to east). Each channel is capable of handling 960 simultaneous voice circuits and to protect against failure, one channel is used for a protection channel with automatic switching when a failure does occur still providing for continuous service. The power plant consists of two no-break sets, each supplying one half of the radio equipment which consists of a combination diesel-engine motor alternator. The electric motor is driven by the hydro and when it fails the diesel engine automatically cuts in to supply power to the equipment and restores back to normal when power is restored.

The CN/CP technician who maintains the Olha site, plus Langenburg, Silverton and Rackham is George Phelps. He transferred from Winnipeg with his wife Maxine and family Tom and Ivy, taking up residence at Rossburn in January 1964.

Motor Vehicle Branch and Insurance Agency

Otto and Emma Elvers retired after selling their business to Willis and Mildred Stitt on April 1, 1980. Their business history goes back to March 1955 when Otto Elvers' father, the late Allan Elvers resigned from his positions. Otto Elvers was appointed as agent for the Motor Vehicle Branch, in addition to his appointment as a general Insurance agent and County Court Clerk. Prior to these appointments Otto Elvers worked as a carpenter and woodworker for 15 years. Then in 1971 he was further appointed to serve as an Autopac Agent. Their retirement came after 25 years in the business of vehicle licences and insurance.

In 1955 when Otto Elvers was first appointed as County Court Clerk and Agent for the Motor Vehicle Branch General Insurance, his office was in the back room of the Municipal Office until the County Court books and files were moved to Russell. For a short time he carried on a license and Insurance business from their residence.

An office was built in 1968 between the Pool Hall and the Dew Drop Inn. The building was removed from this location in 1981 and taken out of town.

Willis and Mildred Stitt, presently operate this business under the name W-M Stitt Agencies. In 1981 they purchased the former Telephone office building on Mountain Ave. and are operating a real estate business in conjunction with the Insurance and Autopac Agency. The Village of Rossburn, who had become owners of the former Manitoba Telephone

property on Mountain Ave. sold the property to the Stitts.

The New Departure Fire Extinguisher

Rosssburn has long had an interest in the possibility of industry forming a base on which the economy of the village could expand. An early example of this occurred in 1914 when a company was formed to establish the manufacture of fire extinguishers at a plant in Rosssburn.

The earliest mention we have of this endeavour appeared in the Rosssburn Times of May 28, 1914, headed "A New Era of Prosperity for Rosssburn." The report indicated that "The New Departure Manufacturing Co. of Canada, manufacturers of the New Departure and Little Giant Fire Extinguishers will locate their plant for the manufacture of their machines in Rosssburn." The company submitted a proposition to the people of Rosssburn regarding the establishment of their plant here. A block of shares was offered for sale and was subscribed for with an announcement following by the company that they would begin the manufacture of their fire fighting machines in the immediate future. It was expected that the erection of the plant would result in jobs for a score or more men for the operation. Secretary of the Company was Mr. Cockburn.

Col. S. B. Steele who was promoted to the rank of Major-General S. B. Steele in December 1914, was president of the New Departure Fire Extinguisher Co.

The next recorded item we note regarding the fire extinguisher enterprise appear in the Rosssburn Times on December 17, 1914 was as headed, "Citizens Praise Fire Extinguisher." The article stated:

"The village was startled on Wednesday evening last about 7 o'clock by the ringing of the fire alarm. Responding to the call the citizens found the sky aglow from the flames which were bursting through the roof of Mr. Joseph Beirnes' residence on the south side of Victoria Ave., now occupied by Mr. John Martin, and the building was apparently doomed. The bucket brigade worked hard in their endeavor to hold the fire in check until the arrival of the New Departure Fire Extinguisher, of which, unfortunately, there did not happen to be one immediately at hand. The fire seemed almost beyond control, in one point extending from basement to roof, when two or three firemen attacked it through a window with a ten-quart extinguisher. In a few seconds the flames were seen to die out. The men were able to fight their way upstairs and the excitement was soon over and the building safe.

Considerable damage was done including the destruction of a portion of the roof.

The citizens of Rosssburn are now full of praise for

this little fire engine, and the building is well worth anyone's while to go and see the result of the use of a few quarts of this chemical.

Messrs. D. Hough, Caldwell, Tom Peden, W. McIntosh, A. McKinnon, Jack Lindsay and many others worked splendidly and are no quitters in case of fire."

Apparently, however, Rosssburn's industrial future did not develop further, at least as far as fire extinguisher manufacturing was concerned. In spite of the early hopes and recommendations, the idea had insufficient merit to proceed further with, and the whole idea was dropped.

Walter Johnston is credited by early residents with inventing the fire extinguisher. Apparently, however the product did not measure up to its early expectations. During 1914 when the New Departure Mfg. Co. reached its greatest development, the firm even had a telephone listing in the Rosssburn portion of the Manitoba Telephone Directory. Phone 11 was the number that would have reached the company.

Newspapers

Weekly newspapers have long had a place in Rosssburn's history. The Rosssburn Times was the community's first newspaper and from the copies still available, this paper was evidently published between 1911 and 1915 or 16. A copy published on February 15, 1912 stated that "Mr. Thomas Peden Jr. has taken over the management of this paper" and "the former manager Mr. Lee will be leaving the town in the near future." H. J. Bowley was the publisher. At that time the paper was printed at Binscarth. During 1914 with Thomas Peden still as manager, the paper's publishers were then Cockburn and Turnbull, while by late 1915 publishers were then advertised as Cockburn, Son and Company. Nothing further can be found regarding the history of this paper, and it apparently ceased publication about that time.

News of Rosssburn and community area was then, again, as it was from 1900 to publication of the Rosssburn Times, carried regularly in The Russell Banner.

About 25 years elapsed before the Rosssburn Review made its appearance on Oct. 9, 1941 with H. J. Bowley again as the publisher, but this time with the printing plant in Rosssburn. In April 1948, Oliver R. Hodge of MacGregor assumed publication of The Review, and Mr. Bowley retired as a result of ill health, after many years in the weekly newspaper industry at Binscarth, Roblin and Rosssburn. The Review was next sold to John Hresavich in November 1953. Harry Aylwin of Plumas purchased the paper in May 1954 and continued publication until October 1979 when he sold the newspaper to Greg Nesbitt of

Shoal Lake, following a serious illness. Harry Aylwin also published the Erickson News at the Rossburn Review printing plant from June 1954 until 1968.

The Review was first published by Mr. Bowley in a house west of the C.N.R. tracks on Victoria Ave. It then moved to a location on the west side of Railway Ave. across from the Rossburn Hotel. In 1950 the Review moved to a new building on Mountain Avenue, built by Oliver Hodge. The Review office continued in that location until February 1, 1980 when the office was moved to the building between J. R. Pizza and the old Telephone Office building (now owned by W/M Stitt Insurance Agency).

Oil Dealers

Another important phase of supplying the needs of agriculture is the oil business. Through the years, various oil companies have been represented.

Records as to which was the first oil company dealership in Rossburn cannot now be established. In earlier years, however, there were a wide range of companies supplying their products.

The Imperial Oil Company has long been represented in Rossburn. Howard Alexander was the first Imperial Oil Dealer. Another dealer from the past years was Chas. Bell during the early 1940s. Wm. J. Brown was the Imperial Oil Dealer with the dealership next being taken over in 1948 by Harry Verbowski who continued until 1975. He was succeeded by Mike Hersack & Sons who are still serving the community at the time this is written.

It is recalled that Howard Alexander first delivered fuel by team and wagon. Later a Model T was acquired which was used for deliveries, a barrel at a time.

Back in 1935, it is recorded that Rossburn was served by the British American Oil Co. Ltd., the Prairie City Oil Co. Ltd. and Imperial Oil Ltd.

In 1939, a listing of the North Star Oil Co. Ltd. replaced the previous listing for Prairie City Oil Co. Ltd. Joe Blaskiewicz, in partnership with Elmer Grant supplied farmers' needs for the North Star Oil until 1946. Peter Kuz took over the North Star Oil agency that year.

British American Oil dealers included Jack McKague, then Angus Derlago (1942-1946), Harry Drosdoski (1946-1948), Joe Lepischak (1948-1952), and Mervin Topolnisky (1953-1955). Murray Hryciuk has served as an Oil Dealer in Rossburn since 1956, firstly as a B.A. dealer. Since 1970 when B.A. and Anglo Canadian amalgamated, Murray Hryciuk has served with the Gulf Oil Company. As with the Imperial Oil Company, their facilities are located along the C.N.R. right-of-way.

From 1943 to 1950, Wm. Kozun was B.A. dealer for Mears district.

Another oil company serving the community was the Anglo-Canadian Oil Co., (later Royalite Co.), which later amalgamated with B.A. and the Gulf Oil Co. was formed as a result. Emerson Strong was an Anglo Dealer back in 1942. Later Alex Sawchuk became the Anglo Dealer, followed by Wm. McKietiuik, who was the last Anglo-Canadian Dealer. This firm was originally known as the Anglo-American Gas and Oil Co. when Emerson E. Strong was the local dealer.

At the present time, the Imperial Oil Co. Bulk Facilities are located along the C.N.R. right-of-way, as are the Gulf Oil Co. Bulk Facilities. The Co-op facilities are located across the tracks at the south end of Rossburn. The Parkway Co-op facilities are referred to in another article.

Pharmacies

With the arrival of Dr. J. W. Evans in August 1904, the first drug store was established in Rossburn. Dr. Evans operated the drug store in connection with his medical practice. This was located in office space which was made use of in his home at what is now the intersection of Victoria Avenue and Ellen Street. This house for quite a number of years recently has been the residence of Doug and Emelia Cormack.

Mr. E. C. Rutherford established the first drug store in what is now the business section and built a store just north of the present location of the pharmacy, on the east side of Mountain Avenue. Mr. Rutherford remained until 1912 when C. W. Wickett took over as the town's druggist. Mr. Wickett came here from Neepawa.

In 1927, Mr. Colin Barlow became Mr. Wickett's successor. He operated in partnership with Mr. L. Dutton who had a drug store in Birtle. This business, operating under the business name of Barlow & Dutton, continued until September 1944 when Mr. Barlow left for Winnipeg where he assumed a position with the McKnight Drug Co. At that time the prescription files were taken over by the drug store at Birtle. Mr. Barlow later moved on to Carberry from Winnipeg. The community was then without a drug store for several years.

In June, 1946 Earl Moffat opened a Pharmacy in a little building located on the southwest corner of the intersection of Mountain Avenue and Third Street, where Link Hardware (Scarrow's Hardware) is now situated. This pharmacy was for 2½ years operated under the old fashioned name of "Earl Moffat, Chemist and Druggist". He then moved, in the spring of 1948, to a new building on the west side of Mountain Avenue, next to the Post Office where he operated as "Moffat's Drug Store", and later

changed to "Moffat's Rossburn Pharmacy". He continued to carry on his professional service in the community until the summer of 1968 following which an arrangement was made with Henderson's Pharmacy, Shoal Lake who operated the Rossburn Pharmacy with Tom Button as dispensing Pharmacist until the spring of 1969. Following attempts to obtain another pharmacist to take over, the store was finally closed.

After renting the building for several years, Earl Moffat finally sold the building to Walter Weselak in 1973 who carried on a barbering business there. At that time he wrote to a friend, "As you no doubt know by now, I finally succeeded in disposing of my white elephant and I shall no longer be required to attend there to keep it fed. Living right there, the new owner will hopefully find less difficulty in rationing out the necessary nourishment and giving on-the-spot personal service."

Rossburn was then without a pharmacy for about ten years until Jim Alexander moved here from Minnedosa in July 1979 and established Alexander's Pharmacy. This continued until February 1980 and he too closed the business. Mr. Alexander had renovated the former Herchak's Store, on the east side of Mountain Avenue to serve as a Pharmacy building. Then in July 1980, Peter Calvert came here from Vita, purchased the former Alexander's Pharmacy and again renovated the building. His opening was August 5, 1980.

Photography Studio

A Photography Studio no longer is available in Rossburn. However, shortly after the turn of the century, this profession was available locally on a periodic basis at local business premises.

The first mention of the Photography profession is a reference that "Alex Murray came to Rossburn in 1904 and set up a Photography Studio for a short time." An item in The Rossburn Times in May 1908, indicated that "Alex Murray who has been in Peden's Camp all winter is endeavoring to set up his Photo Gallery."

The next indication of a Photo Studio in Rossburn are various post cards from the 1910 to 1915 era with the initials A. & M. in one corner of the old photos. Of an excellent quality, these photos would match any pictures taken today for clarity and detail. A display advertisement appearing in The Rossburn Times Feb. 15, 1912 stated that Lawrence & Meeres would have the Photo Studio open Feb. 24th to 28th inclusive."

When Lawrence & Meeres discontinued their circuit of picture-taking in neighboring towns, the Photo Studio apparently was permanently closed.



Mr. and Mrs. Sylvester Swift in front of the Photo Studio with their horse and buggy.

Plenty of Water

Water, that now supplies the Village of Rossburn's waterworks system was discovered accidentally during oil drilling in 1950 at the south end of Rossburn. From the Rossburn Review of Sept. 20, 1950:

"If and when the time comes to install waterworks in the Village of Rossburn, water supply should be a minor detail. It is estimated by J. L. Mander, President of Red-Man Oils Ltd., that over two thousand gallons of water an hour is flowing from the "test-oil-well" they are drilling in Rossburn. This heavy flow of water is from a bed of very fine sand just twenty-five feet below the surface.

At the rate of 2,000 gallons of water an hour, 48,000 gallons of water overflows in one day. If the population of Rossburn is 600 that means that there is at least 80 gallons of water a day for each person, or probably about fifty times the volume used now. The crew in charge of drilling operations estimate that there is sufficient pressure behind the heavy stream to raise the water fifteen to twenty feet above the ground level at that point. The well is located just north of the C.N.R. tracks on Mountain Road.

Although very few towns the size of Rossburn have waterworks the possibilities are well worth considering, as the fact that there is not sufficient water available in many centres is the reason they are still using the "pump and carry" method.

When Red-Man Oils Ltd. strike oil in the same quantity as they have water then things will really boom, and plans for water works will materialize overnight. At present the Imperial Oil Ltd. is working in conjunction with Red-Man Oils Ltd. to ascertain the possibilities in this area."

The overflow of water was such a problem, before it was stopped, that the Village Council were

deeply concerned as a reference to the problem at their November 21, 1950, meeting illustrates:

"The Secretary was instructed to write the Department of Mines and Natural Resources regarding the test oil well made by the Pioneer Drilling Company near the C.N.R. tracks on Mountain Road. The well is still flowing very rapidly (with water, not oil) and if left to do so for the winter the surrounding area will be flooded."

Plumbing and Heating

Following passage of the waterworks by-law on June 1, 1963, it was not long until plumbing and heating firms moved to Rosssburn.

An advertisement in the Sept. 5, 1963 issue of The Rosssburn Review announced opening of Consumer's Plumbing & Heating office in town. The firm did not remain in Rosssburn after the original rush of waterworks installations in the village. A call to phone 99 reached this firm.

Also in September 1963, Rosssburn Plumbing & Heating opened for business in their location on Victoria Avenue West. Gunther Hille who was formerly associated with Marquette Steam Fitters at St. Lazare established Rosssburn Plumbing & Heating. They did most of the waterworks installations in Rosssburn. His announcement appeared in the local community newspaper Sept. 29, 1963. The business phone number was 85.

Joerg Herrmann purchased the business from Gunther Hille in Nov. 1967. He has carried on the business under the name of George's Plumbing & Heating and is presently still serving the community. Mr. Hille and his family remained in Rosssburn for several years prior to moving to Morris, Man.

T & D Plumbing is the most recent firm to be established serving the community in this line of business.

Established in Sept. 1977, Tom Lawless commenced business on a part-time basis while employed with Russell Plumbing & Heating. By Sept. 1978 the business was developing to the extent that T & D Plumbing became a full time business serving the community.

Pool Rooms

Pool has always been a popular recreational pastime in this community.

There must have been considerable controversy before Rosssburn obtained their first pool room. The issue was even of sufficient interest to merit editorial comment in the Rosssburn Times back in 1914. The "I Wonder" column writer questioned: "If the Town Council knew there were pool rooms in Russell,

Oakburn, Solsgirth, Shoal Lake, Basswood, the Y.M.C.A. in Winnipeg and the Methodist Church in Calgary." That editorial message must have achieved results as pool room licences were approved without much further delay.

Back in March 1914, the village council granted a license to operate a pool room to H. D. Jones and M. Peikoff. However, the building had to meet the requirements of costing at least one thousand dollars according to a requirement set by the council. The council also set up a committee to investigate buildings suitable for pool rooms. In May 1914, according to a news item in the Rosssburn Times, H. D. Jones had moved his shop into the Alexander Block on Railway Ave. and intends to install a couple of pool tables shortly.

An item appeared in the Rosssburn Times in Dec. 1914 stating that "M. Peikoff is erecting a new pool room on the site where one was burnt down recently."

By March 1915, approval had been granted for a fourth pool table. The first pool room was assessed with a valuation of \$1500 when it was added to the tax roll. The location was on Victoria Avenue East, just beyond the present People's Store.



Pool Room located in a one storey frame building just east of the present site of the People's Store. Taken about sixty years ago, the building has been long demolished.

Back in December 1923 it was reported in the local news column that S. Isador's Pool Room was threatened by a fire which broke out on the first Monday of the month. It was some time before it was brought under control. However no serious damage was done on this occasion.

By 1919, there were two pool rooms — Peikoff's Pool Room and Midgley's Pool Room (on the site of the present Nick's Store). Fred Brethour was the next owner of the pool room on Mountain Avenue and operated it until Feb. 1923 when he moved to Winnipeg with his wife and family. In April 1923, Sam Isador was granted a license for operation of a pool room in Fred Brethour's building. He was later followed in the pool room and barber shop by Peter Ewanson, then by Bruce McDonald from 1932 to 1941. John Maydaniuk and John Gregorash also operated the pool room and barber shop in this building for a short time. Nick Stupnisky returned to Rosssburn and purchased Fred Brethour's building in 1942. The building was no longer used as a pool room but was used for a retail store business.

Joe Urbanowski came to Rosssburn in 1917 from Esterhazy, Sask., and operated the barber shop and pool room in Peikoff's pool room. Shortly after, he built his own building across on the other side of Victoria Avenue. By May 1920, Joe Urbanowski was operating his own pool room. However, after a few years he had renovated his building for use as a theatre. Among other operators of Peikoff's Pool Room were Bill Smith and Sam Smith. Bruce McDonald operated the Bowling Alley and Pool Room in Peikoff's Building from 1930 to 1932.

Nick Chopp purchased the old Peikoff pool room in 1938. Andrew Kalynuk next operated the pool hall following Nick Chopp. The next purchaser of this pool room was John W. Kozak in May 1946. He continued in this building until 1948 after which the building was no longer used for a pool room.

John Kozak next moved into the new pool room he had built on Mountain Avenue, next to C. A. Menzies' I.H.C. building (located on the west side of the street). This was erected in 1948. John Kozak moved into his new pool room in Nov. 1948. Mr. Kozak passed away in 1952.

Nick Chopp returned to the pool room business in Rosssburn when he built a 30 ft. x 70 ft. frame structure on the east side of Mountain Avenue in 1953. This was the site of the former Manitoba Dairy and Poultry Co-op building destroyed in the disastrous fire of October 1952. This pool room is still doing business and is being managed at present by Paul Zegalski.

The bowling alley in the basement area of the Dew Drop Inn on Mountain Avenue was a popular

recreation spot during the 1950's, but in recent years has not been used.

Harry Drosdoski erected a new building in the fall of 1950 on the corner lot next to the IHC building. This is presently the site of Scarrow's Hardware. He opened a pool room in this building which he later rented to Pete Zegalski who operated it for about a year. Shortly after the building was converted to a restaurant and novelty shop operated by Charlie Lee and in the mid 1950's to a hardware store.

Harry Drosdoski then purchased the pool room in 1953 which John Kozak had opened in Nov. 1948. This was located to the south of the IHC building. Harry Drosdoski operated this pool room until 1974 when he sold the property. The building is now used as a restaurant.

Pump Factory

One of the early enterprises that came to Rosssburn was a business that was known as a Pump Factory. This was located in a building east of the present site of the People's Store on Victoria Avenue east.

A newspaper report in January 1901 stated that Mr. George A. Rockola was starting up a pump factory in town. In May 1901 he erected a new shop. According to his slogan, "You buy the pump and we will guarantee it to raise the water", his work was guaranteed to do the job. His machinery was operated by horse power according to an eye-witness who can recall as a youngster watching the pump-maker drilling out the centre of lengths of hardwood for the pumps. In March 1902 it was further reported that he was getting an engine up from Virden for his plant. Little more is known of the pump factory. While it is recalled by old-timers that his pumps were in great demand, and many were installed around the district, he apparently did not stay in Rosssburn for long.

While the pump factory created little employment, it nevertheless played its part in Rosssburn's history and merits a permanent place in the local history before it is completely lost in the mists of time.

Radio and TV Shops and Electrical Businesses

Jim Andrew opened the first radio shop in Rosssburn in September of 1936. The shop was located in two rooms of the blacksmith shop, now owned by Mike Antoniw. Rent was \$2.00 per month. Lights were supplied to the town at that time by Harry Brugman's steam plant located in part of the store now owned by Miron Swintak, and cost \$1.00 per month. At that time, radios were all battery operated and Battery Packs were the power supply.

Jim worked with Harry Brugman and installed the first wiring in the town hall which was being built at that time.

Jim, together with Harry Brugman was also actively interested in Amateur Experimental Radio (Ham Radio) and they had their licensed 2-way radio equipment on the air in 1937.

Jim Andrew erected a new electric appliance shop at the front of his home on Second Street in September 1952. This addition was 13 ft. x 24 ft. He had expanded into the electrical business in 1947.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Andrew operated a Radio, TV and electrical store from 1962 in its Mountain Road location, where they moved the business to. Les Andrew was associated in the business with his parents, since 1965.

Bob Pritchard first came to Rossburn from Angusville wiring in 1958. From 1959 to 1966, Pritchard Electric, as his business was called, gradually expanded. In 1966 he sold the business to Wilf Grieder who operated under the business name of Rossburn Electric. Wilf Grieder continued the electrical business and in the opening of 1970, Bob Pritchard rejoined the electrical firm. In June 1970, the business amalgamated with J.D. Andrew Radio & TV Sales and Service. With this amalgamation, Rossburn Electric Ltd. as the firm was known, was able to offer a wide range of electrical products and wiring, Radio and TV services. In the fall of 1970, Wilf Grieder left the firm and returned to Minnedosa.

Gurnick Radio & TV was established in the former Gertie's Cafe building on Mountain Ave., in May 1968. This business remained in operation until 1981 when it was closed by its proprietor, Lawrence Gurnick.

Rossburn Electric Ltd. changed ownership October 1, 1978. This business was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Lorne Luhowy of Winnipeg. Lorne Luhowy had been employed in Winnipeg as an electrician.

Restaurants, Confectioneries and Bake Shops

The story of restaurants and confectioneries goes back many years in the history of our community. The first recorded mention of a bakery in the community is a report in the Rossburn news column in April 1908 concerning A. Jones opening a new bakery. In connection with the bakery, there was a confectionery and refreshment stand. This business was demolished less than a year later, when it was amongst businesses destroyed by fire January 7, 1909 in the Johnston Block fire. However, in late March 1909 it is recorded that the season's building operations had begun, T. H. Halling having set the pace. A confectionery and bake shop was being built

upon the site of the recent fire on the east side of Mountain Avenue. By mid-April it was reported the confectionery shop was open with full lines.

In 1912 Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Johnson moved to Rossburn where they operated a bake shop under the name of the Star Bakery and Restaurant. With the exception of one year, Mr. and Mrs. Johnson operated the business until September 1944 when they moved to reside in Dauphin. During this 32 year period, the one year of their absence was spent at Vancouver, B.C., the business being operated by G. Easson during 1926, taking over in May. Their bakery and confectionery was located on the west side of Mountain Avenue. Mrs. Johnson managed the restaurant and shop and Mr. Johnson was the baker. This is the location of the present Sears Order Office and Review office.

A. C. Johnson's first bakery was formerly Smedley's Tailor Shop. In April 1920, A. C. Johnson built an addition to his bakery and confectionery to permit him to enlarge his ice cream parlour.

The earliest recorded mention of a confectionery in Rossburn was one operated by A. McNutt as early as 1906 and 1907.

In a history of Rossburn written in 1911, Mrs. G. Sinclair, formerly of Ranchvale, is listed as operating a confectionery store. According to family history, Mr. and Mrs. George Sinclair moved to Rossburn where Mrs. Sinclair operated a restaurant from their home for a few years before selling out. The business, known as the Rossburn Confectionery, advertised "Hot Lunches served at all hours", in a 1912 issue of The Rossburn Times.

Another restaurant that enjoyed a good business here was operated by Fin Gat. This business changed hands on April 3, 1918. The new owner was Don Sam of Brandon. He was followed by Tom Yee, who remained for twelve years in his confectionery and restaurant business until December 1929 when he sold out to Mrs. Helen (Grover) Curtis. The business next changed hands with Mrs. Hazel McDonald becoming the cafe proprietor after the mid 1930's. They operated the restaurant for a year or so before moving to Vancouver, B.C.

In Nov. 1941, Nick Hryciuk purchased the restaurant that John McKague had been running for a while. This cafe was remodelled in 1948 and was sold to Roy Hasiuk. Roy's Cafe as it became known, was sold to John Lazaruk, (formerly a general merchant in Vista) in late April 1952. This business was amongst those destroyed by fire Oct. 3, 1952.

The foundation footing for John Lazaruk's new cafe was completed in October 1952 and work was expected to commence in November 1952 on the building of cinder block construction. Anton Yarmey

was preparing the excavation for his new building in 1952. Both buildings were being built to replace structures destroyed by fire on the east side of Mountain Avenue in October, 1952.

George Lazaruk purchased John's Cafe in May 1954. George and Nellie Lazaruk operated the Dew Drop Inn until 1964 when they sold the cafe to Mike Piasta. In 1967, Jerry and Nellie Nychuk became next owners of this restaurant. Other operators of the cafe business were Don and Anne Bachewich, Bill and Lorna Mankir, Walter and Mildred Gensorek. For the last three years prior to selling the business to the Gensoreks in May 1977, Jerry and Nellie Nychuk had operated the restaurant themselves.

Another business in the restaurant line, was known as Mrs. Burton's Tea Room. This was operated for a while in a building north of M. Slon & Sons Garage during the early 1930's, but village assessment records do not record this business after 1935.

In September 1944, John Pradinuk purchased the confectionery business formerly operated by Alex Johnson and ran the business for a short while. The cafe was then rented by Sterling Veitch in 1944 and 1945. From 1946 to 1949 Harry and Anne Drosdoski took over the operation of the restaurant and it was known as Harry's Coffee Shop. They were followed by Mike and Stella Herchak. Mr. and Mrs. John Pradinuk then operated the business for a couple of years, before renting it to various Chinese restaurant operators. The last and best known was Jim Wong. During the later years it was known as Elite Cafe. Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Geen (nee Margaret Peden) were amongst the operators of this business during the 1950s.

In 1973, Mr. and Mrs. Hal Hedley purchased Harry Drosdoski's former pool room building, where they opened a used furniture and auctioneering business. They also became managers of the Sears Order Office. They opened a restaurant in this building. In 1979, they sold the building to Mr. and Mrs. Joe Zegalski, who expanded the restaurant business and have been operating under the name of JR Pizza.

The building which had been built by Harry Drosdoski at the intersection of Third Street and Mountain Ave. in the fall of 1950 was first operated as a pool room. This business was rented to Peter Zegalski for about a year. Then it became known as the Rossburn Restaurant, operated under the management of Charlie Lee, formerly of Langenburg, for a while. This business was closed in 1954 and became a hardware store, presently Scarrow's Hardware.

The Paris Cafe re-opened in June 1946 under the management of J. M. Michalyshyn and was completely renovated. It is known, however, that the Paris

Cafe had been operated for the previous ten years until May 1946 by Joe Ling and Toy Fon.

Mr. and Mrs. Norman Major took over the Paris Cafe from its next proprietor, Andy Kitlar, in October, 1947. They called their restaurant Major's Inn. Later they converted the building into a Macleods Store in July, 1950.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Chambers and family of Winnipeg took up residence in Rossburn in May 1952 and opened a Bakery and Lunch Bar. Rossburn had been without a bake shop for many years and this addition to the business section was greatly welcomed. A 150 loaf oven was installed. This business was located next to the Legion Hall on the north side of Third Street and had been erected by John Pradinuk in 1949. Donald Yaskiw had rented the premises for a short while, where he operated a small pool room business. Following Mr. Chambers' departure from the Village, Serge Therrien was the next operator of this business. He came here in 1954 and operated the business under the name of Shorty's Bakery and Lunch Bar. He operated this business for a few years, finally closing down the business during the 1950s. The building remained empty for a number of years. It was torn down during 1977-78. During 1978-79 a building was constructed by the new owners of the property, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Kurchaba. In October 1979 the new store, LPK Enterprises, was opened by the Kurchabas and specializes in footwear, handbags and various accessories.

For a short period of time around 1970, the Rossburn Hotel restaurant, then known as the Beehive, was operated by Mr. and Mrs. Quincy Mak assisted by their daughter Jean. Following departure of the Maks, Mrs. Ann Maydaniuk and Mrs. Nellie Maydaniuk became the restaurant operators. Again, following the purchase of the Rossburn Hotel by Mr. and Mrs. John Husack from Mr. and Mrs. Orest Smycnuik, the restaurant was operated for a while by Margaret Geen, who was assisted by Marion Day. In June 1972, Nellie Kuzenko and Helen Kuzenko were the restaurant operators until about year end. The next restaurant operator was Mrs. Elsie Malchuk who was assisted by her daughters until the summer of 1973. Alice Husack then carried on the restaurant operation until Gary and Joan Montgomery purchased the Rossburn Hotel from the Husacks and operated the restaurant in connection with their hotel operation.

During the 1910's, 1920's and 1930's, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Fox were restaurant operators in their location on the east side of Mountain Avenue. At times the restaurant was rented out to various operators. However, following their daughter Helen's marriage to Grover Curtis, Mr. and Mrs. Curtis were

operators of this restaurant for some time. Sam Fox had owned this restaurant from about 1911 to 1946. While there had been various renters operating the business, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Fox are among the restaurant operators remembered in the location approximately where the Dew Drop Inn is presently located.

Anton Yarmey operated a restaurant and confectionery business for a few years after the building was rebuilt following the fire of October 1952. From 1956 to 1959 the cafe business was run by Mr. and Mrs. Martin Lepischak. They were followed by Mervyn and Mary Topolnisky. The next cafe operators in that building were Mr. and Mrs. Peter Ewasiuk who remained for a few years operating the business known as Gertie's Cafe. After a short while, the building was converted to a Radio and T.V. Shop which was run by Lawrence Gurnick for a number of years. These premises were located on Mountain Avenue next to the Dew Drop Inn.

Undoubtedly, other cafe businesses existed during the years; but obtaining names of all cafe operators, as with other Rosssburn businesses is a task that time does not permit. As a final note, it can be suggested that the public has been well looked after during the years.

It is also remembered that Nina and Louis Paisner operated a restaurant in the two-storey general store building at the intersection of Victoria Ave. and Mountain Rd. Located at the rear portion of the building (main floor) the restaurant was entered through a south side door. This was Rosssburn's first Dew Drop Inn.

Rosssburn RCMP Detachment

The Rosssburn Detachment of the RCMP was opened May 13, 1927 by Const. P. Graves and quarters were rented from Mr. H. Warnock. A few months later, Const. Graves moved to a room at Mr. C. Douglas's Hotel. It was not until August 1, 1928 that permanent quarters were found, when Const. Graves rented a small cottage from Mrs. Mabel McDonald for \$17 per month. The cottage proved to be very difficult to heat and difficult to keep clean. It was also situated on the outskirts of town. On July 1, 1930 new quarters were found on the second floor of J. G. Stitt's General Store on Victoria Avenue. This location proved satisfactory, as did the quarters they moved in to — a residence on Victoria Avenue west — when they again moved the detachment in 1934. They did not move again until March 31, 1960, when the new detachment building on Victoria Avenue east

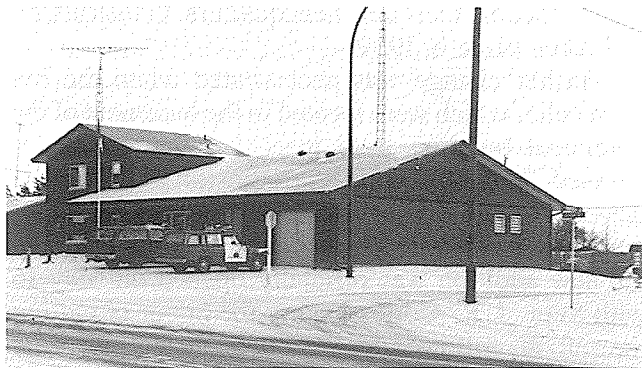
was to become their new headquarters. Construction had taken place in 1959.

Further change was necessitated when the old town cells, which were located in the basement of the municipal building were inspected and duly condemned. This resulted in an expansion project at the detachment building which included these and other facilities. In 1978, construction was completed and the new addition was officially opened on May 16 with Supt. J. R. Corley having the honor of cutting the ribbon, followed by the public being given the opportunity of touring the detachment building and new facilities.

With the many years that the detachment was located in Rosssburn, there certainly have been a large number of police officers who were stationed here. Following is a list of some of the personnel who served the Rosssburn area, as supplied by the RCMP's historian. There have been many others, who readers of this book will recall, who have all made their contribution to the life of the community.

R.C.M. Police Members in Rosssburn

	arrived	left
Cst. P. Graves	Jan. 28	
Cst. W. T. Forbes	Jan. 30	
Cst. R. W. Alcock	Feb. 32	
Cst. J. R. Hannah	Jan. 35	
Cst. H. R. Jenkins	Jul. 38	
C. W. Speers	Oct. 40	
Cst. F. M. Murray (Promoted to Cpl. 1947)	Sep. 43	
Cst. J. M. Savard	Jan. 50	
Cst. D. H. Hanson	02 Dec. 54	15 May 55
Cst. J. R. Simpson	Jan. 55	
Cst. M. I. Murton	18 Nov. 56	03 Sep. 57
Cst. A. R. Swanson	27 Feb. 57	14 Sep. 57
Cst. S. Dowich	29 Jan. 59	30 Oct. 59
Cpl. J. T. Bullen	Jan. 60	
Cst. A. Sehn	Jan. 60	
Cst. J. G. Nicholson	05 Jun. 60	15 Sep. 60
Cst. R. J. Bailey	02 Jun. 60	27 Oct. 60
Cpl. R. A. Boles	13 Jul. 61	14 Aug. 64
Cst. H. A. Comba	11 Aug. 61	17 May 62
Cst. J. G. E. Willis	21 Aug. 61	26 Aug. 61
Cst. A. Sehn	17 May 62	15 May 64
Cst. W. B. Kellough	21 Mar. 63	28 Jun. 63
Cst. B. G. Cusack	16 Jul. 64	23 Aug. 65
Cpl. H. A. Fink	31 Aug. 64	27 Jul. 67
Cst. R. W. Mow	23 Aug. 65	06 May 68
Cpl. B. F. Doolan	01 Aug. 67	13 Jul. 71
Cst. R. M. Johnston	14 Aug. 67	03 Nov. 67
Cst. R. B. Lyman	Nov. 67	May 68
Cst. R. B. Hamilton	04 Apr. 68	14 May 69
Cst. G. R. Gilette	06 May 68	12 Oct. 69
Cst. D. S. Mosek	13 Mar. 69	28 Sep. 69
Cst. L. E. Gatzke	22 Apr. 69	02 Jun. 70
Cst. R. B. Thibreau	25 Sep. 69	13 Jan. 70
Cst. J. S. Bacon	03 Oct. 69	18 Feb. 70
Cst. D. C. J. Martin	03 Jan. 70	29 Jun. 73
Cst. W. G. B. Pitcher	18 Mar. 70	22 Feb. 71
Cst. T. A. Duff	13 Jun. 70	15 May 71
Cst. T. A. Orr	23 Sep. 70	02 May 74



Rossburn R.C.M.P. Detachment Building.

Cst. S. B. Goudie	21 May 71	01 Dec. 71
Cpl. R. W. McCrossin	03 Jul. 71	07 Aug. 74
Cst. A. A. Clarke	23 Nov. 71	26 Jun. 72
Cst. T. D. Guilcher	23 Dec. 71	28 Dec. 72
Cst. R. G. J. Lamabe	26 Jun. 72	30 Jun. 78
Cst. D. D. Dauphinee	13 Dec. 72	03 Jul. 73
Cst. M. L. Bergerman	01 Jun. 73	30 Jun. 76
Cst. R. V. Gass	04 May 74	15 Jun. 74
Cst. W. F. Joyce	16 May 74	03 Sep. 74
Sgt. F. W. Lymburner	14 Aug. 74	07 Aug. 75
Cst. P. D. O'Reilly	21 Aug. 74	01 Jul. 78
Cst. B. H. Forster	15 Oct. 74	29 Jul. 76
Sgt. A. T. Peck	07 Aug. 75	09 Jul. 79
Cst. C. T. Schumack	08 Oct. 75	01 Sep. 78
Cst. E. W. Plitz	19 Apr. 76	28 Feb. 77
Cst. R. W. Rachel	28 Feb. 77	29 Dec. 78
Cst. F. E. Nicks	18 Feb. 78	Present
Cst. W. A. White	29 Jun. 78	Present
Cst. R. B. Lyman	30 Dec. 78	Present
Cst. D. W. Alcorn	28 May 79	04 Jun. 79
Sgt. R. L. Elke	13 Jul. 79	Present
Cst. T. G. Cooney	23 Jan. 80	23 Jun. 80
S/Cst. W. James	16 Mar. 80	Present
Cst. M. A. Korb	18 Aug. 80	Present

Rossburn Consumers Co-operative

The Rossburn Consumers Co-operative was organized on November 24, 1944 with the following directors elected: Bert Mitchell, Chairman; Walter Snider, Vice Chairman; John Cormack, Joe Huston, Wm. Armstrong, Gordon Taylor and B. F. Parsons who was Secretary.

Rev. B. F. Parsons was transferred from Rossburn so on May 31st, 1945 Mike Glushka was appointed to fill the vacancy on the board, and James Andrew was appointed Secretary.

On February 2, 1945 a meeting of the members was held in the United Church Club Room and a motion was passed to purchase the stock of the J. G. Stitt store and rent the building. A week later on February 9, 1945 the stock was taken by personnel of the Manitoba Co-op Wholesale and Rossburn Consumers Directors. On February 10, 1945 the store was opened for business as the Rossburn Consumers Co-operative with J. G. Stitt as acting manager. Mr. Abe Hicks was hired on April 15th as the first man-

ager followed by Joe Griffith, Fred Hodgkinson, Harvey McKnight, Bert Labossiere, Allen Fedirchuk and Gil Kryski.

February 20th, 1947 the J. G. Stitt store was purchased and the mortgage paid off in February 1954. At the annual meeting on June 7th the mortgage was burned.

In January 1968 the Charchuk store at the main business intersection of Mountain and Victoria Avenue was purchased by the Rossburn Consumers Co-op and the inventory was moved to its present location at the intersection of Victoria and Mountain Avenue.

On January 31, 1970 the Rossburn Consumers Co-operative amalgamated with Parkway Co-op which is composed of Roblin, Russell and Rossburn Co-ops. A bulk fuel operation and farm supply has been added since then to give the members more services. The bulk tanks are located south of the C.N.R. crossing and the farm supply store was purchased from Bill McKietiuik who used it as a truck terminal garage.

The last board of directors for Rossburn Co-op was L. C. (Pat) Johnston, Chairman; Wm. Maxwell; Hugh Armstrong, Secretary; Mike Gawryluk; Frank Zegalski; Elwyn McFeetors; Bill Silewich.

Rossburn Co-operative Elevator Association

The Rossburn Co-operative Elevator Association was formed on May 4th, 1928. A canvass of Rossburn district prior to the May 4th meeting had resulted in twenty-six shareholders signing.

These first shareholders were: Wm. McDonald, Alex Wyness, Wes Williamson, Laird Duncanson, Ben Cormack, Metro Danyleyko, John Young, Jud Taylor, Lorne Lawless, Alex Hamilton, J. D. Glushka, Gordon Taylor, Tom Duncanson, Mrs. Iona Sinclair, Metro Yarmey, John Rzytylo, Peter Gluch, Jim Armstrong, Kornel Chopp, Wm. Crowe, Alex Kitler, Wm. Collins, Peter Black, Wm. McIntosh, Wm. Shermeta and John Cormack.

A shareholders' meeting was then called by the provisional board with all shareholders being present. Also attending were Messrs. J. J. Marty, Howard Robinson and G. H. Chapman from Manitoba Pool Elevators.

Members of the official board elected were: Alex Hamilton, John Young, Lorne Lawless, Metro Yarmey, Wm. Crowe, Metro Danyleyko and John Cormack.

The meeting then passed By-Law No. 1 insuring the integrity of the official board, by suspension of any member guilty of any misconduct. This was necessary as the finances of the association were

provided by Manitoba Pool Elevators. Manitoba Pool Elevators were to hold title to the local elevator until it was paid for, so in effect the association was just leasing it.

Other resolutions passed at the first meeting were that a 40,000 bushel capacity elevator be built, and proposed sites for same. A penalty of 15¢ per bushel was to be applied to all grain delivered away without a permit.

A meeting of the official board was held immediately following the shareholders' meeting. Executive members elected were: John Cormack, president; John Young, vice-president; Lorne Lawless, secretary-treasurer. At this meeting, six more by-laws were passed thus completing formation of the Rossburn Co-operative Elevator Association.

A new elevator was to have been built, but apparently the amount of money involved was a consideration. The board also had information that the Northern Elevator Company would consider selling their elevator. Thus, after negotiations, it was purchased for \$6,000.00.

Repairs were made to the building and a new engine was installed making it ready for the 1928 crop. The first elevator operator was Gordon Greenway, who had been the operator of the British American Elevator. At the end of one year's operation, there were sixty-nine members. Some troubles occurred in operation — some of the members were delivering grain away, even one of the board members. They were all brought before the board and were assessed eight cents per bushel, not the fifteen cents per bushel penalty as passed by the shareholders. It is not now known how these penalties were collected, but it is thought they were to be assessed against any saving credited to them at head office. However, after about two years, that penalty was rescinded.

The association had the misfortune to have two elevators destroyed by fire. The original elevator was burned in 1952 and a new one was constructed. In 1963 that fine new elevator was burned and a new one that is now in operation was constructed, with metal bins located on the south side of the new building.

Following are the names of the presidents, secretary-treasurers and elevator operators of the association in the order in which they held office:

Presidents — John Cormack, Gordon Taylor, Ronald Hamilton, Bert Mitchell, Ed Shust and L. C. Johnston.

Secretary-Treasurers — Lorne Lawless, George Lawless, Ron Kostaskey.

Elevator Operators — Gordon Greenway, Carl Woods, Wm. Kendrick, E. Spetz, Dunc McIntyre, Ted Stewart, Bert Frieze.

Wm. Kendrick passed away while operator of the elevator. Lorne Lawless passed away while serving twenty-two years as secretary-treasurer in 1950 and George Lawless retired as secretary-treasurer in 1970 after serving in that position for twenty years.



Rossburn Credit Union Branch office (right) and Head Office (left). Located on the east side of Mountain Avenue, these buildings were constructed in 1971 and 1982 respectively.

Rossburn Credit Union

The Rossburn Credit Union was organized March, 1954 at a meeting in the Legion Hall.

The first board of directors were Bert Mitchell, chairman; Mike Sotas, Vice Chairman; L. C. (Pat) Johnston, A. E. Kostaskey and Mike Tokar. Credit Committee were James Andrew, John Plant, Mack Hamilton. Supervising Committee, E. C. Mitchell, Wilfred Chegwin, Mike Shwaluk. Manager, Fred Hodgkinson.

Fred Hodgkinson moved from Rossburn on June 30, 1954 and Wm. Elvers was appointed manager. In January 1955 Wm. Elvers accepted a position at Roblin and Mrs. Nancy Andrew accepted the position as manager.

The Credit Union operated from the James Andrew home until April 1963 when James Andrew purchased a building on Mountain Avenue downtown in Rossburn and the Credit Union rented space for offices from Mr. Andrew.

On September 1, 1966 a Credit Union office was opened at Angusville in Jack Kostuik's home and operated by Jack and Marion Kostuik. Later it was moved to the old municipal building in Angusville, formerly occupied by the R.M. of Silver Creek.

In 1971 a new Credit Union building was built in Rossburn giving the members modern banking facilities and a night depository was installed in 1979. Temporary facilities were located north of the Credit Union main building, to serve as a head office, and use of this building began in January 1980.

November 20th, 1972, a Credit Union branch

office was opened in Russell under the management of Jack Kostuik. A Credit Union building was built in Russell in 1973 giving the members in that area a modern banking facility.

The Rossburn Credit Union has grown from a small beginning to an operation of over eleven million dollars in assets in 1979 and serving over twenty-five hundred members.

Board of Directors, 1979: L. C. Johnston, Chairman; James Moran, Vice-Chairman; L. Kurchaba, Secretary; George Lawless, Jim Procyk, Ernie Stefanuk, L. Chipelski, L. Derkach, M. Kilimnik, and Jack Kostuik general manager. Rossburn branch manager presently is Garry Archer.

Rossburn's Early Hospitals

It was following the arrival of Dr. Murrough O'Brien in Rossburn that the hopes and prayers of the early citizens for a hospital were fulfilled.

Dr. O'Brien had come to Rossburn in June 1916 on his return to Canada from war service in Russia.

In connection with his practice, Dr. O'Brien took over the top floor of Hook's general store and converted it into a hospital with living quarters at the back end. His office was on the main floor of the store building, also at the back end.

It was reported in the Rossburn news column of April 4, 1918 that "At the time of writing, steps are being taken for securing suitable premises for a hospital in Rossburn. It is to be maintained by one of our local physicans, assisted by some of the doctors of the surrounding towns."

The local news column next recorded this item on April 11, 1918. "The rooms on the top floor of the Hook Block will soon be vacated by the occupants as they have been notified to move out before May 1918. These rooms will be remodelled and put in shape for a hospital — which will be opened as soon as possible."

How long this hospital carried on cannot be documented although it is recorded that Dr. O'Brien moved to Birtle in the early 1920s.

"Saddlebag Surgeon, the story of Dr. Murrough O'Brien", a Harlequin Book, contains the intriguing story of Dr. O'Brien's life. The story, as told to Richard Tyre, was winner of the University of British Columbia 1954 Canadian award for Popular Biography.

The next reference to a local hospital comes from Dr. Samuel S. Peikoff's autobiography "Yesterday's Doctor" published by The Prairie Publishing Company.

In the late 1920's Rossburn gained a new doctor, Dr. Samuel S. Peikoff, son of a local general mer-

chant. He opened his first office in Rossburn in 1927. His office was located in the old pool room.

"Yesterday's Doctor" records that Dr. Peikoff was shortly planning for the opening of a hospital. The autobiography records that "A substantial loan — about \$5,000. in cash — two thousand for the building and 3,000. for equipment and remodelling" was taken out.

The hospital was located in a vacant general store building on the west side of Mountain Avenue. The building was 30 × 80 ft. with a "glass front and a full basement. The price was right, the architecture simple — it would make an ideal hospital."

More information concerning this hospital can be read in "Yesterday's Doctor."

The news that Dr. Peikoff's hospital would close on June 1st, 1930 was published on May 22, 1930 in The Russell Banner. Then, on July 31, 1930, it was announced that Dr. Gelland, of Winnipeg, had taken over Dr. Peikoff's practice.

John Koscielny recalls that he was the last patient to be operated on locally by Dr. Sam Peikoff, July 4, 1930. Other recollections were that Marion Day was the nurse on that occasion and that Mary Dychakowski was the cook.

Dr. Sam Peikoff's hospital was located in a building that had formerly been Aiken's & Griffin's Hardware. The building which later was converted to a general store was destroyed by fire Oct. 31, 1935. A news item in May 1933, noted that M. Miloff had opened a small general store in the old hospital building. Then in the Nov. 7, 1935 issue it was reported that fire completely destroyed Max Naherniak's general store. The fire had broken out at the rear of the old hospital building.

This building site in the 1940's was used to construct a pool room, last operated by Harry Drosdoski. In more recent years the building was occupied by Hedley's Store, then J/R Pizza and more recently N. L. Restaurant.

The next recorded reference to a local hospital followed a news item in June 1946 that "Dr. Shaver, recently discharged from the Canadian Army Medical Corps arrived in town to take on his duties in the municipal building as medical doctor." The important news item that followed several months later stated that a temporary hospital was to be established in the Municipal Hall in Nov. 1946.

The era of temporary hospitals came to an end with the opening of Rossburn's new hospital on 4th Street in 1950. The story of this medical facility follows.



Rosssburn District Hospital, 1950-1982.

Rosssburn District Hospital

During the late 1940's the residents became concerned about facilities for health care and a municipal hospital was built on 4th Street and opened in 1950. The capacity was 10 beds and there was a total staff of 5 with Mrs. Viola Peden as matron. Dr. J. G. L. Johnson was the physician and there was an average of 50 deliveries per year. Many surgical operations were performed and open ether was the anaesthetic used. It was soon evident the hospital was inadequate and in 1957 renovations were carried out to increase the size to 16 beds and added doctor's offices, a new residence for the staff, and enlargement of the service areas, such as kitchen and laundry. The staff was increased to 10 and Dorothy Steele was the matron. Dr. Walter Krywulak was the Doctor, and Bert Mitchell Board Chairman.

By 1958 and 1959, technological change was evident and Rosssburn had its first cardiograph machine, purchased by the Hospital Auxiliary in 1959 for about \$250.00. Prior to this for several months a staff member would drive to Shoal Lake and borrow their E.C.G., bring it to Rosssburn and return it to Shoal Lake when the Doctor had used it. X-Ray equipment was improved greatly and due to much improved anaesthetic techniques a Boyle general anaesthetic machine was purchased.

It used a mixture of oxygen and nitrous oxide gases and had provision for use of either trilene or ether and then later penthrane and fluothane. There were still many operations performed each year with neighbouring doctors assisting with anaesthetics.

Bookkeeping and accounting procedures were advancing also and in the very early 60's Rosssburn joined the Report Accounting programme sponsored by the Associated Hospitals of Manitoba through their Winnipeg offices.

By 1962 there was Provincial concern for many preventive and diagnostic facilities and Health Units were established throughout the rural areas and in 1962 the first services were provided in Rosssburn as part of the Birtle Shoal Lake Health unit. Public

Health Nurse services were provided and part-time lab. and X-Ray technician services. Dr. Hall was the first medical officer in charge of the Health Unit team.

Also about this time there was a new Health Care profession emerging that of Administration and in 1962 the Rosssburn District Hospital Board under the chairmanship of Mr. Bert Mitchell resolved with Birtle District Hospital and their first administrator appointed was Mr. Sid Lewis, who worked 1 day per week at Rosssburn.

The age of the computer had reached Rosssburn District Hospital and in 1965 there were vast changes in general accounting procedures because the Report Accounting programme was now computerized to help facilitate the reports and statistics required by Provincial and Federal authorities.

Renovations to the Rosssburn Hospital were undertaken in 1968 and officially opened in July, 1968 at a public opening chaired by Board Chairman Mr. Wally Perchaluk. A laboratory was added and the X-Ray department renovated. A public waiting room was added and the nursing station renovated, a ward service room and the office for the D.O.N. included. The Health Unit Office was improved and the pediatric ward renovated. The total bed capacity was then 17. Mr. Lewis was still the part-time administrator and the total staff numbered 26. Dr. F. Wong was the practising physician, Mrs. A. M. Stitt the D.O.N. and Rosssburn now had a full-time lab. and X-Ray technician, Mr. Tom Kudlovich to operate the new equipment installed.

During the 1970's health services were becoming much more specialized and standards more stringent with the various health professions and disciplines imposing stricter rules and regulations to govern their specialties. By 1972 Manitoba Hospital Association had expanded its services and Rosssburn District Hospital entered the computer payroll programme under the direction of administrator Mr. Don Thompson of Russell. The following year, 1973 saw Manitoba Hospital Association change its name to Manitoba Health Organization Incorporated to reflect the broader scope of facilities with membership in the organization.

Also patient services were becoming more regionalized in centres providing more sophisticated care with complicated procedures and equipment. Thus there was a decline in surgical procedures performed in the rural areas. By the same token cardiac monitoring for example was an accepted standard procedure and Rosssburn Hospital was adapting to these changes.

The first monitoring equipment was installed in 1976 for a cost of \$6000.00 and much of the resi-

dence area converted to accommodate various needs. Staff and supply rooms were moved to the second floor and some offices opened there. Also in the mid-seventies there was realization that the current Rossburn District Hospital was not serving the total needs of the community, with a majority of the residents being senior citizens there was now identified a special need for Personal Care Home beds and other programmes for the aged. After several years of hard work at committee level, a functional programme outlining the future community needs was presented to Manitoba Health Services Commission in 1976 and received approval. Architectural work was started on the Rossburn District Health Centre, when change of Provincial Government in 1977 put a freeze on any further construction programmes. This was a blow to the Board, staff and community but hopes were not totally dashed and when in the spring of 1980 the notice to proceed with the project was received by the Board Chairman, Alex Cleland, the whole community was elated. As we look to the future and the 1980's, there will be more changes in the delivery of health care as the emphasis is on prevention rather than cure. There will be an increasing need for more and greater responses to the needs for health education. The multidisciplinary team approach to health care will expand with greater contributions for each of the professional groups involved, doctors, nurses, pharmacists, dietitians and physiotherapists to name a few. Obstetrical care has become exceedingly specialized and the early 80's will see a decline in deliveries in rural hospitals and more referrals to the major centres. Architect Douglas R. Cameron of Rossburn prepares for tenders for the Rossburn District Health Centre which are expected in the late summer of 1980 with construction to



Sod-turning for the new Rossburn District Health Centre took place on October 2, 1980. L to R: Mrs. Avis Stitt (Health Centre Administrator), Doug Cameron (Architect), Alex Cleland (Health Centre Board Chairman), Ken Caldwell, Mrs. Sandra Shtykalo, Bob Hunter, John Mitchell (Reeve), Tom Lawless, Miron Swintak.

follow and as the Board, Staff and public watch the growth of the new facility and look to and prepare for the future — we all look back in gratitude and pay tribute to our ancestors who had the courage and foresight to pioneer for the health needs in Rossburn.

Rossburn Doctors

Rossburn's first Doctor — Dr. J. W. Evans arrived in Rossburn, August 1904 before the railroad. He was met at Solsgirth by Tom Peden, and brought here with a team and buggy. His first case was the delivery of Tom's daughter — Ethel ("Tottie").

He lived first in Grandpa Peden's house, where Doug and Emelia Cormack now live, which was built in 1902. The flat roofed piece on the side was later built for an Office and Drug Store. Mrs. Evans was active in community affairs, School Board, etc. They had one son — Spencer "Paddy".

They later moved to the house where the Eugene Caldwells now live, which Bob Peden built for the Doctor. They had a deal that he was supposed to doctor "Bob" for the house.

Dr. Evans stayed here for thirty-five years, with the exception of two years spent in India in the "Army" during World War I. He was joined for a time around 1911 by Dr. C. M. Rose.

In September 1909, Dr. Bridgeman arrived and became Rossburn's second physician. It is not known how long he remained in Rossburn.

In 1916 Dr. M. C. O'Brien came here. He had been in the Army in Russia. He opened an office in the back of Hook's Store, the site of the present Co-op Store, and later opened a Hospital upstairs above the store. The Matron was Ivy Kilburn, who later became Mrs. George Black.

Mrs. O'Brien and her sister, Kate Barber, were also at the Hospital as well as Nellie Pokropany.

The O'Brien's had one daughter, Muriel, who now lives in Saskatoon. They left here in 1923 for Birtle, where Dr. O'Brien took over Dr. Frank Smith's practice. They remained at Birtle until 1930. Dr. Evans remained here until 1940.

In March of 1925 Dr. B. Zivot, formerly of Oakburn, came to take over Dr. O'Brien's former practice.

In 1926 Dr. S. S. Peikoff opened an Office beside the Old Pool Room, east of his father's store, the site of Peoples Store today, and later a Hospital beside what is now the Review Office. He was later joined by Dr. Simpson. At that time we had three doctors, namely Dr. Evans, Dr. Peikoff and Dr. Simpson. These three doctors all worked together, with Dr. Evans, the anaesthetist. The matron of the Hospital was Daisy Frank.

Dr. Peikoff left in 1931 and continued his studies,

earning many, many degrees and was President of St. Boniface Hospital; also the "International College of Physicians and Surgeons".

Dr. Simpson remained for a time and was followed by Drs. Zeaven, Gelfund and Vaisrub. Dr. Braunstein was municipal Doctor from 1939-1944.

In July of 1944, Dr. Braunstein left to locate in Binscarth in private practice. He was followed by Dr. W. A. Shaver who remained until 1946. He operated a Hospital above the Locker Plant. He in turn was succeeded by Dr. M. R. Cham. Dr. J. G. L. Johnson arrived in January 1950 replacing Dr. Max Cham who left for Swan River.

Dr. Johnson continued his duties till about the year 1952 when he left for Angusville and Dr. J. McCartan took the position as attending Physician.

Let us just say, in passing, that the early doctors never refused to make a house call, often travelling miles in all kinds of weather — rain or 40° below, driving with horses and would stay all night, if someone was very ill. Often, also without pay.

With the opening of the Hospital in 1950, office space was assured for the future doctors in Rossburn and Dr. Walter Krywulak practised in Rossburn after Dr. Johnson left. He later moved to Vita, Manitoba. In 1958 Dr. J. L. Layng and family moved to Rossburn from Melita where he had recently emigrated from England, and following Dr. Layng's departure to Roblin, Dr. T. Dobson took over the practice and stayed until 1964 when Dr. Dempster came for a short period. In about 1965 Dr. B. Donnelly of Erickson took an interest in the practice and for several years organized a group practice between Erickson Medical Centre and Rossburn Medical Centre in cooperation with Dr. Lysaght, Dr. Head and Dr. O'Connell. Dr. Frank Wong joined them in 1967 and was persuaded to stay in Rossburn, which he did until 1973 and continued to work with Dr. Donnelly. In 1973 Dr. Wong and family moved to Ontario and Shoal Lake group (Drs. Smith, O'Sullivan and Cummings) took care of the Rossburn practice till fall when Dr. L. K. Cheung, Dr. Twiss and Dr. Tai performed a rotating practice with Dr. L. K. Cheung taking over for six months from January thru July, 1974, when the Shoal Lake group took charge again until Dr. J. Chung's arrival.

Dr. J. Chung stayed only one year and was followed by Dr. Steven Lee in September of 1975. At the close of Dr. Lee's tenure, Dr. Derek Spence and his wife Dr. Pat Stephenson stayed in Rossburn in early 1977 before their departure to Australia. Dr. Samuels came from Gladstone in the spring of '77 and stayed till December and was followed by Dr. Derek Pearce in 1978. In January 1979 Doctor A. R. Bhalwani came from Winnipeg and took over the Rossburn

Medical Centre and was joined in June by Dr. V. H. Shah also from Winnipeg. Unfortunately, Dr. Bhalwani was required to honor a contract at a Clinic in North Dakota, so left in the fall of 1979, but we are indeed fortunate to have Dr. Shah at the Rossburn Medical Centre as the decade of the '80s starts.

This in no way includes all the Doctors who have worked in Rossburn, but includes the Doctors who have maintained the practice.

Many of you who read this will remember many names and faces of Doctors who did locum-tenens, appointments, etc. during these years.

Our gratitude goes out to them all.



Dr. Evans' first residence in Rossburn is now the residence of Doug and Emelia Cormack. The doctor's office and drug store were located in the portion of the building on the west side, which was built for that purpose.

Rossburn Flour Mill

Another story from Rossburn's past is that of the Rossburn Flour Mill. Earliest information reports that Mr. and Mrs. Spearman Sr. and Mr. and Mrs. George Spearman came to Rossburn in 1917 and built a flour mill which was located on the south side of the C.N.R. railway track just west of the crossing at the south end of town. Later Mr. Spearman Sr. went to Hamiota where he established a second flour mill.

However another portion of the flour mill story cannot be completely determined at the time of writing this book. A copy of a share certificate issued by the Rossburn Milling Co. Limited in April 1916 indicates that there was a public sale of shares with authorized capital of \$15,000.00. This document is reproduced elsewhere in this history. What part this incorporation had to play in the establishment of the mill can only be left to conjecture.

Apparently George Spearman purchased the mill from the company that had been formed to establish this industry, and with business not that great, supplemented his income by maintaining a mink ranch.



Rossburn Flour Mill which was located just west of the CNR crossing at the south end of Mountain Avenue. This building was torn down in 1952.

In the spring of 1938, Peter Yaniw bought the entire property, including the mill, house, barn and land for a total sum of \$5000 and Mr. and Mrs. George Spearman went to Hamiota to join his father in the operation of the mill he had established there. Recollections are that Mr. Yaniw must have had the right touch as excellent flour was produced which resulted in a booming business. In July of 1939 a severe hailstorm not only smashed all the store front windows in town, but also smashed all the windows in the mill and pulverized the roof. A new metal roof was installed by a local blacksmith.

In December of 1939, Peter Yaniw suffered an industrial accident. As a result he sold the property to Symkiw and Snyder of Winnipeg for the sum of \$7,500. Meanwhile George Spearman had joined his father in the mill at Hamiota where the mill was enjoying a flourishing business particularly during the war years. Mr. Yaniw moved to a mill at Sandy Lake where he produced export flour for Great Britain until the end of the war. He then scrapped the machinery and installed a cold storage locker plant in that building at Sandy Lake.

Meanwhile the milling business in Rossburn gradually declined as there was less demand for flour — bakeries were gradually supplying more and more bread to local stores as housewives got out of baking of home-made bread. Finally the flour mill which was a south end landmark was torn down. A portion of the old mill was moved to become the tin shop located just south of the building that for many years was known as the Rossburn Review building. The interesting part is that James Harlow moved the top

portion of the old mill to provide accomodation for his shop.

This is but another chapter in Rossburn's history — one which changing times wrote the final epitaph. In November of 1920 it is recorded that the mill was doing a rushing business that fall and it had been found necessary to operate day and night. Yet in a little over thirty years it was torn down, apparently in 1952, and little remains to mark the spot where the mill once was a thriving business.



Residence at rear of Rossburn Flour Mill where owners lived.

Rossburn Livery

At the turn of the century transportation was very limited. The more fortunate travelled by horses, or, as an alternative, you walked. After a trip to town that could be from ten to twenty miles one way, the horses needed water, feed and accommodation. Thus, the livery barn was a very important business.

The first livery barn was built by William McIntosh in 1906 where the present Rossburn Credit Union building is now located. The barn could accommodate forty horses. He kept it for one year and then sold it to Andy Shields, of McAuley. In 1914 or 1915, Henry Gordon moved to Rossburn from McAuley and purchased the livery business then belonging to Andy Shields. He continued to own and operate the business until March 1918, when according to a newspaper item of that time, he disposed of his business and dwelling house to Norman Locke who took possession May 1, 1918. Shortly after, Murdock Campbell and Ed Harris purchased the business, with Murdock's brother Billie (William)

taking over his brother's share in the Campbell and Harris livery business partnership in December 1919.

After a number of years, Ed Harris bought out Billie Campbell's share in the partnership. In 1926 Billie Campbell bought the livery barn which had been established at the south end of town from Malick Peikoff. A previous owner of the south end barn was known to be Dan Pradinuk (amongst others) who according to a newspaper report of that time, sold it to Bob Carson. Other details concerning the early years of the south end barn cannot be determined with certainty. However it is known that Ed Harris obtained ownership of the south end barn and operated it for a number of years in addition to his north end barn, using it mainly to accommodate overflow business when the north barn was full. In April of 1928 it was noted, also in a newspaper account, that Billie Campbell's livery barn was a total loss by fire on a Friday night during the first half of the month. This apparently referred to the south end barn which apparently was rebuilt. On November 23, 1940, (a Saturday night) Ed Harris' livery barn (the north end barn) was destroyed in a large fire which was believed to have been started in a large stack of hay. The fire which was fanned by a strong north wind threatened other buildings and at one time it was feared that the entire Main Street would be wiped out. The Russell Fire Brigade came to the rescue. With the north end barn destroyed, Ed Harris then continued business in the livery business in his south end premises. He continued to operate the south end barn for over another twenty years until dwindling business brought about by the use of cars for transportation even during winter months as a result of better roads and regular snowplowing, brought about the demise of the need for a livery barn any longer. Finally during the mid 1960's he sold the building and it was moved out of town. The south end barn was located approximately on the site of the Rossburn Lions Club kiddies playground at the south end of town on the east side of Mountain Avenue.

Some recollections of the livery barn business from the earlier days tell us some information that is now only memories of a by-gone era.

Customers' horses were stabled for a charge of twenty-five cents (25¢) a team, fed and watered. The livery operators had a number of horses of their own. The light horses were used for driving the doctor, R.C.M.P., bailiff, cattle buyers and other business people. Young men would hire a livery to take a girl friend for a drive to impress her.

One livery 'rig' was a large van built on sleigh runners, with a wood stove in front, a glass sliding window, a small hole in the front to draw the driving lines through, and benches on each side across the

back. Many a night or very early morning, a doctor or R.C.M.P. officer would awaken the livery man to drive him into the country.

The livery 'rig' was built to transport the hockey team and fans to participate at games in other towns. It required a team of heavy horses to draw it. The modern ice shack is similar in size and design.

The cutter also went modern. It was closed in with small wide windows, a front sliding glass window, a fur lap robe, a foot warmer (all the comforts of home). The foot warmer held heated bricks that retained warmth for a considerable time.

The office of the livery barn was a gathering place for men to visit around the wood stove. It provided shelter for many men who came to town for medical reasons, when the doctor or dentist was out on business, or when there was a blizzard.

With the popularity of the automobile, the livery business increased for a short time. However, soon many families and businessmen became car owners. This prompted the construction of highways, the upgrading and gravelling of rural roads. The liverymen obtained other occupations as changing times resulted in the old livery barn for horses becoming obsolete.

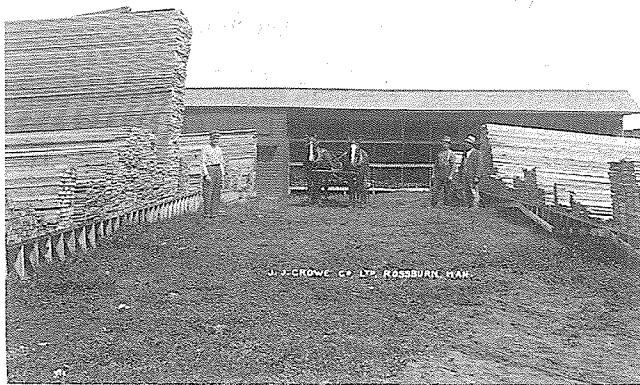
The first car livery service in the area was started by Henry Gordon back in 1917. The taxi business as we know it today, is actually a continuation of livery service serving the public. From time to time there have been various operators of taxi service in the community since that first car livery service of Mr. Gordon's just referred to. Another operator of a taxi business of Rossburn during the early 1950s was Jim Frost. During recent years, Vivian Stitt has operated a local taxi service as has Mike Kurchaba more recently.

Thus it is that in spite of the modernization from horse and buggy days to the motor vehicles of today, the livery business in a modernized form remains one of the services available in the community today.

Lumber Yards

After the earliest pioneer days had passed, when the settlers built log cabins from rough materials that were available, the need for someone to enter the lumber business to fill the needs of the community soon became apparent, as the Village came into existence.

The earliest mention of a lumber business was a newspaper item in April, 1906 to the effect that Mr. Hugh Ross had bought out the lumber business formerly owned by Mr. Findlay. This business later became known as Ross and Stewart. The business mainly handled lumber that was available from lumber operations in the Riding Mountains north and



The J.J. Crowe Co. Ltd. Lumber yard in Rossburn, in the year 1915.

east of Rossburn. In 1912, John McFeetors came to Rossburn from Neepawa and bought out Ross and Stewart. This business was operated by John McFeetors for a couple of years.

In 1914, J. J. Crowe Lumber (a subsidiary of Beaver Lumber Company) took over the local lumber business, and in April, built a new lumber yard. Jack Lindsay was the first manager, coming here from Moose Jaw, Sask. Mr. Lindsay continued as manager here until 1959 (45 years), although he was with Beaver Lumber Co. Ltd. for fifty years. Henry Gordon operated the yard during 1917-18-19, while Jack Lindsay served in the army. In 1927, this firm expanded their lumber yard business in Rossburn to include hardware. Beaver Lumber served the community until 1975 when they closed out their Rossburn operation. The last office building can be seen at the Youth Camp at Rossman Lake. The earlier main building had been torn down and replaced by a much smaller cottage style building, which served as office and store building. The smaller building was built in 1963. Some of the managers who followed Mr. Lindsay included: Rae Walter, Ed Carson, Lloyd Willett, Stu McFadyen and others.

Meanwhile, in 1968, Harry Twerdun purchased the building, also on Railway Avenue, which had previously been owned by Harry Komhyr, mainly having been used in connection with Komhyr Construction, builders of numerous buildings, large and small, in the area. The building had originally been constructed in 1947 by Alex J. Saley to be used as a woodworking shop. The building was 30 ft. by 40 ft. He advertised in June 1947, "Windows, Doors, and Sash, Kitchen Built-in Cabinets. Dealers in lumber, brick siding, shingles, etc. — A. J. Saley Woodworks Co. Ltd." Harry Komhyr purchased the woodworking business and building of A. J. Saley on Railway Avenue in November, 1950. Renovations and enlarging of the building by Harry Twerdun

started in 1968. Operating mainly as a woodworking plant under the business name of Monarch Woodworks, he gradually expanded into the lumber business, 'til in 1977 he commenced construction of the large building near the old CNR station which became the new home of Monarch Building Supplies. In 1980, this business was sold to Clem Jean who came to Rossburn from Thompson, Man. Harry Twerdun returned to his original location which was expanded to make use of the former Silewich's Garage as the main part of the new Monarch Woodworks. Many plant improvements were made. The original building is now the Hilltop Building and accommodates LinLene's Beauty Salon and the Alcoholic Foundation of Manitoba Office.

Rossburn Theatre

In January 1926, Joe Urbanowski opened a "Picture Show House" in Rossburn and intended operating in nearby villages.

After the war years, business greatly improved and the theatre was enlarged in 1946. In June 1952, the theatre was further enlarged with a 50 ft. addition that resulted in 50 extra seats being installed.

Through the years, the theatre provided an important entertainment medium, until with the coming of television, attendance dwindled.

With the help of his wife, Joe Urbanowski continued to operate the theatre until 1963, when ill health forced retirement.

The theatre building was demolished in 1963 and was replaced by residential property.

The theatre was located on the south side of Victoria Avenue East, just past the location of the present Parkway Co-op Farm Supply Store.

Shoe Repair Shops

In older days shoe repairs were generally obtainable at the Harness Repair Shop.

The earliest record of a shoe repair shop in Rossburn is in the 1910 era when Mr. Wilson, father of Herb (Snowball) Wilson, operated a Shoe Repair Shop for several years.

For many years, shoe repairs were carried on by John Scott in his shop. This is referred to in the Harness Repair article.

John Mamalyga opened a shoe repair shop in 1935 in a small building on the location where Slon's Garage is presently located. In 1937, he moved to a building next to the present location of Mike Antoniow's Blacksmith Shop, where he renovated the building into both business and residential premises. He continued to operate his shoe repair business in this location until 1956. Mike Dady later operated a

similar business in the same location for a few years in the late 1950's and 1960's. The building is now used for residential purposes, and is presently the Sokolan residence.

From the late 1920's until 1936 or 1937, Nick Zachkowski carried on a Shoe Repair business on the east side of Mountain Avenue. He was followed by Martin Mushumanski who took over in the same location.

Martin Mushumanski carried on the shoe repair business in Rossburn for a short while before selling the shoe repair business to Joe Oryniak in 1938. Joe Oryniak carried on this shoe repair business until 1944 when he sold to Nick Sicinski. This business was located on the east side of Mountain Avenue about the middle of the main business section. Nick Sicinski carried on this business until 1952. The building, in which he was no longer operating his business, was among those destroyed in the tragic fire of October 1952.



General Store located on the same site as the present Parkway Co-op Store. The Post Office was located in the same building for a few years in the early 1900's.

Stores

An early general merchant according to directory information of that time was F. G. Lewis. However, by 1900, his name was no longer listed in the directory as a Rossburn merchant.

Wm. Young purchased the former H. B. Cooper Store in 1901 following Mr. Cooper's death. H. B. Cooper had carried on business under the name of "Rossburn Store" according to his store advt. in a Jan. 1900 issue of the Shoal Lake Star. A newspaper item in August of that year recorded the fact that George Cattanach who had been clerking in Wm. Young's Store was leaving for Dauphin. Wm. Young's Store was then operated by William Wyness who had come from Huron County in Ontario. This fact was recorded in a newspaper item in August

1903. However, Wm. Young returned to the store business in 1906 when he commenced construction of a large two storey building on the north-east corner of the main intersection. It had been reported in March 1902, that "The cheese factory which had been sitting idle for some years is to be fitted up with a butter plant and operated by Mr. Young in connection with his store".

Rossburn continued to expand. A large, well-stocked store had been established on the east side of Mountain Avenue by Victor W. Johnston. A picture of this business block, which was destroyed by a tragic fire in January 1909 is included in this volume. The business was well established by 1905, as V. W. Johnston's General Store was recorded in a business directory published in that year.

More businesses continued to be established and others improved and expanded. In Nov. 1906, it is recorded that Wm. Young's new store was nearing completion, along with other building projects in Rossburn. His "new store" was a frame two-storey building, constructed on the north-east corner of Rossburn's main business intersection — in earlier years referred to as "the corner". This large building was a Rossburn land-mark for many years until it was torn down in 1961 by Mike Kawa and replaced by a new one-storey frame structure presently occupied by Parkway Co-op. In December 1906 it was recorded in the local news column that Wm. Young and staff were occupying their new premises including the post office dept., which however was not much used, owing to the inability of the C.N.R. to deliver the mails.

Another store was established during that period



An early photo of Mountain Avenue shows, the east side from Wm. Young's general store looking north. The two storey general store on Rossburn's main intersection was a village landmark for decades. The general store in more recent years was operated by Dave Cleland before being torn down by Mike Kawa to make way for the new modern one storey building he erected which was operated as a general store. The Charchuk family purchased the business, in turn selling to Rossburn Co-op, which later was part of an amalgamation forming Parkway Co-op.

of rapid expansion of the townsite. An announcement in late September 1903 informed the public that Thomas Peden Jr. was opening up a general store about the beginning of October. This business was located in a frame building just east of the CNR tracks on Victoria Avenue and built by Bill Peden. About 1905, Hough Bros., Wickware & Manwaring, of Birtle, purchased the store with Dave Hough coming to operate this business under the firm name of Hough Bros. & Wickware until about 1918 when the store was sold to Mendel Peikoff, another Rosssburn merchant, who had his son Malick operate this store until May 1921. After being vacant for a short period of time, the business was opened as Stitt's General Store by J. G. Stitt in July 1921, who operated it until 1946. The building was purchased in 1947 by the Rosssburn Consumers Co-op. This large brick two-storey building which had served as general store, post office and even R.C.M.P. detachment quarters was torn down following the move by the Co-op to newer premises at the intersection of Victoria Ave., and Mountain Rd., which had been purchased in 1968 from Charchuk's. The newer store they moved to, at the northeast corner of the Mountain and Victoria intersection had been built by Mike Kawa in the fall of 1961 to replace the large older two-storey building that had been a landmark of that intersection for many years. The property just east of the CNR tracks is now the location of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Twerdun's residence.



Hough Bros. and Wickware Co. Ltd. store was a prominent Rosssburn general store business in the early days. Located on the site of the former J. G. Stitt General Store and later the Rosssburn Consumers Co-op, the site is now the location of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Twerdun's residence.

Issues of the Rosssburn Times published in the 1912-1915 era, record Hough Bros. & Wickware and V. W. Johnston as prominent general stores. In Hough Bros. & Wickware's large front page advertisement in the February 15, 1912 issue of the

Rosssburn Times, men's sweaters were on sale at \$1.15; ladies sweater coats at \$2.00 each and men's fur-lined caps at 75¢ and \$1.00. A ladies' black cloth beaver coat was selling at \$17.50 — a reduction of \$5.00 from their regular price. At the same time the Rosssburn Hardware Company mentioned elsewhere in this section of the history book, was advertising paint at \$1.50 a can. Keen Kutter Hammers were selling at \$1.00 each, with other grades at 50¢ and up. Meanwhile, V. W. Johnston was buying produce, as he advertised "Bring Along Your Produce and get the highest market price."

After Wm. Young sold his general store business to John Hook in 1910, John Hook carried on his general store business at the intersection of Mountain and Victoria until eventually disposing of his business to Harry Schwartz. This change of ownership was recorded in the village assessment revision of April 1926. Harry Schwartz some time previously had disposed of his interests in the Rosenberg and Schwartz business to a Mr. Segal. This business transaction was reported to have taken place September 1920. Newspaper reports from that time indicated that the "new" company had Burbank clerking for them. In November 1923, it is further recorded that Harry Schwartz had commenced business in the store recently vacated by Mr. Rosenberg.

Previously, a newspaper column in May 1918, had reported that M. Rosenberg who had been a clerk with M. Peikoff had opened a general store in the Scott Block, Main Street.

Maier Paisner meanwhile had started up a general store business in the former Caldwell's Hardware building on Mountain Avenue, (site of the present Nick's Pool Room). Later he took over Louis Paisner's general store located at the main intersection. Louis Paisner had purchased the general store business from Harry Schwartz.

In March 1933, L. Paisner from Oakburn opened a general store in the building formerly occupied by M. Miloff. Then in May 1933, it is recalled that M. Miloff opened a small general store in the old hospital building.

In January 1943, L. Paisner announced his store had been sold and they were going out of the business. The business had been known as the "North West Chain Store." Mr. Louis Paisner and family left in June 1940 to take over Donner's Store at Clear Lake for the summer. In 1944, a store business was being operated under the name of M. Paisner. After Paisner's closed the store, Manitoba Dairy & Poultry Co-op moved into the building where they remained in business until the building was destroyed in the terrible October, 1952 fire which destroyed much of the east side of Mountain Avenue.

Dave Cleland purchased the general store belonging to M. Paisner in August 1947. This store business was located in the two-storey building located at Mountain and Victoria intersection. Mr. Paisner had been catering to the public with a general store for the previous 28 years in Rosssburn — and left to reside in Winnipeg. In August 1949, Mr. and Mrs. L. Paisner left to make their home in Winnipeg.

Dave Cleland operated this store business at the intersection of Mountain and Victoria until August 1961 when the business was purchased by Mike Kawa, of Elphinstone. The store was operated under the name of Kawa's Department Store.

Mr. Kawa had the large two-storey building demolished and replaced by a modern one-storey build-

ing. He continued to operate this business until selling to Walter Charchuk in 1966. He came to Rosssburn from Ontario and operated the business that became known as Charchuk's Food Centre until selling it to Rosssburn Consumers Co-op in Feb. 1968.

Bob Wiggins operated a butcher shop on the present location of the drug store in the early 1900s. He had come to Rosssburn with his sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Lawless and had farmed for a few years before establishing his business. He sold his butcher shop to W. D. Strong, after a few years. He then worked at Oakburn until 1934; moving back to Rosssburn to reside with his sister, Mrs. Parmelee. He died accidentally March 18, 1954.



Everything from soup to nuts and corn flakes to coon coats could be purchased in Rosssburn at V. W. Johnston's Store, shown above. This building was destroyed by fire on January 4, 1909. Shown in the picture left to right are: V. W. Johnston, Pat Bone, Hugh Warnock, Darcy Inman, John Bolton, Eva Bolton (later Mrs. C. Rossong), George Bolton and Jim Douglas. The building stood on the site where in 1952 the Manitoba Dairy & Poultry Co-op building was destroyed by fire, along with other adjacent buildings.

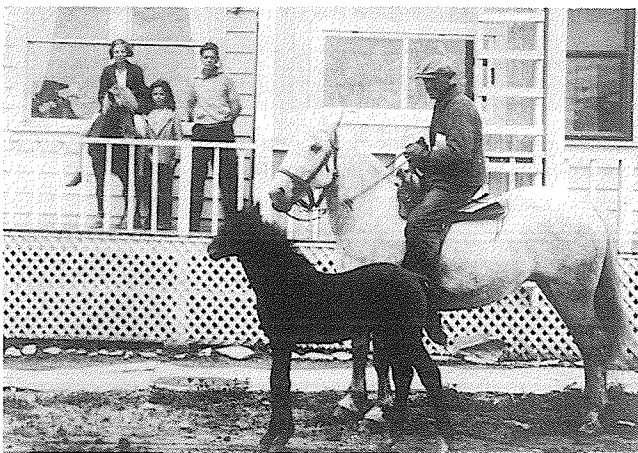


The above buildings, located along the east side of Mountain Avenue, were destroyed by fire January 4, 1909. Left to right is shown: V. W. Johnston's hardware and grocery store, Jones' Bake Shop, Parrot's jewellery store and Robert Wiggins butcher shop. Following that fire, buildings were gradually rebuilt on that portion of Mountain Avenue. Once again fire destroyed the same section on October 3, 1952. Pictured below is the east side of Mountain Avenue as it appeared shortly before the 1952 fire. Left to right: Pawchuk's Store, Stupnisky's Store, Macleods, Rossburn Quick Freeze, Dairy & Poultry Co-op, Nick Sicinski's Shoe Repair Shop, Roy's Cafe, Yarmey's Cafe, Herchak's Store.





Another view of the business section of Rossburn showing the store of J. (John) Hook, general merchant and next to that northerly was the butcher shop of Jasper Strong with the barn at the back where he would keep livestock for slaughter ultimately at the local slaughter-house for his butcher shop. Next to that was the drug store run at one time in the past by Mr. Wickett. Across the street was the Presbyterian Church. — Yesterday's Doctor — The Prairie Publishing Co.



Tom McDonald on "Daisy", who was used to deliver milk in Rossburn. Taken in front of Rossburn Hotel in the 1930's. On the steps is "June", McDonald's Shetland Pony. Standing is Beth McDonald and Bill Douglas.

The story of other butcher shops that followed Bob Wiggins Butcher Shop can be found elsewhere in the section dealing with those businesses.

The Peikoff name was prominent for four decades amongst those operating general store businesses in Rossburn. Mendel Peikoff carried on a general store business on Victoria Avenue East (present location of the People's Store) from 1909 until his death in 1934. Malick Peikoff carried on the business following his father's death in 1934 until January 1950 when the general store business was sold to Sam Nataros. Mr. Nataros came to Rossburn from Dauphin where he had also been in the general store business.

In the early years, Mendel Peikoff carried on his business as "The Bargain Store." A Feb. 1912 issue



Yesterday's Doctor — The Prairie Publishing Co. Another view of the store of M. Peikoff with the coal boxes with coal in them in front, also packing boxes and a weighing scale. M. Peikoff standing at the entrance.



Frontal view of The Farmer's Store of M. Peikoff of Rossburn. The lower parts of the building constituted the general store and the upper, the residence quarters with a sleeping porch on the side. Still no cars visible, but a horse and buggy hitched to a rail as was customary then. — Yesterday's Doctor — The Prairie Publishing Co.

of the Rossburn Times records this fact in M. Peikoff's store advertisement.

In April 1940, Peikoff's Store on Victoria Avenue East was destroyed by fire. All the store contents and the furniture and clothing contained in the Peikoff's second floor suite, were destroyed. Mr. Peikoff and family barely escaped in their night attire and it was only through efforts of the Rossburn Volunteer Fire Brigade that other businesses were not ignited and destroyed by the flames and sparks which were fanned by a high wind. However by June 1940, construction of a new store had commenced. By late August 1940, construction was completed and Peikoff's Store re-opened for business.

The store was purchased in January 1950 by Sam Nataros who had come from Dauphin where he had operated a general store. The Peikoff's moved away in June 1950. Mr. and Mrs. Wally Perchaluk purchased the general store business from Mr. Nataros in 1955. At the time of writing, Mr. and Mrs. Perchaluk continue to operate "The People's Store."

Wasył Strank opened a store in 1927 on the prop-

erty where the Rossburn Library is now located. Mr. and Mrs. Strank operated their store business until they closed the business during the 1930s. Wasyl Strank had previously operated a second-hand store in the Beehive.

In October 1929, Miss L. Proctor opened a Millinery and Ladies' Wear shop in a building on Mountain Avenue located across the street from the present M. Slon & Sons Ltd. location. She is also remembered as a violin music teacher and also as an operator with the Manitoba Telephone System.

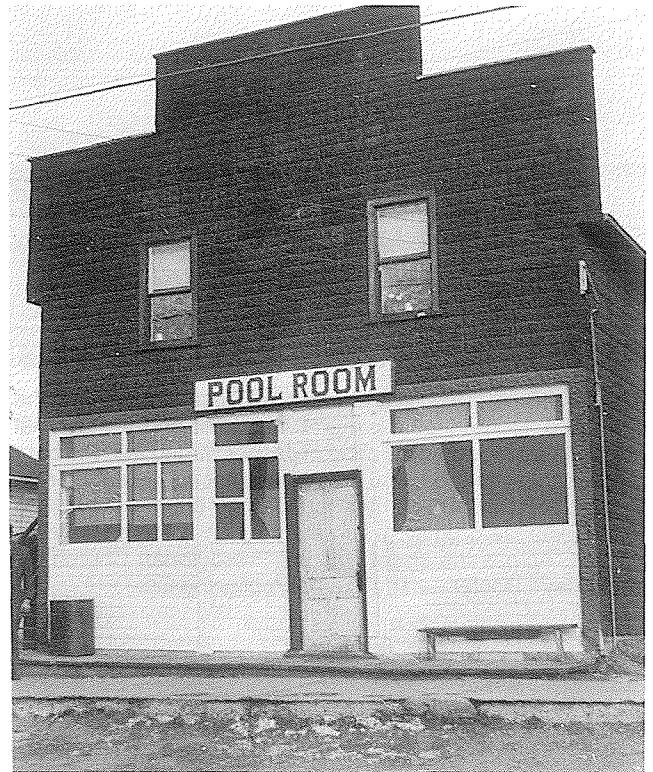
In the fall of 1938 Mr. John Kozar who had previously resided at Silver Beach, purchased the building which had been used for H. Brugman's power plant and renovated it into a second hand and general store with living quarters at the back. This was sold in 1941 to Mr. and Mrs. Angus Derlago who operated the business until 1959 when Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Bidochka became owners. They built a new store portion on the front in 1966, later selling to Mr. and Mrs. Miron Swintak in 1974.

Anton Skorobohacz sold his store (where Rossburn Electric is presently located) to Anton Yarmey in Nov. 1942. He moved to Winnipeg in 1945. Anton Yarmey operated this store until Oct. 1, 1947 when he sold his business to Dan Pawchuk. Dan Pawchuk and family came to Rossburn from Wroxton, Sask. Anton Yarmey then moved further down Mountain Avenue and purchased a building in this new location from Joe Oryniak in 1948. Joe Oryniak had operated a restaurant and confectionery in the former Barlow's Drug Store he had purchased in 1944. Anton Yarmey operated a cafe and confectionery in the new location until it was destroyed by fire in the fall of 1952. He then rebuilt on the same site, as did several other businesses on the east side of Mountain Avenue, which had also been destroyed in the fire.

Fred Brethour operated a barber shop and pool room from 1918-1923. He moved to Winnipeg in Feb. 1923. The property eventually became the location of Nick's Shoe & Clothing Store.

Nick Stupnisky rented this building from Fred Brethour. Previously it had served as a tinsmith shop, a hardware store, a pool-room and a barber shop (which had been operated by Bruce McDonald). He purchased the building and was soon running his own shop and pool-room. In 1944, the pool tables were sold to Nick Chopp and the building was used for a used furniture shop, barber shop, hardware & new furniture shop, grocery & clothing store.

In 1967, construction of a new store building was commenced and the new Nick's Store was officially opened June 20, 1968. In 1974 the business was sold to Sgt. and Mrs. Bill McCrossin.



Nick Stupnisky's Pool Room, as seen in 1941. It was converted to a clothing and footwear store in 1955.



Nick Stupnisky's former pool room after it had been converted in 1955 to a clothing and footwear store. In 1967 he had the building demolished and replaced by a fine, new modern store on the same location.

The Manitoba Government Liquor vendor was placed in the store in 1969.

It is recalled by some long-time residents that John Budz had been employed by John Hook in his general store for a number of years. John Budz then

established a small grocery store on Railway Avenue during the 1920s. His store was listed on the village assessment revision in 1926 and last appeared on the assessment roll in 1937. He clerked for L. Paisner for a while after closing out his own store business. Later Mr. Budz's small grocery store was remodelled into a residence which Mr. and Mrs. Sam Silewich and family resided in. This building was at the intersection of Railway Avenue and Second Street.

In May 1951, Maurice Dutchak and Bill Wladyka purchased the Municipal Building in Rosssburn and it was re-modelled and renovated for a locker plant. At the same time the Council of the R.M. of Rosssburn planned to build a new office between the former office and the Co-op Egg Station, which was then located in its Mountain Avenue location. The new Municipal Building was 28-ft. wide and 30-ft. in length, of cinder block construction. Plans were that the Village and the County Court offices would be located in the new Municipal Building.

The former Municipal Building was built by Mr. Harry Johnston for a Massey-Harris warehouse and the second storey was used for a town hall and a hospital. Dick King operated the Massey-Harris agency after H. Johnston. The agency was later taken over by Joe Blaskiewicz, then Nick Hryciuk in the present location of Parkway Co-op Farm Supplies.

Joe Nychuk was the next owner of the Locker Plant which he purchased in Nov. 1952 from Messrs. Dutchak and Wladyka. He continued to operate this locker plant in conjunction with a grocery store business until 1962, when he sold the business to Nick and Sophie Kurchaba.

In May 1953, the Rosssburn branch of the Manitoba Dairy and Poultry Co-op moved from their temporary quarters in the basement of the locker plant to the building purchased from Tony Melnyk where he formerly operated a general store. The building has been altered considerably and the 'egg business' was a going concern.

In March 1952, Mr. D. Dennis, General Manager of Direct Furniture Store, Winnipeg, announced plans to open a Furniture Store in Rosssburn. The Rosssburn branch was to be managed by Micheal Hrynshyn, Sales Manager, and was operated under the same name as the well established Winnipeg firm.

At that time, the store was located in the former pool-room building that had been occupied by Harry Komhyr as a woodwork shop, directly east of Sam Nataros & Son Departmental Store and opposite the Rosssburn Theatre. The building was renovated. A new floor was put in and the entire interior was improved. The exterior of the building was covered with insul-brick siding. The business held its official opening in April 1952.

This firm did not remain in business in Rosssburn for long. The building became vacant and was eventually demolished. The lot is now the location for the Manitoba Telephone System building in Rosssburn. A full page ad in the Dec. 17, 1952 issue of the Rosssburn Review told the story — Direct Furniture was forced to vacate "due to fire insurance restrictions."

In 1938, John Groshak moved to Rosssburn and built a general store on Mountain Avenue South (next to Roy Irwin's Garage). In mid Jan. 1946, he sold his business to Dan Lysaichuk who operated "Dan's — The South End Store" until November 1949. He moved to Libau, Man., where he had purchased a large general store. P. Melnyk and Sons were his successors. The business was known as Tony's General Store, operated by Tony Melnyk. He sold the general store business in Feb. 1952. This became the location of the Manitoba Dairy & Poultry Co-op Egg Grading Station. Some years later the building was moved to the Manco site at the north end of Rosssburn.

Sears opened a Catalogue Sales order office in Rosssburn on August 10, 1976. The office was located in Hedley's Store (later JR Pizza) on Mountain Ave. Later Hedleys sold the building to Joe Zegalski and eventually the sales office was moved to the former Elite Cafe building which had been renovated for offices. This renovation had been undertaken by Joe Zegalski who had also purchased this former restaurant building. Donna Hedley has managed the Sears Office in Rosssburn since its opening.

John and Mary Klym purchased the confectionery and novelty store operated by Chas. Bell in 1947. This business was located in the building which presently is the site of Calvert's Pharmacy. They operated under the business name of Klym's Novelty Shop. From 1950 to 1976, John Herchak carried on a general store business after purchasing the property from Klyms. Following a short period of time, the building was later remodelled to serve as Alexander's Pharmacy. More recently the business had been operating under new ownership and known as Calvert's Pharmacy.

LPK Enterprises established a new store on the north side of Third Street (next to M/M Store) during 1978-79. The former bakery building was torn down during 1977-78 to make room for the new store constructed by the owners, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Kurchaba. The store specializes in footwear, handbags, and other accessories etc.

Telephones in Rosssburn

The first telephone in Rosssburn was in 1910 in William Young's Store. The wires for this phone were attached to 2 x 4's nailed to the top of the fence posts coming in from Kelloe.

The first 50 line switchboard was installed in Rossburn in 1913. This switchboard was installed in the small building adjoining the hardware store which provided service to sixteen local and twenty-five rural subscribers. Below is a copy of the first directory listing the names of those subscribers.

3 — Bank of Toronto
 38 ring 5 — Brodie, John — Farm S.W. 22-19-24
 38 ring 12 — Brown, R. J. — Farm N.W. 23-19-24
 36 ring 12 — Cameron, D. H. — Farm N.W. 13-21-25
 38 ring 4 — Cormack, Geo., Jr. — Farm S.E. 21-19-24
 37 ring 5 — Craig, W. A. — Farm S.W. 35-20-25
 26 ring 13 — Crookshanks, A. — Farm N.E. 14-21-25
 36 ring 5 — Crookshanks, S. — Farm S.W. 24-21-25
 17 — Cumming, John
 37 ring 23 — Duncanson, A. L. — Farm S.W. 6-20-24
 7 — Evans, J. W.
 37 ring 12 — Grant, Angus — Farm S.E. 35-20-25
 36 ring 2 — Hiscock, R. — Farm N.W. 20-21-24
 12 — Hook & Sons
 14 — Johnston, H. W. W.
 15 — Johnston, V. W.
 9 — Johnston, V. W.
 36 ring 3 — Liscum S. — Farm S.W. 20-21-24
 36 ring 21 — Martin, J. W. — Farm S.W. 12-21-25
 38 ring 14 — Miller, Wm. H. — Farm N.W. 10-19-24
 36 ring 4 — Naish, Thos, A. — Farm S.W. 19-21-24
 8 — Northern Elevator Co.
 37 ring 14 — Paul, R. — Farm N.W. 26-20-25
 16 — Peden, Jos.
 38 ring 3 — Peden, W. A. — Farm S.E. 33-19-24
 5 — Peikoff, M.
 36 ring 14 — Plant, Gordon — Farm N.W. 12-21-25
 37 ring 13 — Plant, John — Farm N.E. 26-20-25
 6 — Queen's Hotel
 1 — Ross, H. R.
 11 — Ross & Stewart
 10 — Rossburn Hardware
 2 — Rutherford, E. C.
 4 — Scott, John
 37 ring 21 — Sinclair, D. — Farm S.W. 12-20-25
 37 ring 2 — Smith, J. A. — Farm S.E. 1-21-25
 38 ring 2 — Taylor, Mrs. J. A. — Farm S.W. 32-19-24
 37 ring 3 — Wakefield, A. G. — Farm S.E. 2-21-25
 36 ring 23 — Wilson, R. S. — Farm N.W. 6-21-24
 38 ring 13 — Woods, Harry — Farm S.E. 32-19-24
 37 ring 4 — York, C. S. — Farm N.W. 35-20-25

The type of phone that was used for many years was the type you had to crank and the operator answered at the switchboard office and asked for the

number. She then plugged in the necessary line to yours and connected the two parties. For about sixty years this system was used.

On April 13, 1972 at 9:00 a.m., Rossburn was converted to dial phones through the automatic exchange which was located in the newly constructed Telephone Building on Victoria Avenue just east of People's Store presently operated by Wally and Jean Perchaluk. The new building took place of the previous telephone building which was located on Mountain Avenue next to the post office and which had been obtained by the Village of Rossburn and converted to office use.

The old familiar "number please" from the operators as they answered your call is now but a memory. However, these operators were a very courteous part of the phone service and the switchboard provided employment for many during the decades before the arrival of the dial telephones.

A letter that was published in the Rossburn Review issue of April 20, 1972, and written by the first telephone operator, Annie (Mrs. Howard) McIntosh told of those early times, with regard to wages. "The first year I received \$10.00 per month, and the second year and on I received \$15.00 per month." The writer of that letter was the first paid operator to work on that very first switchboard. The first telephone office was located in part of the Post Office and was located next to where the Toronto-Dominion Bank is situated where the house presently occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Peter Zegalski and formerly Mr. and Mrs. Joe Peden is located.

A report in the October 1, 1903 edition of the Russell Banner indicated that telephone communication was then being installed between Kelloe and Rossburn by Mr. Chas. Hall of the Northern Elevator Co, thus bringing Solsgirth, Birtle, Shoal Lake and district into the circuit. As to whether this early mention became reality, no further item can be found in following issues — so this will always remain a question mark in the history of telephones in Rossburn.

Tinsmith Shops

The tinsmith business goes back to the early days of Rossburn's business history.

In May 1905, newspaper reports indicated that K. C. Bedson had secured a lot from Thos. Peden Sr. and intended erecting a tinsmith and hardware store. The next reference in The Rossburn Times was in May 1907, when it was stated that Alfred Coupland, of Teulon "has been employed by Mr. K. C. Bedson as tinsmith."

Another tinsmith was Jos. Hendry who was em-

ployed as tinsmith in Caldwell's Hardware, later by Adams Bros. Hardware.

Jos. Hendry was reported in April 1920 to be going into business for himself and was erecting a new building for a tin shop. That was the last mention of Jos. Hendry as a tinsmith to be found in the local news columns.

During the 1930's Wm. Cluff operated a tinsmith shop at several locations. The 1934 Voters List showed Wm. Cluff as a tinsmith in Rosssburn. This is the only Voters List available during the 1920's and 1930's from which to verify information.

Wm. Cluff left in August 1943 after spending a number of years here in the tinsmithing business. Early in his business, his location was in a building (later operated as a blacksmith shop by Nick Slobodeski) just north of the present M. Slon & Sons Ltd. Garage. Mrs. Burton had previously operated a tea room in the front portion of this building.

He had also been located immediately south of the T-D Bank. This location was taken over later by Kazimir Maydaniuk who was a carpenter by trade. It is known he was in business in that location in 1935.

During the early 1940's, Jas Harlow was listed as being in the tinsmith business. Then in November 1952 it was reported Jas. Harlow had completed the foundations for his tin shop directly north "of the old landmark. His plans were to move the top portion of the old flour mill to the new location."

In more recent years, Jack Ewashko has operated the local tinsmith shop, being located in the old pool room just east of the People's Store during the 1950's, and in the former J. Harlow Tin Shop on Mountain Avenue South which he had purchased. Jack Ewashko first operated his tinsmith business in the mid 1940's from a small building owned by Alex Kitlar on the street leading to the elevators.

Trucking

One of the first operators of a trucking business in Rosssburn was E. E. Strong. Alex Sawchuk followed in this business next and operated what was then known as the Rosssburn Transfer during the later 1940s and early 1950s. The Rosssburn Review recorded in October 1947, Alex Sawchuk was then operator of the Rosssburn Transfer. After obtaining the trucking franchise, the business gradually expanded with the growth of the town.

During 1954, the Rosssburn Transfer was purchased by Wm. McKietruk, Mike Smycniuk and Mervin Topolnisky. Mervin Topolnisky did not remain in the trucking firm for long, and in 1957 Mike Smycniuk sold his interest in the business to Wm. McKietruk.

The trucking business expanded greatly during

the years under Wm. McKietruk's ownership. The firm became known as McKietruk Freighters Limited and continues to serve the trucking needs of a large area.



An early transfer which hauled cattle to the stockyard.

Veterinarians

Resident veterinarians have not been amongst Rosssburn's professional community in recent years. Through the years, veterinary skills were possessed by various residents, who although without college training, assisted farmers when such services were required. In present-day times, however, the veterinary field is more specialized, and these services must be obtained from neighboring communities.

However, information is available concerning the following:

J. Geddie MacDonald announced in a May 1914 edition of the Rosssburn Times that he could be contacted at the King George Hotel for his services as a veterinary surgeon. He apparently did not remain long in this business as no further references could be found.

Percy Armstrong served as a veterinarian from 1920 until his departure in 1946 for Winnipeg and later Moose Jaw, Sask.

Since then, however, a resident veterinarian has not been available locally.

Water Treatment Plant

Approval of the Waterworks By-law by voters of Rosssburn June 1, 1963 resulted in Rosssburn Village Council accepting the offer of the Manitoba Water Supply Board to supply water to the Village at their meeting on June 27, 1963. At the same time, the Village purchased land for the sum of \$2,000.00 from E. H. Harris at the south end of Rosssburn (formerly the livery barn property and adjacent land) where the water treatment plant and the well was

located. The portion of the property to the north of the water treatment plant was to be operated as a Park (and subsequently kiddies playground) by the Rossburn Lions Club who were appointed by the Village of Rossburn to take on this project.

The water treatment plant was built during the winter of 1963-64 and has supplied the Village with water since the waterworks system became operational in 1964.

Doug Joiner has been in charge of the plant and Rossburn's waterworks system since its inception.

From 150 hook-ups in 1964 when the water was

first turned on, the system has grown until there were 320 hook-ups (commercial and residential) in 1981.

C & C Construction had completed about 95 hook-ups before freeze-up in 1963. When they left Rossburn next summer, they had completed 160 connections. Since 1964, all connections have been completed by Rossburn's waterworks department.

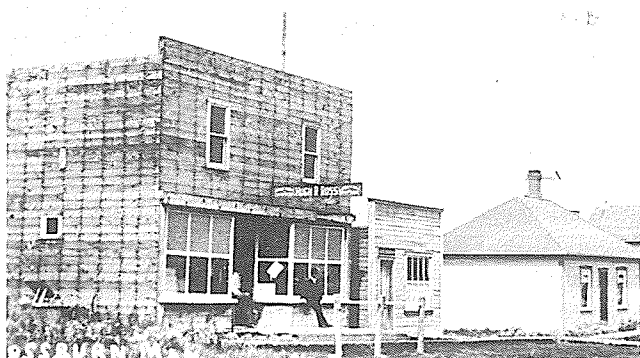
The volume of water supplied by the Water Treatment Plant from July, 1980 to July, 1981 was 12,783,000 gallons — quite a consumption for a Village the size of Rossburn.



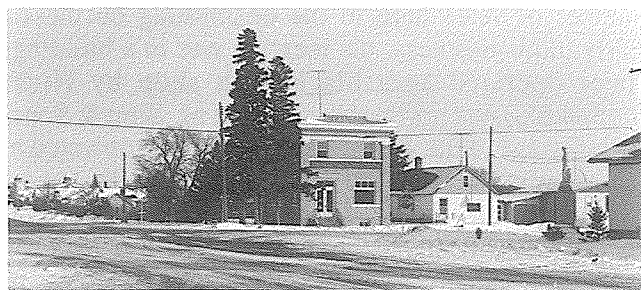
Mountain Avenue, Rossburn, looking north, 1980.



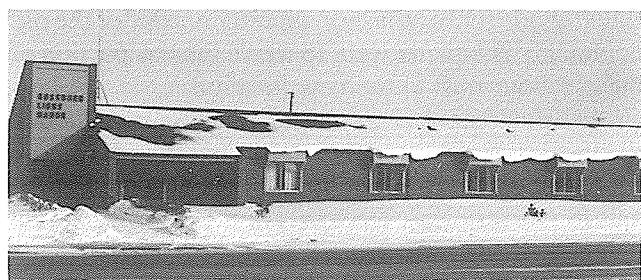
A recent photo of Mountain Avenue (west side), L to R: former Moffat's Pharmacy (now Tony Luhowy residence). Post Office, former telephone building (now Stitt Agencies office).



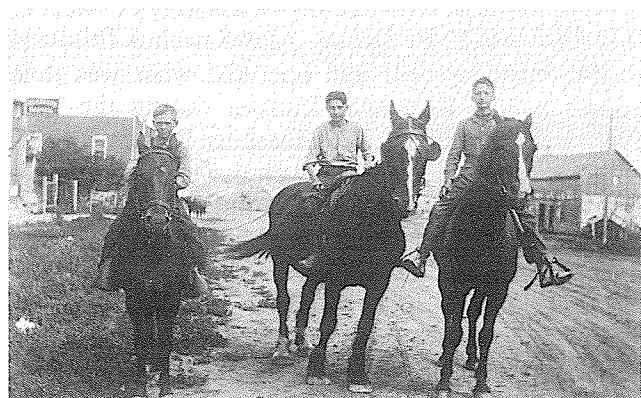
Railway Ave. (west side) approx. across from the present location of the Rossburn Hotel, in 1910.



Looking east down Victoria Avenue with the Toronto-Dominion Bank in the centre, at the Victoria and Mountain Ave. intersection. Long a land-mark, the T-D Bank was erected in 1912.



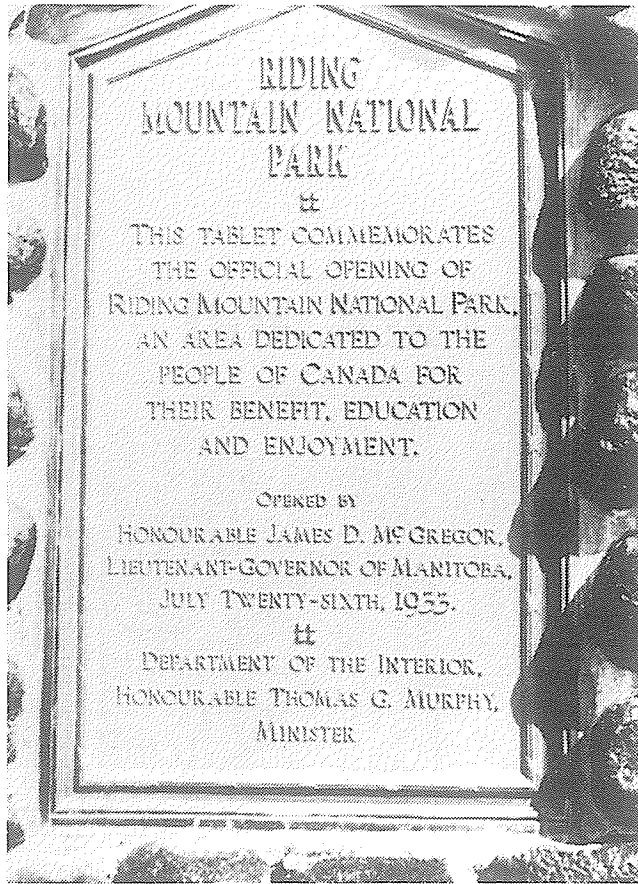
Rossburn Lions Manor was constructed in 1972-1973. Located on the east side of Mountain Avenue, the 14-unit facility fills a growing need for this type of accommodation in Rossburn.



Looking east down Victoria Avenue from the main intersection, with Hook's Store at extreme left. Horseback riding was a popular pastime in those days, especially during holidays. The school can be seen in the distance.

RIDING MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK





Riding Mountain National Park

Probably no other single geographic feature or land mass had as much impact and effect on the livelihood and life styles of the pioneers and their descendants as did the area that is now the Riding Mountain National Park.

From the time of the first settlers in 1879, until the third and fourth generation in the late 1960's, the Park provided amply of its resources towards the livelihood of the residents — particularly those living north and north-east of Rosburn. At first it was the logging — lumber to build homes and barns with, tamarack for fence and corral railing.

Then there were the cattle ranches — many of the early settlers spent entire winters in the Park with their cattle herds. Ranching within the Park boundaries was abandoned in the late 1930's; however grazing of cattle and haying continued during the summer months until the late 1960's. There are many hay meadows that have localized names of farmers who at one time or another cut hay on a particular meadow(s), i.e. Tryhuk's meadows, Sacharko's meadows, etc. Due to more stringent Park policies implemented in the late 1960's cattle grazing and cutting of hay, much to the disappointment of the local farmers, came to a halt.

Vividly remembered are the poaching activities

that went on inside the Park. Undoubtedly a book on that subject alone could be written. Some of the stories and yarns told by those involved in the hunting escapades and how they eluded the park warden or how they out-witted him would be a best-seller for one of the modern wildlife adventure books. One may get the impression that our Riding Mountain poacher was a real criminal but this should not be construed as such. By and large, the greater majority hunted elk or moose for their own use and as the times were hard and hungry mouths were plentiful, it made much more sense to bring home some "wild" meat than to butcher one's own hog or beef. A hog or steer could be sold and the money used to buy clothing or some other necessity. A few may have sold the meat but those were few and far between; nonetheless, during the difficult times it was one way of making ends meet — there simply wasn't much choice.

In the early days, up to about 1929, hunting was permitted and elk licenses were sold at \$1.00-\$2.00 for the Forest Reserve. Trapping was another activity that was considered illegal. However, as with hunting, it provided much needed supplementary income to a few of the farmers living along the boundaries of the Park. There may even be a few who trap/shoot beaver and/or muskrat at this time but again, as with hunting, the numbers who participate in hunting and trapping are rapidly dwindling.

History

In General . . .

This excerpt from "A Master Plan for Riding Mountain National Park" published by Parks Canada, outlines the past history of the area.

"During historic times, three native tribes inhabited Riding Mountain. Cree hunted in the highlands, their allies, the Assiniboines, hunted bison and other large game on the open plains. About 1800, the Saulteaux migrated from further east to establish camps around Clear Lake. Today they are the predominant native people in the area.



Where the Buffalo Roam.

Between 1731 and 1749 Pierre de la Verendrye and his four sons explored and established trading posts on the plains surrounding Riding Mountain and in 1741 a post was established on Lake Dauphin. The Hudson's Bay Company soon followed and by the 1800's the area was ringed with posts.

As land settlement and the competition for furs increased the exploitation of both fur bearing animals and big game animals caused the disappearance of such species as the otter, marten, fisher, woodland caribou and grizzly.

Because the horse was the easiest means of penetrating the rugged highland, early travellers and traders adopted the name Riding Mountain in favour of the original name of Fort Dauphin Hill. Settlement in the surrounding country, however, remained sporadic until the development of the railway. The Canadian Pacific Railway reached Brandon in 1881 and brought with it an influx of settlers into the fertile plain surrounding Riding Mountain.

Following settlement, the highland area continued as a source of game and timber for railway ties, fence posts and firewood.

As the need to protect the upland forest became evident, the Riding Mountain area was withdrawn from settlement in 1895 by the Federal Government and designated a timber reserve. In 1906 the Forest and Park Act transferred control of the area from the Lands Branch to the Forestry Branch of the Department of the Interior and two hundred and sixteen square miles of the Forest Reserve were set aside as a game reserve. In 1930 the Forest Reserve became Riding Mountain National Park. As a result of the great depression, relief labour camps were set up in Riding Mountain National Park housing as many as 1200 men. The period of 1930 to 1939 was characterized by a great deal of development. Construction of #10 Highway began in 1931 as an alternate route to the Strathclair Trail, which had served since the 1880's in providing access across the mountain. Local craftsmen, working with native stone and timber, constructed such distinctive buildings as the golf clubhouse, the superintendent's residence, the park theatre and the interpretive centre. Farmers around the park were permitted to continue cutting wild-hay and grazing livestock in Riding Mountain National Park after its establishment. Construction of cottages on the shores of Clear Lake, which began as early as 1917 under the administration of the Forestry Branch, continued into the 1940's.

It was also during the 1930's that the noted naturalist, Grey Owl, resided in the park for a short time, before his stay in Prince Albert National Park.

With the commencement of the Second World War much of the planned development was sus-



To patrol and protect . . . against exploitation, poaching, trapping, fire . . . the Forest Ranger and his horse.

pended. However, from 1940 to 1946 alternative service camps were operated by the government for conscientious objectors, who carried on most of the maintenance work. Another interesting feature of this period was the internment of German prisoners-of-war in a camp on the shore of Whitewater Lake. Several timber berths and numerous portable sawmills were a feature of Riding Mountain National Park in the 1930's and early 1940's. The last timber berth was located on the north slope near Edwards Lake and was taken over by the park in 1947. The last sawmill was removed in 1937, after which logs were sawn outside Riding Mountain National Park.

Grazing of livestock was terminated at the end of 1970 and the limited amount of timber cutting that had continued through the 1960's was terminated at the end of 1971."

While the park has provided numerous economic benefits since the days of the early pioneers, it has, however, proved to be a stumbling block to communication between communities north of the park and Rosburn. Periodically, efforts have been made to persuade the federal government, of the necessity of such a road through Riding Mountain National Park connecting Rosburn and Grandview. Up to the time of writing this book, encouraging results have not been forthcoming.

A letter from R. P. Mallis, Director, Prairie Region, Parks Canada, in Nov. 1973, outlined concerns, while at the same time re-enforcing descriptively the topography of the west end of the park.

"The Canadian Committee for the International Biological Program has identified sites within the northwest corner of Riding Mountain National Park as high priority. These sites include the spruce bog community and heron colony around Kays Lake and the fescue prairie, which they describe as, an excellent area of fescue prairie — the colder, moister



A look inside the Park — west end; rolling hills inundated with a dense growth of poplar and interspersed with spruce swamps.

variant of North American grasslands. This community is uncommon in Manitoba due to lack of suitable habitat and this region shows its best development. Elk is abundant in the area.”

From Pioneer Times

When the area was first being settled by the original pioneers, times were especially difficult, as there was no outside work to be had. Thus there was no way in those earliest times to earn ready money.

Things were to improve, however, with the establishment of lumbering operations in the area. A lumber camp was established by McKenzie and Cameron (later Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba) in 1881. Later this business operation became known as McKenzie and Nelson during 1882. Henry Sleigh, the Birdtail Valley's first year-round settler, who had experience as a cook, gained employment with the firm. Thus he was able to supplement his farm work

with the winter's job at the lumber camp and earn some real money.

The logs were taken out and floated down the river where they were sawn into lumber. This camp was located about ten miles north of Rosburn on the Birdtail. A steam-powered saw mill was brought in by McKenzie and Nelson.

The first saw mill, according to “Reminiscences of Rosburn Pioneers”, however, that was established north of Birtle was “by Donald and George Gunn, Scotch Metis from Selkirk. In 1880 they made their way with a number of ponies and carts up to what is now known as the Gunn Valley on the Birdtail River. Here they took advantage of a small waterfall — about six feet of a drop in about half a mile. They cut and dug a flume across a point and made an overshot wheel, all of wood. They got it into position and could cut four or five thousand feet a day if it would run. But the power wheel would get loose and break up, and float down the river quite often.

The settlers felt that it beat the pit-saw 'all hollow' no matter what its weakness. All the lumber was used by the settlers. This mill ran about three years when the machinery, what was left of it, was taken away and the building fell into decay. Later Cumming and Kent had a claim and the logs were run to Birtle."

"Lumbering operations in the Riding Mountain were in full swing and the river drive each spring was a big event. Birtle was the headquarters for McArthur's with a large sawmill at that point. Consequently a good deal of traffic passed through the Rossburn settlement in connection with the lumbering. The lumbering also provided a market for a certain amount of produce especially oats, meat and potatoes.

Grant's old fashioned water wheel grist mill was one of the community features of early times. It was on the Birdtail some three miles south of the Reserve. It was established about 1884 by two brothers, Wm. and Robert Grant who had come from the east and worked first with McArthur's. It was a stone mill and some stones are still to be seen. They continued operations for some ten years until the power of the river began to go down. Grant's established steam power, good boilers, then Birtle started. J. J. Stitt took a grist there on the way to the Rebellion of 1885 and called for it on his way back. An up to date grist mill was then established at Birtle and it was largely patronized by Rossburn settlers."

This item is taken from the *Reminiscences of Rossburn Pioneers* published in the *Rossburn Review* of Jan. 27, 1949.

As water was the main propellant of steam engines, it was imperative that steam engine driven sawmills were situated on or along lakes or on the banks of rivers.

From 1891 to 1895, H. A. Manwaring, of Birtle, operated a saw mill business, which was also known as Manwaring and Dutton. This saw mill business was located on the A. G. Wakefield farm (SE 2-21-25). The Manwaring and Dutton Mill was also referred to as the Valley Mill. This firm was actually a syndicate of Birtle businessmen and other investors, some from the local area. The small mill had been set up by George Cartwright who ran it for a couple of years, selling it to Mr. Manwaring. He later sold to Wm. Peden who moved the mill to Peden's Lake where it was operated from 1895-1910. This was east of the Squaw Creek road. The mill, which became widely known as Peden's Mill, then was moved to Whitewater Lake — this is believed to have taken place in 1910. It is recalled that timber rights were held by Bob Peden in the Fawn Lake area, location of their cutting camp, where an extensive stand of good timber was available. These were the

days before Riding Mountain National Park had been established as a federal park — however the area was controlled by the provincial government as a forest reserve. Peden's Mill continued to operate at Whitewater Lake until 1938.

Peden's Mill holds fond memories for many who worked there in a by-gone era. In conversation with an employee of Peden's Mill back in 1933, he recalls the staff at that time included: Tom Slayter (head sawyer), Dave Broadfoot (engineer in charge of the steamer), Horace Carson (engineer in charge of the planer mill and shingle mill), Albert Wakefield and Laird Duncanson. In recalling events at Peden's Mill, although nearly fifty years later, vivid memories of life at the mill still remained as a fond memory.

Other mills of the area are recalled and recorded in the following continuation of this article.

McArthur and McVrea started a mill, the "Reminiscences of Rossburn Pioneers" stated, that ran until 1902 or 1903. They had a contract with the railroads and cut millions of ties as well as other lumber. Their last log drive had two million saw logs. Their mill was located at Birtle.



These horses have earned their supper!

Timber Resources

Riding Mountain National Park has a long history recognizing its timber resources. Some of the early legislation establishing this area as a Timber Reserve, then a Forest Reserve, and eventually as a National Park was reviewed in 1934, *Forest Service Bulletin 85. "The Forests of Manitoba"* by J. D. B. Harrison, B.Sc.F. details much of the historical data.

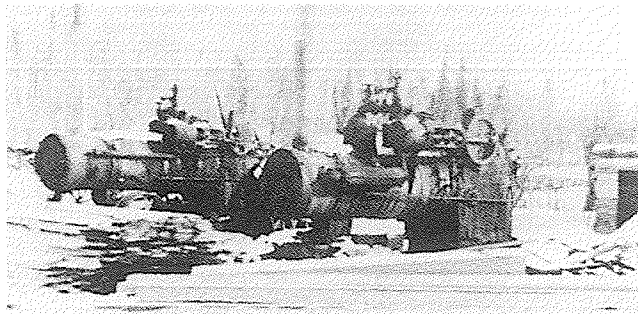
"In Manitoba, the areas set aside as reserves

prior to 1900 included the present Turtle Mountain and the Spruce Woods Forest Reserves, the area now known as the Riding Mountain National Park and an area west of Lake Manitoba which has subsequently been re-opened for settlement. The area reserved was 2,562 square miles. In 1899, increasing interest in the forests of the province controlled by the Dominion, and in those of the Northwest Territories, was shown by the appointment of a Chief Inspector of Timber and Forestry at Ottawa, with a small clerical staff. This was the nucleus of the Forestry Branch of the Department of the Interior, which has more recently been known as the Forestry Service."

"The Park was first set aside as a Timber Reserve and was subsequently established as a forest reserve in 1906. It was designated as a National Park in 1930. The area is 1,148 square miles of which 37 square miles are occupied by water."

"The Forest Reserves Act passed by Parliament in 1906 established the old 'Timber Reserves' as permanent 'Forest Reserves' and also established the Duck Mountain and Porcupine Reserve, this adding 1,951 square miles to the area of forest reservation. Subsequent withdrawals of area for agricultural purposes have slightly reduced the reserved area."

The administration of the forest reserves was handed over to the Forestry Branch in 1907, but the Timber, Grazing and Irrigation Branch continued to deal with the disposal of timber in the forests outside of the reserves. In 1911 the Forest Reserves Act was rescinded and replaced by the Forest Reserves and Park Act, under the authority of which the reserves were administered until July 1930."



A couple of Waterloo steam engines mounted on blocks to drive the sawmill.

Lumbering and Logging

The Birdtail Area . . .

The first activity in the Park in the Birdtail area was log cutting and sawing along the Birdtail River. This was, as nearly as we can ascertain, around 1879-80. The first sawmill located in the Park was at a point where Gunn Creek joins the Birdtail River. A

man-made dam was created on the Birdtail and the mill was operated by water power. The old ditching that was done can still be seen. Apparently the mill lasted only 1-2 years (1880-81) as they had problems with the equipment and the water wheel.

The logs were then floated down the river to a sawmill at Birtle; logs were drawn onto the ice by horses and a log drive would start with the first thaw in spring. Logs would be drawn on to the river from as far north as the Gunn Creek site to as far south as Roy Plant's (sec. 12-21-25).

A cutting camp, operated by Dutton and MacArthur, was located at Gunn Creek.

The men would stay and work at the camp all winter and move out with the logs in the spring.

The logging business, as well as being an adventure for many a young man, also had its tragedies. Two young men drowned in logging accidents while floating the logs down the river — one was the son of Joe Merritt; the other, an Ollie Olson. One of the drownings occurred beside Wakefield's Bridge (sec. 2-21-25). A headstone was put up by Dutton and MacArthur in the Rossburn Cemetery for Ollie Olson.

This particular logging endeavour ended about 1900; however there were many other log sawing operations within and adjacent to the Park prior to and after the turn of the century.

We hope that our research has been thorough as we endeavour to list the numerous sawmills that were in operation over the years and our apologies if we have missed any.

Creer — prior to 1900, mill located at Creer Lake.

McTavish — prior to 1900, mill located at McTavish Lake.

Peden — undoubtedly the best known and longest in operation sawmill; its first location was at Peden Lake (1895-1910) just inside the Park boundary northeast of Marco. In 1910 the Pedens moved the sawmill to the north western shores of Whitewater Lake. The sawmill operated at this location until 1938. A more detailed account of Peden's Sawmill is recounted by a member of the Peden family further in this chapter.

English and Jenkins — Bill Jenkins and Bob English, from Shoal Lake, operated a sawmill powered by Bill Jenkins' Case 25-75 steam engine for several winters around 1920. Their sawmill was located on NE 36-20-23 (Anton Kaskiew's property).

Harlow — Jim Harlow's father, Josh, owned and operated a steam driven sawmill in around 1916-18; it was located along the bank of the Birdtail Creek on NW 22-21-24.

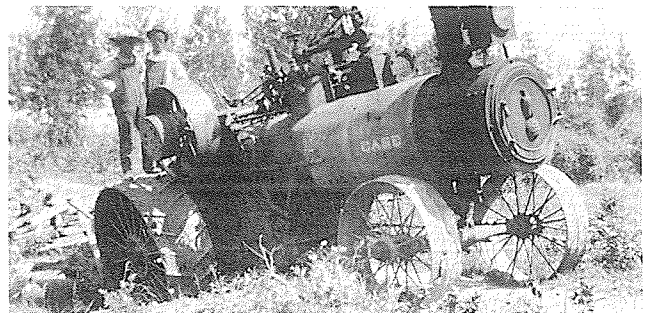
In March 1908, it had first been recorded that



Peden's Mill at Peden's Lake (1906).



A team dwarfed by some tall timbers in the Whitewater Lake area.



The Case Steam Engine shown in this photo is pictured after it had broken through a bridge near Marco. This engine supplied the power for the sawmill operated by Robert English and Bill Jenkins during the 1920 era.

Josh Harlow had extended his business with the addition of sawing of logs.

Bewza — Brothers Mike and Paul Bewza operated a sawmill on Kaskiw's quarter, NE 36-20-23, from 1925-1938. They had operated their first sawmill on Fred Stebeleski's property.

Cleland — Alex Cleland's sawmill was started in 1936, on the farm at the home yard. This stationary sawmill was powered by a Waterloo 25-75 steam engine. This sawmill operated by Alex Cleland, had for its sawyer his brother Dave Cleland. Charlie Brown was their sawyer for many years. In the spring

of 1943 Alex Cleland sawed at Alex Pawluk's. Following this the sawmill was moved back to the home farm for a number of years, continuing in operation till the early 1950's. He converted to tractor power for his mill in 1943, power being supplied by a John Deere D. Fred Saley and Frank Maydaniuk now operate the mill on the Maydaniuk farm. It is interesting to note that Alex Cleland still goes to cut his logs. He originally built his own sawmill.



A normal winter activity back in the late 20's — sawing logs in the winter time was a way of life right up to the early 50's.

Glushka — Brothers John and Matt Glushka, being impressed with the operation of Peden's Mill at Whitewater Lake, and captivated by the distinct and fragrant aroma of spruce logs being sawed into boards decided that they would have their own sawmill. In 1936-37 they built and operated a home-made mill on their farm (NE 21-20-24), in 1938 they moved their outfit to Roman Bartkiw's farm (SE 12-21-24) and in 1940 re-located on Sam Trakalo's pasture (SE 2-21-24) where they operated until 1948. In 1948 they sold their outfit to Alex Dutchak. In 1952 John and Matt Glushka and Mervin Trakalo purchased a sawing outfit from Bill Hyra and operated it for two winters; in 1953 they sold it to Lawrence Kuzenko and John Hlagie.

In 1944, as recalled by John Glushka, he and Matt bought Peden's planer which had been moved away from the Whitewater Lake site in 1938 and had been re-located at some bush camp in Northern Ontario. This planer had to be air-lifted out of the camp and shipped back home to Rosburn. In 1948 Glushkas sold this planer to Mike Mychasiw at Birle.

Slon — Maron Slon (with the sawmill), and Joe Skavinski (with his Case steamer), ran a sawing outfit during the winter of 1937-1938 on Alex Dutchak's farm (NE 34-20-23), in partnership with Maron's brother Tony Slon. Later they operated their mill in the park, first near Peden's Lake and later at Gunn Creek.



A couple of bruisers — spruce logs on a sleigh pulled by a two horse team to a sawmill.

Stadnyk — Nick Stadnyk's sawmill, located on Nick Herchak's farm near Marco, just south of the park boundary in 1933. Among those who worked at this mill were: Joe Bobinski, Walter, Jack and Isaac Twerdochlib, Joe Sitko, Mike Stadnyk (camp cook), Tony and Maron Slon (who operated a planer and planed all the logs).

Hyra — Bill Hyra operated a steam engine sawmill in the early thirties; the first location was on Hryciuk's farm (NE 21-21-24). Later, in the mid-1930's, it was located near Kozun's (36-21-24) — the steam engine was situated on the ice of a lake and drew its water from the lake below. He also sawed at his farm.

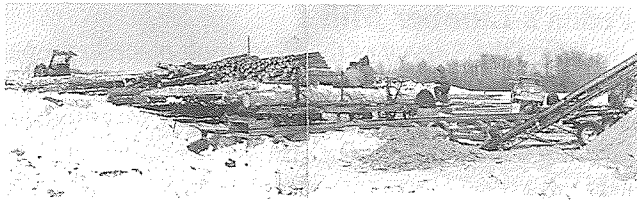
Mazur — The Mazur sawmill was located on NW 21-21-24, at an approximate distance of only 200 yards from Bill Hyra's sawmill further along the Birdtail River. Around 1937-38, Alec Mazur operated a steam engine powered sawmill on the Silewich farm (NE 36-21-24). They also sawed at their home farm in Silver Creek Municipality in the 1930's.

Yaskiw — Dick Yaskiw with sons Steve and Pete operated a sawmill in the mid-1930's in partnership with Bill Hyra for two winters. Dick supplied the sawmill and Bill the steam engine. One location was on a road allowance between SE 36 and NE 25-21-24; the other winter on Donald McDonald's farm east of Vista.

Other sawmills were operated by:

Danyluk — John Danyluk operated a tractor-driven portable sawmill from 1947-1960; moving the sawmill around from farm to farm with its longest permanent residence being between SE 36 and NE 25-21-24; still referred to as the site of "Danyluk's Saw-mill".

Dutchak — Alex and son Tony Dutchak, purchased a stationary sawmill from Glushka brothers in 1947-48 and set it up on his farm (NE 34-20-23) north of Marco. They had this tractor driven unit in operation for 5-6 years. As the need for lumber diminished and the Park became "out of bounds" as a source for logs, the sawmill was not in use for a number of years. It was then sold to Ed Wowkotrub



Sawing logs at Saley's in March 1963. Seen in the photo are: Wm. F. Belbas (sawyer), Nestor Pushka (hook), and Bill H. Belbas (receiving end).

who operated for 2-3 years and then sold it to Fred Posmitiuk.

Kuzenko — Lawrence Kuzenko, in partnership with John Hlagie, bought Glushka's and Trakalo's portable sawmill in 1953-54. The first winter it was located on Lawrence's father's farm (SW 31-21-24); the next three years it was operated on John's farm SE 23-21-25 and after that, until 1972, on Lawrence's farm on NE 26-21-25. In 1967, after John sold out and moved away, Lawrence became the sole proprietor. In the fall of 1972 Lawrence accidentally lost three of his fingers while operating the sawmill and then, in the spring of 1973, sold his outfit to an operator from Lundar, Man.

Another interesting account follows:

Belbas — One year Bill Belbas and John Hlagie with George Schmidt's help, cut a quantity of logs in Riding Mountain National Park, just north of Bill Maxwell's. In previous years there used to be a sawmill at Bill Maxwell's — so we hauled our logs over to Maxwell's (SW 20-21-24) hoping someone would come in. Becoming more interested, Bill Belbas and John Hlagie purchased a sawmill from Mike Baubie. They set it up stationary at Maxwell's



Sawmill operation on the Joe Maydaniuk Farm. Picture taken by Fred Saley shows Wm. F. Belbas (sawyer), Nestor Pushka (hooking log), and Bill H. Belbas (receiving end of log). Mike Saley and Bill H. Belbas helped to turn the huge log (40" diameter) on the carriage.

and soon were in business sawing logs. After a couple of years, they moved it to John Hlagie's (23-21-25) again setting it up stationary. They sawed logs at this location until 1961. Bill Belbas purchased John Hlagie's share in the sawmill and took the sawmill home. The park was swept by a big fire in 1961 and as a result, a lot of logs were cut that fall and hauled to various locations. This sawmill was operated until 1967.

Baubie — Mike Baubie bought an old home-made sawmill in 1936 from Mike Peech and Bill Slobodeski. This mill had not been in operation for 5-10 years previously. Mike Baubie moved this stationary mill to his home farm on Section 5-20-23 and he acted as the sawyer. After 15 years of operation with a Case 20 h.p. steam engine, he converted to Tractor driven power with an IHC WK40, followed in turn by a Cockshutt 40. In 1948 he purchased a portable unit from Prince Albert, Sask. that had previously been converted from a stationary unit. He operated for 40 years until 1976 in the Seech, Horod, Dolyny, Marco, Mears and Ruthenia districts. In 1976 his sawmill was sold to a buyer from Riverton, Man. In one year during the early 1960's, he cut 672,000 board feet, which was his record year. He ran a planer for 35 years travelling through the neighboring district. Normal operation of sawmill was from February to July, while the planer was kept busy all summer. Amongst those who worked with Mike Baubie were Mike Woychyshyn (in excess of 20 years), Frank Budz (15 years) and the Werzak Bros., Nick, Matt and Fred, who were with him for many years.



Logging teams on their way to the sawmill from logging camps in the Park.

Posmituck — Fred Posmituck commenced his sawmill operations in 1975. The portable mill was powered at first by a 44 Massey and later by a Massey 55 Diesel. The mill was set up on Mel Balan's farm. He built his own sawmill and bought a planer from Mike Baubie in 1979.

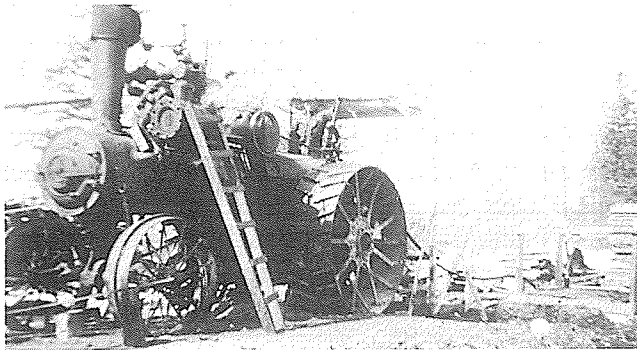
Prosak — Dymtro Prosak's mill was in operation during the years from 1937 to 1972. The mill was powered by a Case Steam Engine. This steamer was later purchased by Ed Shust. Location of the mill was on Matt Mychasiw's farm (6-20-22). The mill was

also located on 1-20-23 for a short period. Fred Posmituck assisted his father-in-law for a number of years in the operation of this mill, operating the planer for five years, before building his own mill. Prosak's mill was moved to various other locations in the Horod-Seech area and for ten years was located on the Posmituck farm from 1945-1955.

Matiation — John Matiation operated a mill for one year on SW 36-20-23 around 1930.

Peech — Mike Peech operated a mill on SE 24-20-23 for a few years, also other locations east of Marco.

Topolnisky — Mike Topolnisky's mill was in operation from about 1946-1970. The mill was set up three miles north and west of Olha. It was powered by a stationary steam engine from 1946-1954 which was replaced by a Massey Harris 25. The engine had been purchased from Maron and Tony Slon who had previously operated their own mill. Mike Topolnisky acted as the sawyer. The sawmill which was home-made was eventually sold to Roy Gamey of Strathclair, and is reported to be still in use.



Mike Topolnisky's American Abel steamer providing power for his sawmill. This steamer was made in 1911 and is a 78 × 26 H.P. unit (78 on the belt and 26 on the draw-bar). This photo was taken in the late 1940's.



Joe Kryswaty and Mike Topolnisky sawing logs. Note the central panel and string of wires mounted on pole behind Mike. This enabled Mike to control operation of tractor and sawmill from his sawyer's position. Photo taken in late 1950s.

Peden's Lumber Mill

When the Survey of the West took place in preparation for the settlers coming West to find new homes and engage in farming, certain lands unsuited for farming and usually having timber resources were set aside as Forest Reserves. The area now known as the Riding Mountain National Park was originally one of these. The early settlers secured logs for their buildings from these lands and soon sawmills were established on the fringes and later in the Forest Reserve. Timber cutting permits were secured to cut lumber on these lands which were known as Timber Limits. These Limits were secured on a time basis and could be had for a certain number of years.

The Pedens who came from Huron County of Ontario, which was heavily wooded, were well acquainted with the lumbering industry and soon became interested. They purchased a Limit from J. D. McArthur which had some time yet to run and they were in business. When the distance from the mill to the timber became too far, the mill was moved to the timber. For quite a number of years a mill was operated on the shores of a lake which now bears the name Peden's Lake and later was moved to the shores of Whitewater Lake. When the Timber Reserve became Riding Mountain National Park the mill had to be removed.

The mill was only operated during the winter months when sleighs could be used to transport the logs to the mill. As soon as there was sufficient snow for sleighing and the lakes were frozen solidly enough to hold loads, was the time for going to the mill. The return wasn't usually made until such time as the lakes would no longer carry the loads of lumber and equipment. The route followed was over lakes and frozen swamps as much as possible as the only roads were those made by the mill operators, which were very difficult to build for the most part.

Farmers wishing to obtain lumber could secure a cutting permit from the Forestry Department and haul their logs to the mill for cutting into lumber. The Pedens, the mill operators, also had to have permits for the timber they cut. They employed men to cut and haul the logs to the mill where the lumber was made.

Peden's Mill was rather a family operation which began some time after 1887 — after the Pedens returned from Shellmouth where they were engaged in lumbering as well as farming. Pictures taken during 1907 and thereabouts show the following Pedens working at the mill: William Peden Sr., William A. (Billy) Peden and other brothers Jack and Bob. In later years the mill was operated by Bob Peden.

Most of the workmen came from the farms of the area. They slept in the bunkhouse and ate in the



Part of Peden's mill yard in the early 1930s.

cookshack. They were usually hired by the month and their wages included board.

When the wives and sometimes children accompanied their husbands, they had their own living quarters known as shanties. One such shanty is shown in a picture taken at the millsite in 1907. On February 1st of that year Sarah Margaret Peden, the sixth child of W. A. (Billy) Peden was born there.

Some farmers cut their own logs and hauled them to the mill and paid for the cutting of the lumber.

Most of those hauling their lumber to their homes would drive to the mill one day and then make the trip back the next day.

All the lumbering operation was done under the supervision of the Forest Rangers.

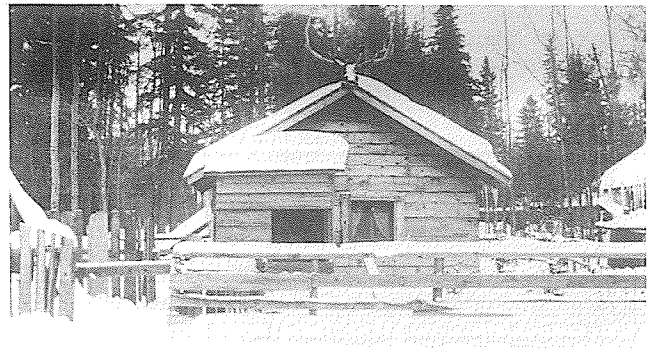
During January and February of 1926 I worked at the mill at the Whitewater millsite. My particular job was to take the lumber as it came off the saw to the various piles of lumber. The pay was \$30.00 per month including board and lodging. I would expect that the pay would vary with the particular kind of work done. The engineer and sawyers would get more.

— W. J. Peden

Some Things I Remember About Peden's Mill

Visiting the engine room and watching the stationary engine operating with all the steam, and the engineer Dave Broadfoot as he fed the slabs into the big firebox that heated the boiler.

Visiting the blacksmith shop where Uncle Jack operated the hand forge and made a lot of sparks as he did welding jobs on the anvil.



Guest cabin at Peden's Mill for Forest Rangers, Mounted Police and guests (1920).



Peden's Mill — Whitewater Lake — 1930.

Going to the office where Harry Smythe kept the books and gave out supplies.

Grandpa Peden standing at the carriage which



Time for a little socializing.

carried the logs to the saw to be cut into lumber. The carriage was controlled by a long lever.

The high pitched sound of the edger saws which were used to trim the edges of the rough sawn boards.

The hum of the planer heads which revolved at very high speeds. The sound could be heard for miles.

The large loads of logs coming down the slope onto the lake on the iced road with the horses on the run.

Seeing the men loading the huge tank of water from the lake with a bucket made from a barrel powered by a team of horses using a block and tackle from a large tripod made from logs.

My brother Clarke and I going with my dad from the millsite on Peden's Lake to the cutting camp on Whitewater Lake, which became the next millsite to spend the day. My Dad was the foreman in charge of the gang of men cutting the timber and skidding logs to the skidways where they were loaded onto the sleighs and hauled to the mill about 7 or 8 miles distant.

Visiting the cookshack at the mill and where the cook Rowsell often treated us to fig pie and other goodies.

The men unloading the logs from the large



A Sunday visit over at Peden's Mill (1926).

sleighs with their wide bunks. The logs were held in place on the loads by huge logging chains tightened by a birch pole which acted as a binder. When the chains were released the logs were started on their way by the use of a canthook and rolled along the skidway and eventually to the carriage and to the saw. The sleighs were of a wider gauge than the standard gauge in general use at that time and were made by Uncle Jack Peden.

Uncle Bob Peden gradually took over the duties as sawyer from grandfather and became the main sawyer. Other sawyers were also required some of which were Tom Slater and Clarke Peden. Clarke spent the winter of 1924-25 at the mill.

Many loads of lumber from the mill were hauled to the Rossburn area and beyond some as far as Hamiota, Birtle and others.

One day when Uncle Bob and Aunt Nona were calling at our place, known as our shanty, for obvious reasons, Uncle Bob offered Clarke and I a nickel each if we would sit still and not speak for an hour. Although the nearest store where we might spend our nickels was at Rossburn about twenty some miles away we were game to earn the nickels. This was likely the longest hour of our lifetimes but seemed to go well until near the end of the hour when Clarke, who had unfortunately chosen to sit in a rocking chair, rocked his chair and was disqualified. I received my nickel and then Aunt Nona thinking Clarke's disqualification unfair came to his assistance and he too got his nickel.

In the later years of the mill's operation when it was located on the millsite at Whitewater Lake, for a number of years Joe Partridge, who was well known

for his ability in steam engine engineering, was employed as the engineer. During the time the mill operated each year he and his wife lived on the premises in their shanty. They were a very large couple, each of them weighing about 300 lbs. An ordinary bed would not accommodate them because of their size and weight so a special bed had to be constructed for them. Besides his engineering duties Joe performed a barbering service to the men of the camp who often spent the entire winter there. This service was gladly and freely given. After viewing the haircut when completed his usual comment would be "Well, the only difference between a good cut and a poor one was a week", given in his usual humorous manner. It was always a pleasure to visit at the Partridge home.

W. J. Peden

Ranching

Ranching came to the area shortly after arrival of the early settlers. The first ranch in this part of what is now the Riding Mountain National Park became known as Stewart's Ranch.

It is recalled by early residents that Mr. Dutton of Birtle, leased a tract of land in the 1880s; brought a herd of cattle in and started ranching. The Stewart Ranch was located in the Birdtail Flats along Gunn Creek. About ten years later, the ranch was purchased by E. Major and Dick Young, of Seeburn district. F. McPherson, of Binscarth, was the next owner of the Stewart Ranch. With the formation of the National Park, the lease was closed and the land taken back.

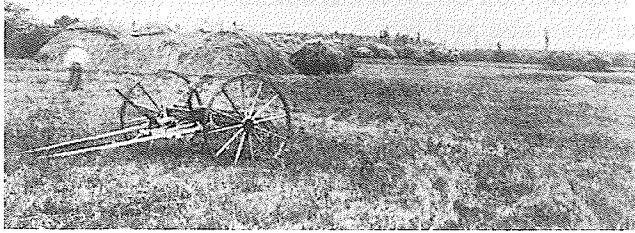
In the late 1890s and early 1900s, cattle were wintered in the park by a Birdtail Valley resident named Grant. When the Grants and Plants formed the Birdtail Stock Co., ranching was a main concern of their farming enterprise. It is recalled that on one occasion, they lost fifteen to twenty head of cattle, when they broke through ice on the Birdtail after the cattle had wandered away on their own accord. The cattle were usually taken to their winter location in early winter.

Tilson's Ranch is recalled by early residents, from the 1900s. Frank Cleland took over Tilson's Ranch in 1916, later selling out to Bob and Horace Carson. Carsons operated the ranch until about 1925. 150 to 200 head of cattle were kept on this ranch. Hay was put up during the summer, and the men stayed all winter. During the summer they went in by car. The Ranch was located about twenty-six miles from Rossburn. The hay was cut, raked and left in the coils. The hay was later raked and fixed up.

Hay was mostly put up in coils and left in coils until needed. When snow covered the hay during the



Drawing water for the cook shack.



Stacks of hay on a prairie meadow (horse drawn hay rake and bunches in front); (hay will be hauled out by horse drawn sleigh and rack during winter).

winter, a “Bucking Pole” was used to get the hay out from the snow. This was a logging chain attached to about a fifteen foot pole, drawn by a team. The pole was stuck under the coil, and as the horses pulled, the coil would be loosened from the covering snow. The hay was then hauled in by rack and sleigh.

Later in the 1920s, Malik Peikoff had the ranch about two miles closer to the settlement from the Tilson location. New buildings were built and the ranch was operated by Martin Dalik.

Some of the men who worked on the Tilson Ranch are also remembered. Bert Palmer worked for Carsons for two or three years. George White and Mervin Crookshanks worked one winter for Clelands. Stanley Buchanan with his wife and family stayed at the ranch with Clelands. The first of the winter Clelands would close everything up at their home farm and the entire family would move up to the ranch for the winter — yes, even the dogs and cats would head to the ranch along with the family and their horses. They would leave the farm in November when cattle feeding had to be started, and come out in spring in time for field work.

On one occasion, when Alex Cleland was six years old, he was kicked in the head by their Shetland pony, and was bleeding badly as a result of the accident. After stopping the flow of blood with flour and bandaging his head, he was brought to hospital in Rosburn by team and cutter in just two and a half hours — a remarkably speedy trip for those days.

There were always plenty of visitors at the ranch — hunters, trappers, and settlers as the ranch was on the main north-south trail across the park.

The buildings were log — 20 foot square, partitioned in centre with the meat house between the buildings. There were barns for the horses, sod roofs (pole roof with sod and hay). The residences had board roofs with roofing paper.

One incident that occurred up at the Cleland Ranch, followed a day in which Mervin Crookshanks and George White had been working in the meadow. Their clothes being wet, had been hung over the stove to dry. Some tamarack was put in the stove the next morning for a good fire. Meanwhile some 22 shells had fallen out, on top of the stove. When they started to explode, Mervin was hit in two fingers, his fingers were burned — while George was hit on the head and skinned on the head. Frank Cleland's best cure was melted wax (bee's wax), running wax into the cut. They then went to haul hay; the melted wax resulted in the hair sticking to the cap; the cap then had to be stood up, and hair cut with scissors.

Leonard Plant and Roy Plant took over the Peikoff Ranch. Bill Crystal continued working at the ranch for two or three years. Johnny Copeland worked the old Peikoff Ranch after Bill Crystal left. He was the last year-round operator in Birdtail Valley area of the Park — and continued until the early 1940s.



Hay being stored on roofs of buildings and lean-tos to prevent grazing by elk and deer.

Another ranch before the Park was closed to ranching was the Tamarisk Ranch. It was situated east of the valley on high land on the way to the Tilson Ranch. This ranch was later occupied by Huttons from Oxbow, Sask.

Another rancher named Hutton, back in 1932-33 moved in from Oxbow, Sask. He arrived with 60-70 cattle, 100 sheep and 10-15 horses which he had shipped in by rail. He came in early fall to put feed up by Tamarisk Lake, bringing the herd in later by rail as previously referred to from Oxbow to Birdtail — then heading up to Tamarisk Lake to some abandoned buildings. The sheep nearly all died, and few cattle and horses survived. Mounds still indicate the location where the animals were buried. Apparently a shortage of feed was the cause of this unhappy

ending to this ranching venture. The remains were burned and bull-dozed.

In the Deep Lake area from about 1930 to 1936 Jack and Bob Hanns operated a ranching enterprise known as the Deep Lake Ranch, and built their own buildings on the south side of the lake. Although recollections are no longer clear, it is recalled that they brought horses from the Melita-Deloraine area. They contracted to look after horses for others, and also accepted some cattle from other farmers on a contract basis. It is known, however, that during four or five years they operated the ranch, more horses than cattle were accepted.



Remains of Mitchell's ranch (cabin and corrals) — 1979.

The last cattle grazing, during the summer only, was Mitchell's Ranch, located between the Tilson Ranch and the Peikoff Ranch. This ranch, was operated by the Mitchells, from Grandview.

Ranches were run during the summer around 1916 in the Baldy Lake area by Sandy McDonald, Archie Ford, Ted Miller, John Chegwin and Robt. Brown.

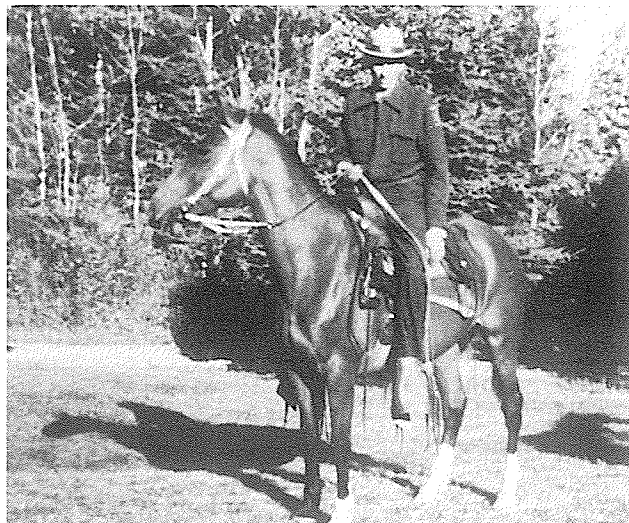
R. J. (Robt.) Brown is recalled as having operated a cattle ranch at Gunn Creek for many years. During the 1920s a herd of about 100 head was kept at the ranch. Some of those who stayed at the ranch at various times were John Paul and his wife, Jim Cummings, Norm Cummings, George Plant, Morley Brown and Wilfred Brown. During the winter season, it is remembered that Morley Brown and George Plant stayed up at the ranch with the cattle. Bob Brown would bring in supplies about every two weeks. Gunn's sawmill was just west of Brown's Ranch about six miles.

Dave Waters was another ranch operator about two miles north-west from Gunn Lake until about 1935.

At the east end of Gunn Lake was Bob Peden's Ranch, operated year round. Claire Peden looked

after the cattle and was one of the main stays at the ranch along with Bobby Brown. They used to draw hay from Hough Meadows and Birch Lake Meadows.

Those were great days to reminisce about — but as with all things, times change. So did ranching in the National Park as this type of farming business enterprise was phased out by changing park policy.



Park Warden on patrol.

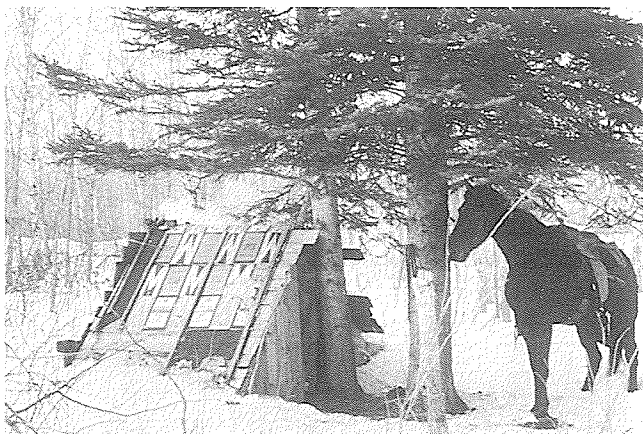
Park Wardens

Baldy Lake Warden Station (Marco Ranger Station)

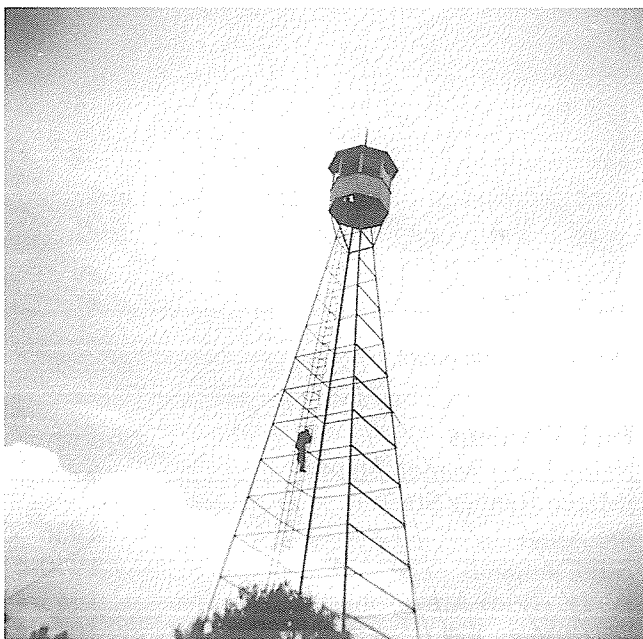
Joe Allan	1936-40
Bill Campbell	1940-43
W. D. (Bud) Armstrong	1943-44
Frank Manuliak	1945-48
Dean Allan	1948-50
Ray Erickson	1951-58
Conn Artibise	1958-59
Ernie Bonnefoy	1959-62
Don Dumpleton	1962-65
Fred Millward	1965-68
Hugh Jennings	1968-74
Calvin Allan	1974-79
Gordon Bergeson	1979-

Deep Lake Warden Station (Russell Ranger Station)

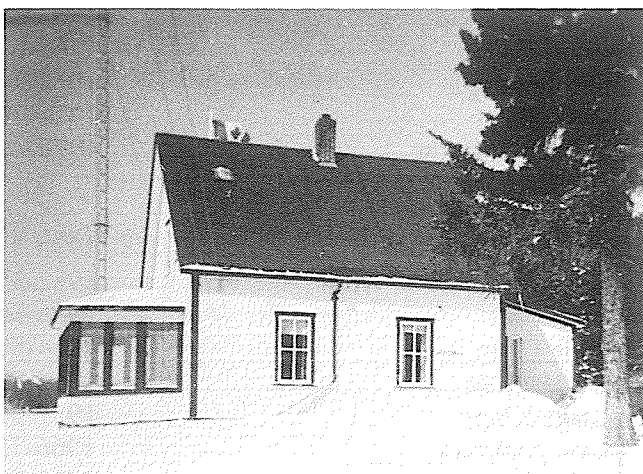
Lawrence Lees	1932
Bob Hanns	1932-35
John Hyska	1936-54
Archie Doan	1954-57
Sid Mortimer	1957-59
George Klapp	1959-66
Darell Andrews	1966-73
Gordon Bergeson	1973-79
Charley Ristau	1979-



While on patrol . . . a home away from home.



Fire presents an ever-present danger in dry years. Baldy Lake tower, located in Riding Mountain National Park, north of Mar-
co, provides an excellent view of surrounding landscape.



Old Deep Lake Warden Station.

Rosburn Warden Station (Life as Protector of the Queen's "Wild Beasts and Forests")

As related by, R.M.N.P. Warden,
Darell Eugene Andrews, 1966-73.

What does a Park Warden do you ask? Well I will tell you. At times it can be no picnic. However, the benefits of what Mother Nature provides, as a back-drop to every-day living, far out-weigh the unpleasant angles that crop up from time to time during the course of my work.

Now far be it from me, to set myself up as a paragon of Park-Wardenly virtue! I can safely say on my part, I enjoy the work entailed and try to carry out each assignment to the best of my ability.

I first came to Riding Mountain National Park (R.M.N.P.) as a Trainee to learn on the job in the fall of September, 1959. I received my first baptism of fire, while stationed in the Seech-Horod district. There were sure some mean poachers in that area; it's not every day one has their Government horses snatched out of their barn, from right under one's nose, while eating supper! I reckon them poachers suspected I was hot on their trail! After a long trek, the horses were located and returned to the barn. So much for that Seech saga!

I was transferred to the Rosburn District Warden Station, where we took up residence in the old Warden station house, that was mercifully not haunted by the ghost of that unfortunate Warden, Mr. Lawrence Lees, who was brutally murdered in the house in 1932. (Incidentally, this Mr. Lees was related to my first wife, Vera. He was a brother to Vera's cousin's husband, Bert Lee, now deceased.) It's a small world!

Park wardens and their families are a breed of folks, used to roughing-it at home and out in the bush. Needless to say we had our fair share back in those good old days; as did many other fellow wardens in the line of duty. However, we all survived.

In 1969, for a short time, we lived in a Rosburn town house that was rented by the government for our use while they moved in a more modern home. This was a lot more convenient for my then critically ill first wife who needed frequent hospital care suffering from terminal cancer. Vera passed away in late December of 1969. My three then school age children likewise benefited from living in town as they were not far from the school they attended.

In 1970 the Government moved in a new Attco home onto the site of the previous home that was sold by tender.

Event-wise, nothing really spectacular occurred during my stay at Deep Lake Warden station. During the Centennial year, I made up a mini-motor-bike and

entered the Town parade dressed up as a cowboy, wearing an extra large cowboy hat.

Some enterprising Rossburn folk decided on a 1967 Centennial horse and wagon ride through the Park. There were two trail rides that I clearly remember; both were all day events, open to anyone who wanted to join in. One was the Angusville trail ride that congregated at Andrew Naherniak's. One wagon and team could not wait to get started it would seem! And what with my bucking-Park-bronco it turned out to be an entertaining afternoon of events! We entered the Park at Tony Sawchuk's, south of Flat Lake. The second trail ride met and returned to Frank and Mary Maydaniuk's. It started out in fine weather but the return trip was hampered by an unexpected rain shower. Those riders may have got soaked but not their spirits!

During my first years at Deep Lake, the Park authorities were beginning to phase out public cattle grazing, logging, and hay cutting. These changes did not go down too well with the local farming settlers. However, I managed to convince those I came in contact with that it was not "I" who made up the Park rules and regulations but was there to do my job and report back to my superiors.

There was the odd person who tried to get away with letting their cattle sneak out to that juicy grass on the other side of the fence, so to speak! But they had to tow the line and come to realize that rules are made to be obeyed, not abused. Under such conditions no Warden can be caught sleeping on the job; the ever constant vigil for lawbreakers and poachers was a daily year round part of my job.

This search for poachers, in the early days, was carried out on horse back. This was no easy chore in the cold of winter — one would return home late in the afternoon almost frozen stiff in the saddle. I had two horses, Nickle and Penny, who were faithful companions. Life was a lot easier, with the coming of snowmobiles. For a while the government let me use my own personal snowmobiles and paid me maintenance and rental for them. The use of snowmobiles was for warden use only. However, there was one group from Rossburn who I went with and we all enjoyed a snowmobile trip through an area of the park set aside for this one event.

Spring and summer months brought out the tourists and campers who came to relax in the wilderness beauty of Deep Lake and fish for trout. I was kept busy selling fishing licenses, filling in angler award permits, talking to the public and checking the lake from time to time. On the odd occasion there would be a heavy rainfall. I might be asked to rescue a stranded fisherman and his vehicle with my 4-wheel drive government truck.

Official duty hours were from 8 am-5 pm; however my hours were often flexible. Once off duty there was the paper work to be done. Reports and the daily diary to fill out of that days' events had to be completed and handed into Clear Lake office at the end of each month. Also literature from Head Office at Clear Lake to be read up on.

We got two days off a week which we tried not to broad-cast in public for fear some one might get the bright idea to slip in the back-door and knock off an animal. Like the saying goes, "Love many, trust few, always paddle your own canoe"! Under these conditions it's hard to make friends. Perhaps this is the government's reasoning behind frequent transfers!

Nevertheless, I never had any problems and met some wonderful people. One particular family was the "The Clelands". In fact, after I was badly burnt in a fire that occurred at Deep Lake station cabin, I was deeply moved at the number of Rossburn friends I really had. These kind people generously contributed to the surprise gift that they presented to me along with a ribbon card with numerous signatures while I was a patient in Rossburn Hospital.

No one asks to be a hospital patient, but if they did, I would recommend Rossburn Hospital. Those nurses were something else! A wonderful bunch of gals who knew how to lift one out of the depths of depression with their "Patient-Pranks". Male patients beware of what those cooks and nurses serve you up as a surprise gourmet diet-menu! Lumps of coal and second hand soup-bones; not quite a meal to tickle one's tonsils with but one has to give top marks for ingenuity. And if it was sunny climes you requested in the middle of winter you got a taste of Hawaii — hula dolls included! And oh, those Easter bonnets were something else too! I wonder if Edna Cameron still remembers that "Banana Split" she made for me! That poor Head Cook, Marion Crookshanks, had a lot to contend with. But her infectious smile soon out-ruled the frowns at her missing pie-plates, etc. etc. All joking aside, Rossburn was a highly efficient run hospital with a high calibre of treatment for all patients, regardless of their status in society.

At that time there was a permanent resident doctor, Dr. Frank Wong. A dedicated doctor, but lousy car mechanic. Thank heavens for Slon's Garage who came to his rescue on many occasions. It so happened I met and married one of those Rossburn nurses. My second wife, Vicky McMahon, and I were married in March, 1971. I was out on a government school course in Jasper, Alta. at the time. Vicky travelled out to Jasper on her nights off with a couple of other Wardens' wives. Those ladies were meeting their husbands who were on the same course.

Whoever said one cannot get married within 24 hours. We sure did. I will never forget that evening I phoned Mrs. Don Stitt at the Rosssburn Hospital, D.O.N. and said, "My wife Vicky won't be on duty tomorrow morning". You could have heard a pin drop! We were duly rewarded for that surprise wedding when a group of well wishers turned up at the warden station to treat us to a surprise party which included gifts, pranks and the works!!

Every one is well aware that hunting in any National Park is prohibited by law, however, this does not seem to deter some gungho poachers. They say a fox is cunning, but let me tell you, a fox has nothing on some poachers!

One incident that comes to mind quite clearly was coming across the slaughtered remains of seven bull elk in their prime. It's no laughing matter I can tell you! At that time, I was extremely fortunate to have the aid of the Rosssburn R.C.M.P. detachment. It was through their hard efforts under Cpl. B. McCrossin and his men that all the poachers were located as was the meat. Justice prevailed, and with government's permission and the further help of Cpl. McCrossin the meat was distributed to families on the Lizard Point Reserve. So you see, crime really does not pay.

While at Deep Lake, I cannot ever recall any problems with bears up at the lakes. The odd one would wander in for a snack of left-over fish bones if the garbage was not picked up frequently.

In 1973, the news came of an impending transfer to the Norgate area, on the east side of the Park. This move was not popular with Vicky. She was reluctant to leave Rosssburn — the town where she arrived at from England. But one never really leaves a town. Time changes, people leave and new folks move in, but one can always return to visit friends. Those years spent at Deep lake were enjoyable ones for us all. Rosssburn is truly a progressive town. Long may it flourish!

Memories by M. J. A.

Dec. 27, 1913-March 7, 1979

For a number of years people from Erickson, Minnedosa, Brandon, and surrounding area would travel over a trail from Erickson to Clear Lake, and pitch their tents along the lake shore for week-ends and holidays.

This area was known as the Riding Mountain Forest Reserve. As early as 1930, cabins were built on the north shore of Clear Lake, and on the south side, a townsite, now known as Wasagamung, consisting of stores, hotels, etc. was being built, and campgrounds being organized.

On July 26, 1933 Riding Mtn. was officially opened, as Riding Mountain National Park with

1,148 square miles of Park land. Mr. Smart was the first Superintendent.

During the summers of 1934-35, Billie Campbell, Laird Duncanson and George Shaw all of Rosssburn, helped survey the road from Clear Lake to Dauphin Gate, now known as Highway #10. This work was directed by Tom Fenton, Park Engineer.

The Park was divided into districts for which there was a Supervising Warden and one or more patrolmen. The duties of a patrolman were varied. He must patrol on horseback, the Park boundaries and the interior of the district to which he was assigned. Phone lines must be kept in repair and permits for logs for lumber and wood were issued. People poaching on the wildlife were the most concern to a patrolman.

Thirty-two years in National Parks, W. D. "Bud" Armstrong was one of these patrolmen. Bud was the only son of Ethel and Jim Armstrong, brother of Gladys (Mrs. Percy Graves), Margaret (Mrs. Robt. Stitt), Muriel (Mrs. Gavin Gillespie) and Zoe. Bud spent his young years on the farm of his parents, and as he got older, was never happy unless he was outdoors. He would travel by team to Peden's mill with supplies and bring lumber out, which took two days. He also hauled hay from the Rosssburn Warden Station. Bob Hanns and Jack Thompson were the wardens stationed there then. Bud was well acquainted with the duties of a patrolman.

Bud married Jennie Shaw (M.J.), daughter of Mabel and George Shaw. They farmed until August of 1941, when Bud heard, by way of the grape vine, that the patrolman at Seech Station was going into the Army, and there was an opening there. Bud went to Clear Lake to see the Superintendent who was Mr. Heaslip. Bud didn't know whether he had passed the interview or not, but on Sept. 3rd, Mr. Brodie, who was Chief Park Warden, met Bud, and told him his knowledge of the Park from Rosssburn to Grandview, Baldy Hill, Seech and Lake Audy, and his understanding of the care of horses and patrol work aided him greatly. He was told he would have to be at the station at Seech by Sept. 8, 1941. The wages would be 35¢ per hour.

In the Spring when the snow melted, water came right through one corner of the cabin and out the other corner. No amount of ditching would help. From the cabin, to the barn and then to the well. Very Sanitary!! Mr. Brodie used to say that Bud Armstrong was the first person to have running water in the Park. In one corner and out the other.

There was no outdoor "Biffy", when Bud moved in so Mr. Binkley brought lumber and nails for Bud. All he had was a Swede saw and a hammer. Bud wouldn't let anything beat him. So he built his little

building facing the hill, so he didn't have to make a door, and a very square rough hole inside.

Bud and Mr. Binkley used to take their court cases to Rossburn on a Friday, as there was usually a dance someplace to go to in the evening, also grocery shopping to be done. Often after arriving back at the station at 6:00 A.M., Bud would put the horses in the barn while the family stayed in the cutter under the blankets until he had the stoves going and the cabin warmed up.

From June to September, all patrolmen from out-lying districts were moved to Clear Lake, to numerous jobs plus traffic control on Saturday nights and Sunday. During the week, Bud worked on the Golf Course. Pushing a lawnmower, he always said he detested that job so badly he would never try to play golf. Bud and Jennie had one son, Howard, and were expecting another child in a few weeks.

Walter Snider had a big truck, and he moved Bud with all the family belongings, plus a horse and cow.

Bud began his work in Seech under the supervision of Mr. Binkley, the district warden.

The log cabin was one room, and the logs were chinked with sawdust and cement. People today like open-beamed houses and that one was bare two by fours, nothing sealed in. The cabin had not been lived in from May, and was over-run by mice. Bud detested mice and had no traps, so he created his own. He placed his frying pan on a nail in a log with a pail of water underneath, as the mice went for the grease, they would slide into the pail and drown. He said he often had six in the morning.

Kelly was three days old before Bud heard he had another son, so he rode twelve miles to Olha, and hired a car to Shoal Lake to see his new son.

Bud's mother and dad moved the family into Seech. The cabin was on top of one hill. Down below was the barn and down another hill, and there was the well, which was a dug-out well, with cribbing three ft. above the ground. The pail was on the end of a pole which was raised and lowered. It was a slow process to get water for washing, cooking and watering animals. In the campgrounds, First Street South was for the Park employees. There were tents, little cabins, anything people could find for the three months. Each dwelling had a small stove for rainy days, but all cooking, washing, ironing, etc. was all done at the kitchenettes. There wasn't a great deal of money to spend, but the kitchenette was a place for a lot of card playing, laughs and coffee drinking. After supper on Saturday night the men would take their cars to Main Street in front of the Hall and Roller Rink, and then the mothers and children would go down and sit in the cars enjoying visiting with people who passed by and listening to the music.

At that particular time each patrolman had to supply his own horses and transportation. Bud had a little old Model T truck that often would not go up a hill, so Bud would turn it around and back up the hill. That was always a laugh.

The Spring of 1943 Bud was transferred to the Baldy Hill district. The horses had to be taken to Bob Stitt's for the summer. No one could drive that truck but Bud, so he took the boys and supplies needed for Clear Lake, and Jennie rode one horse and led the other, which turned into a thirty-two mile trip, as a bridge was out, so they had to detour. Bud insisted on dancing that night, as he said it would loosen up all the sore muscles.

In the Fall, back to the station and Fire Tower Lookout. There were no days off then.

There was a Prisoner of War Camp in the Lake Audy district, and in January 1944, nineteen prisoners of war had escaped. However Bud did not know this when he started on patrol in the morning. He knew the phone line was broken somewhere between Baldy Hill and Mr. Binkley at Lake Audy. Mr. Binkley knew of the escape, and some of the prisoners had been captured on the road leading to Baldy Hill station, so he phoned Mr. Heaslip at Clear Lake, who in turn phoned Rossburn to Bud's dad and mother. They arrived about noon with Uncle Walter Armstrong by team and sleigh.

Approximately 3:00 P.M. Bud drove in with two men in the cutter with him. He had found them in a haystack trying to stay warm. They didn't know their way back to camp but were afraid to go anyway. The men were given dry socks and food. Bud had repaired the line on his way, so was able to report he had the men. At 7:30 P.M., an Army Jeep arrived with seven men and seven rifles and a driver. All seven men with their guns went into the cabin for the captives. It was a ridiculous entrance. Bud had brought them in and NO GUN.

In February, Bud joined the Army and served in Canada, Italy, Holland and Germany. Bud was one of the Canadian soldiers who guarded Kurt Meyer.

After Bud's discharge from the Armed Forces, it was back to Wasagaming for a couple of months, before being sent to a station. It was back to the Golf Course, but this time Bud had a team and wagon to deliver ice. There was a tent for the horses, and another tent for the family to sleep in, and a tent to work in, but the horses had a better tent than the family. When it rained Bud would load family and visitors in the car and go to the Screen shed until the rain was over, then back to changing beds and drying up water.

That fall Bud was stationed at Rolling River, (east on the Norgate Road). That was the year of so many

fires in Riding Mountain. The school was four miles away with a river to cross, so Howard and Kelly were taught at home by Correspondence. Bud was promoted to Park Warden Gr. I in November, and into warden's uniform. There is one story about Rolling River that Bud always enjoyed telling on himself. Kelly was really sick and his lungs were really causing a problem, so the only answer was a mustard plaster, about three tbsps. mustard would do. Bud was to go to a neighbor's about six miles away to borrow what was needed. No one remembered it was Ukrainian Christmas. Bud left at 8:30 A.M. and returned at 9:30 with chickens, cabbage rolls, perogies, Christmas cake and other goodies and EIGHT pounds of mustard. He had borrowed in every home he visited.

By the Spring of 1949 a new home had been built at Rolling River and Bud put in a 32 volt lighting plant. It was great when there was a wind, but no wind — no lights.

At this time Bud had bought a very dependable horse for the boys to drive to school.

A very bad fire had started in the Scandinavia district and moved into the Park. Supplies for the fire fighters had been sent out from Headquarters. The sandwiches and coffee by the cream can were being made at the house, and put into the cart for the boys to take to their dad. Jennie was manning the 85 ft. tower. On the last day the boys took the food out. They knew they couldn't get to their dad, so Howard who was only ten, unhooked the horse from the cart and put Kelly on in front of him, and rode home. When Bud arrived at the appointed place, the cart was burning.

Life still went on with the usual moves, back and forth, but Bud was appointed Town Warden and had a little cabin on the corner of First Street South in the campgrounds. Son Nelson arrived.

In 1954 Bud was transferred to the East Gate, Norgate, and no more townsite work, but Bud worked every Sunday at Whirlpool Lake, checking fishermen, etc. He also received his Gr. II promotion.

Bud then spent from 1956-1958 as warden in charge of the Wasagaming District and lived in the staff quarters.

Mr. Heaslip had retired in 1956, and Bruce Mitchell was the new Superintendent. He was very interested in living quarters for his staff and improvements in outlying cabins and stations.

Bud was promoted to Chief Park Warden at Elk Island, Alberta. The night of the farewell for Bud, was also the night that Mr. Binkley retired — the first warden Bud worked with.

In May 1966, Bud was transferred to Riding

Mountain as Chief Park Warden. He often said, that there were so many changes in management, etc., that it was like a whole new start. Many of his fellow workers were retired or transferred elsewhere.

Bud was transferred to Waterton Nat. Park in Alberta Nov. 1969, and then appointed Chief Park Warden at Jasper, Alta. 1971. Gerry Campbell was transferred to Riding Mountain as Chief Warden and to this date is still Chief Warden.

Bud retired on Sept. 8, 1973 and moved to Peers, Alta., and started farming, raising cattle and buying and selling horses. Then to Onaway, Alta. to buying and selling horses. A hobby he really enjoyed. Bud spent his last days in the Oak Lake area in Manitoba doing any number of things he enjoyed. He still had his horse and dog.



Prisoner-of-War camp at Whitewater Lake (1943-45).

Prisoner of War Camp

During the Second World War, a prisoner of war camp was established near Whitewater Lake.

The camp consisted of temporary buildings. Housed in the camp were 560 prisoners captured in North Africa. The camp was in operation from October 1943, until the end of the war in 1945. The prisoners were then all sent back to Germany.

It is recalled that there was no barb wire or physical confinement. It was managed like a work camp with the prisoners being paid fifty cents a day to cut ½ cord of wood each. Their days were spent cutting wood and helping out in the Community doing different labour jobs such as harvesting and loading or unloading trucks. There was much leisure time for the prisoners. Some of their leisure activities included building dug-out canoes, building model ships or playing recreational sports.

The prisoner of war camp is now reported to be but a primitive camp site accessible only by hikers.

The R.M.N.P. staff has escorted small groups to the prisoner of war camp site in the past.

It is recalled that some prisoners used to attend dances at Marco. In fact it is even suggested that the prisoners were alleged to have smuggled sugar and fruit from the camp cook shacks for brew making by an area resident engaged in that business.

The thousands of cords of wood that were cut by the prisoners apparently were trucked to many destinations including Brandon. Marco residents at that time recall that the prisoners used to wander away from temporary cutting camps and on many occasions wandered to Marco and area.



Remains of Prisoner-of-War camp near Whitewater Lake.



Lawrence Lees — forest ranger murdered at Deep Lake Station, July 31, 1932. An unsolved crime to this date.

Murder in the Park

It is now over 50 years since Lawrence Lees, a Forest Ranger, was shot and killed at the Deep Lake Ranger Station in the Riding Mountain National Park, fourteen miles north of Rossburn. The murder occurred on July 13, 1932. As an unsolved mystery, the R.C.M.P. file remains open, awaiting discovery of evidence that will solve the killing that has defied a solution for half a century.

The Winnipeg Free Press, July 15, 1932 edition and the Free Press Prairie Farmer, July 20, 1932 edition, both carried lengthy stories covering the shocking event. The following has been reprinted from the Free Press Prairie Farmer July 20, 1932, to further detail the crime.

“Royal Canadian Mounted Police, citizens and aviators are engaged in an intensive manhunt in the Rossburn, Man. district for the person who at 10 p.m. Wednesday, July 13, shot and killed Lawrence Lees, forest ranger of the Riding Mountain National Park and seriously wounded his young wife a bride of five weeks.

Lees and his young wife were seated at a table in their cottage, 14 miles north of Rossburn, when, without warning, a bullet crashed through the kitchen window and killed him instantly. Mrs. Lees, not knowing that her husband was dead, was shot down as she attempted to summon help by telephone. The telephone is a ranger line running to Clear Lake and one of the other rangers thought he heard her say, “Lawrence is shot.” Her appeal ended in a ghastly scream. It was possibly at that moment that she herself was shot through the lower jaw, the bullet tearing away a portion of the jawbone and the flesh.

At Shoal Lake hospital, Mrs. Lees has regained strength sufficiently to relate to police a story which indicates that revenge was the motive for the murder of her husband.

Wife Aids Police

As the search went on the slain ranger's widow, gradually recovering at Shoal Lake hospital, regained consciousness on Friday and was able to talk, slowly and painfully as her strength returned.

Thus, she was able to furnish for the first time important information which police believe will lead to the identification and arrest of the slayer.

She believes there was only one man. He was fairly tall, wearing blue overalls and a sweater. She did not see his face but there was something about him familiar, particularly his voice, and there is something else which was not known before. She had quite a conversation with the murderer before she herself was laid low.

The murderer, after he had fired through the lean-to window and killed her husband talked to Mrs.

Lees through the window of the front room. She had possessed herself of her husband's revolver, had apparently fired a shot at what she thought was the assailant and then he came round to the window on the west side of the house, broke a pane of glass in it and tried to argue her into handing her revolver to him, promising her he would not hurt her if she did so.

Mrs. Lees, determined to fight off the man and do all she could for her prostrate husband, whom at that time she still believed to be alive, refused. She went to the telephone and before she even had time to give a coherent message over the line he fired the shot, which entering the back of her neck passed out through her jaw tearing away two inches of jaw bone and flesh.

From that time on she knows little of what happened. She maintained both front and rear doors were locked; and they were locked when the rescue party arrived, but as papers and a diary were missing, the assassin evidently forced an entry, possibly through the window and left by the door locking it after himself with the spring catch.

Another portion of the conversation which stands out in her mind and which is also perhaps of the highest importance is that the murderer said, "I had good reason for shooting your husband, he should have been shot long ago." She does not know to what the brutal message referred and can give no assistance along that line, but at all events it simplifies things to the extent that it resolves itself into a case of revenge and narrows the field of search by that much.

When Lees fell on the floor unconscious dying probably within two or three minutes, his wife thought that he had been badly injured but not necessarily fatally injured. As a matter of fact she was not told until late in the afternoon that never again would she see her husband. She would have not been told then, but on recovering consciousness, she demanded to know and it was thought it would be more injurious to her health to keep her in suspense than to tell her the bald truth."

Marion Day added the following eye-witness recollections she has of the shocking tragedy, in recording this event.

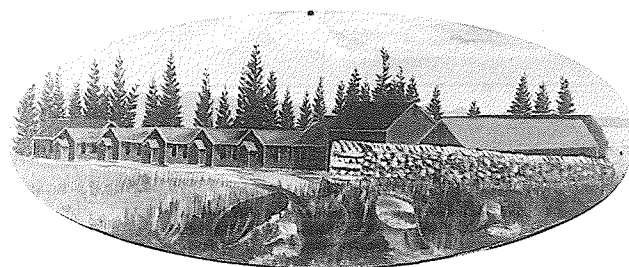
"When the men arrived they found the doors locked, and after breaking in, found Mrs. Lees seriously wounded. Jack Stitt returned to Rossburn for Mrs. Lees' mother Mrs. Easson, and her step-father, Greg Easson, Dr. Vaisrub, and myself. We arrived there around four A.M. Soon the house was full of Mounted Police, who had driven or flown in from Clear Lake, and many surrounding towns. The police had asked for a posse and soon dozens of men had arrived. In spite of extensive searching, no sign of the murderer was found.

Meanwhile, in spite of shock and loss of blood, Mrs. Lees had never lost consciousness. Dr. Marno Sigvaldason and Lois Snyder, R.N. had arrived from Shoal Lake. Free Press and Tribune limousines had arrived from Winnipeg. Later Mrs. Lees was taken to Shoal Lake Hospital by the Tribune limousine, accompanied by the doctor and nurse, her Mother, and myself. I nursed her for weeks.

Through the years Mrs. Lees had numerous operations on her face. At that time, as the widow of a Civil Servant, she received \$40.00 a month. She finally recovered and was employed by the Weekly Free Press. She retired a few years ago, and is presently recovering from heart surgery.

Our family knew Lees quite well. He was often at our farm home, and at our Lumber mill at White Water Lake. When leaving, he always said, "well I'll see you if someone doesn't shoot me." He was very fond of his horses and one he had trained.

Sunday, three days before the shooting, Dad, Mother and I had been invited to the Ranger Station for dinner. When we were leaving just at dusk, Lees came to the car and said to Dad — "Bob, I want you to promise me if anyone gets me, you will have my horses shot." "Oh, I'll just superannuate them with some of my horses." We never saw him again."



Prisoner of war camp at Whitewater Lake. Copy of a painting by a German prisoner of war.

Wood Cutting by Prisoners

It was reported in the November 18, 1943 edition of the Rossburn Review that war prisoners in Riding Mountain were to cut fuel wood.

"Built to accommodate 400 prisoners, the new prisoner-of-war camp in the Riding Mountain is the largest work camp yet constructed in Canada for this purpose, according to information from Ottawa recently.

Prisoners assigned to this camp will be engaged in cutting fuel wood from large stands of burnt-over timber suitable for cordwood. This is in line with the federal government's policy of giving priority in the use of prisoners on fuel production.

Estimated cost of the huge undertaking is \$300,000 for construction of more than a dozen buildings

as well as installation of an electric light plant, sewage disposal works and complete water system.

Heavily wooded country — it has long been a source of speculation among business-conscious citizens as to why, in a country where so much fuel timber abounds, there should be a threatened shortage of this commodity. The answer is of course, the labor problem involved in getting the wood cut and hauled out.

In course of time the prison camp project may supply a partial solution.” The article continued: “It

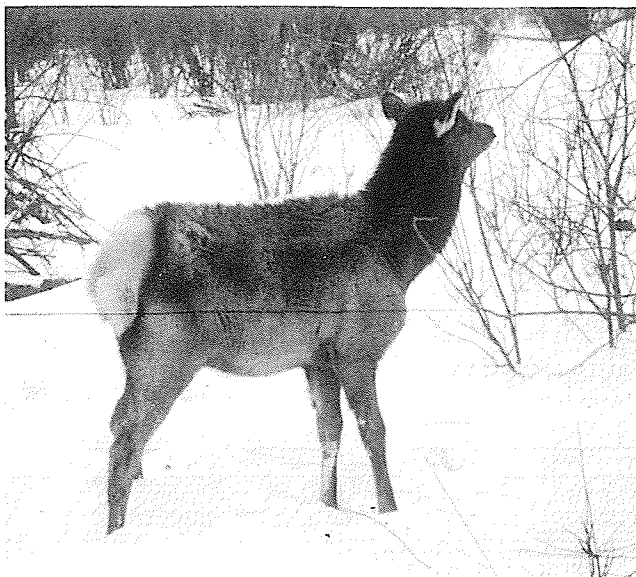
is never to be supposed that a camp of war prisoners, established on the scale required by international agreements, will be able to supply fuel on any other than on a self-sustaining basis, but the fact remains that wood will be cut and made available for sale. The price ceiling on cordwood will protect ultimate consumers.”

Pictures showing a pile of wood cut by the prisoners and the location of the prison camp site are to be found accompanying this section of Riding Mountain history.



German prisoners cut all this cordwood at Whitewater Lake in 1944.

Park Pictures



An elk calf nibbling on young green bark.

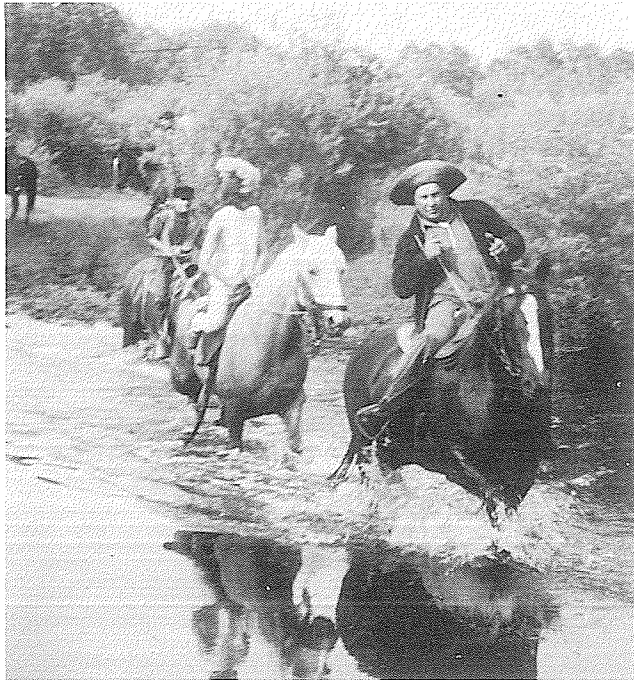


A moose on the loose.

Park Pictures



A beaver at dusk — on his way for the evening shift.



The Trail Blazers — an organized trail ride on a Sunday afternoon.



One of the many grand views as one flies over the Park.



J. J. Anderson's moose; taken from the Riding Mountain as calves and broken to harness.

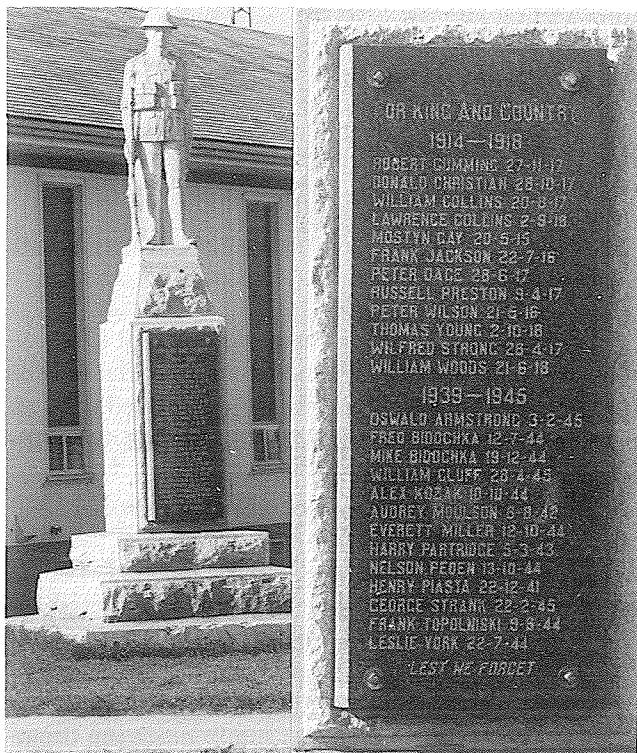


For those not so fit . . . a wagon ride.



The modern way of patrolling the Park during the winter months.

In Service of Our Country



Cenotaph in Rossburn adjacent to the United Church. Honor Roll from front of Cenotaph seen (enlarged) at right.

Those Who Served Our Country

The clash of battle sounded and the call for the young men to join up and fight for their country arose. The men answered the call eagerly, sensing adventure in the air. This happened in 1914, the First World War — the war to end all wars. But, strangely enough, in only twenty-two years, another war trumpet was blown and the Second World War began. More blood was shed, more lives were given. Men and women went forth, to protect the ideals of the democratic world, from all over Canada. Rossburn and area was no exception. Many joined up and many, unfortunately, sacrificed their lives.

These are the stories of four exceptional soldiers who were overseas:



Meredith Huston.

I. Meredith S. Huston joined the R.C.N.U.R. in Winnipeg in September 1939, as a Telegraphist. After a brief training period, he was drafted to Staff Base Naval Station, Halifax. In 1941, he was promoted to Leading Telegraphist and drafted to a new corvette, H.M.C.S., Lethbridge, under construction in Montreal. He served aboard the Lethbridge until September 1942, during which time the Lethbridge was part of the Mid Atlantic Escort Force when the German submarine attacks were at their peak.

In September 1942 Meredith was sent to H.M.S. Signal School at St. Hyacinthe, Quebec for training. He was promoted to Petty Officer and continued at the Signal School as an instructor.

In October 1949, Meredith was drafted to Castle Class Corvette H.M.C.S. Hespeller, sailing as part of the Mid-Atlantic force escorting convoys from Newfoundland to the United Kingdom.

Shortly after V.E. Day, he was given discharge and returned to Winnipeg in July with Haligonian wife, Sylvia. He subsequently enrolled at the University of Manitoba, Faculty of Agriculture.

II. Harris Taylor Huston joined the R.C.N.U.R. as an officer Cadet in the summer of 1940. He was drafted to Halifax and then sent overseas to H.M.S. Alfred, the Royal Navy Officer Training School. On completion of shore training, Harris was drafted to the Royal Navy Battleship, H.M.S. Rodney, for training at Sea. He was then drafted off H.M.S. Rodney to receive the commission as sub-Lieutenant

Harris Huston



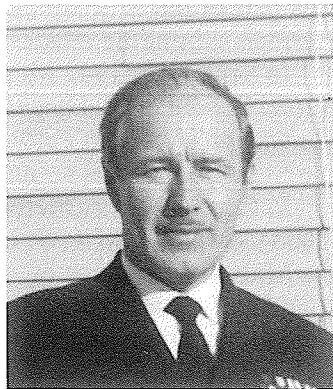
R.C.N.U.R. He joined combined operation forces for service on landing craft; he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant and given command of an anti-landing aircraft ship in training for "Dieppe" operation. Before the operation came off, he was drafted to Norfolk, Virginia, U.S.A. to co-ordinate the dispatch of new ships being built in U.S.A. for Royal Navy combined operations. Harris next served aboard a Royal Navy Destroyer.

In 1944, he returned to the Royal Canadian Navy to command a flotilla of Canadian Landing Craft preparing for the landing in France.

This flotilla took part in the initial landings of D-Day. Harris received the "Mentioned in Dispatches" award for distinguished services. Harris was promoted to Lieutenant Commander.

When the operation neared completion, he requested discharge. In December, 1944, Harris returned to Rossburn with his Scottish wife, Isbel, and his son, Robin.

Capt. Alex Kohuch, 1978.



III. Alec Kohuch enlisted as a private in the Canadian Army in 1942. He trained in Portage la Prairie, Shilo, and Kingston. Once his training was finished, he was sent to England in 1943. He then went to Italy and served with the 49th Royal Edmonton Regiment, 2nd Brigade, 1st Canadian Army Corps. In Italy, he served in the front line as an Infantry Signaller. Captain Kohuch was in the front line in Holland when the war ended. He was dis-

charged in March, 1946. After the war, he enrolled in the Canadian Army as a pharmacist. He worked in Ontario, Quebec, West Germany and now he's back in Petawawa, Ontario. He received several decorations and medals which include: 1939-45 Star, Italy Star, France and Germany Star, Canadian Volunteer Service Medal, and a war medal 1939-45. He was promoted to Captain in 1966.

Sgt. Bohdan Danyleyko.



IV. Bohdan Danyleyko was stationed at Comox, when a job in Warsaw, Poland became available. His second language was Ukrainian and it proved to be an asset in getting around in Poland, for the two languages are quite similar.

Sergeant Danyleyko, along with his wife, Doreen, stayed in Warsaw for two years. He paints a picture of Poland in varying shades of gray. He reveals how these day to day tensions connected directly with the constant Police surveillance, is far more difficult than a violent demonstration in another less rigidly controlled country, would be. It also seemed as if no one was really enjoying themselves — that everything they did was mechanical.

The services were practically non-existent: fresh fruits and vegetables were very difficult to obtain, hot water supplies were erratic in their apartment and repairs were slow.

After a two-year stay in Poland, Bohdan came back home.

These soldiers gave freely all they had to give. What first was a game, an adventure, turned out to be a struggle for life. The day-to-day fear haunted them constantly, that they might be next in line of a shell, and lose their life and, worst of all, they might never again see faces of the loved ones back home. Many lives were taken, and a gap was left, never to be filled. But, there are other results which are shown by the wounded soldiers — whether it be physically or mentally. We indeed do owe them.

Lest we forget those that gave in order that we may have.



Roll of Honour



The following are the names of the veterans of World War I.

(† before names of those who gave their life for our country).

Alexander, Robert
 Andrew, George
 Armstrong, William
 Beirnes, Ewart
 Beirnes, Harold
 Black, George
 Black, John
 Blaskewicz, Henry
 Bolton, John
 Brown, Arthur
 Campbell, Murdock
 Carson, Matt
 Chegwin, Frank
 Chegwin, William
 Chard, Clarence
 Crispin, William
 †Christian, Donald
 Cochrane, Fred
 Cochrane, Jessie
 Collins, John
 †Collins, Lawrence
 Collins, Lester
 Collins, Thomas
 †Collins, William
 Cormack, Alex
 Cormack, John
 Costello, Bob
 †Cumming, Robert
 Danyleyko, Fred
 Evans, J. W.
 Ferguson, Dunc
 Ferguson, Howard
 Finch, William

Gales, C.
 Gay, Gerald
 †Gay, Mastyn
 Gilmour, James
 Gilroy, Colan
 Gladden, Joseph
 Grundy, Les
 Hamilton, William
 Hanlon, Edward
 Harris, Ernest (Ed)
 Harrison, Cecil
 Harrison, Russell
 Henry, George
 Hobbs, Frederick
 Hyde, Howard
 Ingram, Alfred
 Irwin, Hammond
 Irwin, Roy
 Irwin, Thomas
 †Jackson, Frank
 Johnston, D. W. W.
 Johnston, Gordon
 Knight, H. E.
 Latornell, C. F.
 Lindsay, John
 Locke, Clair
 Mansell, George
 McCready, Matthew
 McDonald, William
 McFeetors, Orville
 McIntosh, Howard
 McKinnon, Joe
 Miller, Wilfred
 †Oage, Peter

†Preston, Russell
 Reid, John
 Reilly, George
 Reynolds, George
 Richardson, C. R.
 Sangster, John
 Sherritt, C. C.
 Smith, Allan
 Steele, Rupert
 Stephens, William
 Stitt, John
 Stitt, Sam

Stitt, Wilson
 †Strong, Wilfred
 Sutherland, John
 Warnock, Lawrence
 White, John
 Wilson, John
 †Wilson, Peter
 †Woods, William
 Wyman, Fred
 Young, George
 †Young, Thomas

The following are the names of the veterans for World War II.

(† before names of those who gave their life for their country).

Andrew, Arthur
 Andrew, David
 Andrew, Douglas
 Antoniwi, Michael
 Armstrong, Bud
 Armstrong, George
 Armstrong, Harold
 †Armstrong, Oswald
 Astakeesic, George
 Babiluk, Alexander
 Baydak, John
 Belbas, H.
 Belbas, Michael
 Bemkow, W.
 Berabull, G.
 Bereza, Carl

Bereza, Frank
 Bereza, Fred
 Bereza, Roy
 Bewza, Stan
 Bidochka, Alexander
 †Bidochka, Fred
 †Bidochka, Michael
 Bilinsky, Michael
 Bilinsky, Peter
 Blackie, Wilfred
 Bonchuk, Matthew
 Bonchuk, Michael
 Borowski, Matthew
 Brown, Arthur
 Brown, Alexander
 Brown, Carman



Roll of Honour

Brown, Christy
Brown, Elmer
Brown, Ernest
Brown, Gordon
Brown, Robert
Brown, Wilfred
Bruce, Robert
Brykaluk, Michael
Buchanan, Archibald
Bucklaschuk, Peter
Budz, Rodney
Budz, Stanley
Busko, Paul
Cameron, Ken
Campbell, Bud
Campbell, Sterling
Carson, John
Charney, William
Charney, Michael
Charney, Peter
Checkowski, John
Chegus, Peter
Cherwoniak, Michael
Cherwoniak, Peter
Cherwoniak, Steve
Chomica, Michael
Chuckrey, Nicholas
Chuhai, Morris
Chyzik, Horace
Clubley, Morris
†Cluff, William
Collins, Effie
Collins, Jack
Collins, Thomas
Collins, William
Craig, Alton
Crookshanks, Adam
Crookshanks, Barbara
Crystal, William
Danyleyko, Andrew
Danyleyko, Alexander

Danyleyko, Leonard
Danyleyko, Lillian
Danyleyko, Morris
Danyleyko, Peter
Danyleyko, Wes
Danyleyko, William
Danyluk, Max
Danyluk, Peter
Danyluk, Nick
Dawson, William
Derlago, Barry
Derlago, Clement
Derlago, Lawrence
Derlago, Michael
Derlago, Walter
Dnistransky, Peter
Doucet, J.
Douglass, Lloyd
Douglas, William
Drozda, Joe
Elvers, John
Fostakowski Thomas
Genovy, John
Gensorick, Frank
Glushka, Charles
Glushka, William
Grundy, Leslie
Gumnienny, Archie
Halischuk, John
Halowski, Alexander
Halowski, Fred
Ham, Leonard
Ham, Melvin
Hamilton, Eunice
Hamilton, Daniel
Hamilton, Keith
Hamilton, Merle
Hamilton, Wilbur
Harrison, R.
Hay, Charles

Hay, Ronald
Herchak, Matt
Herchak, Michael
Hlagy, John
Hnatiw, Peter
Horitchie, Morris
Horitchie, Peter
Hrysak, Matt
Hrysak, Tony
Huston, Harris
Huston, Meredith
Hyska, Peter
Johnston, Victor
Juba, Harry
Juba, Joseph
Juba, Nicholas
Juce, Michael
Kaban, Nicholas
Kalyn, Mervin
Kalyn, Peter
Karmazenuk, John
Kashton, Steve
Kawka, Michael
Kawka, Nicholas
King, Delmar
Kitlar, Andrew
Kitlar, Henry
Kitlar, Melvin
Kitlar, Peter
Kitlar, Robert
Kohuch, Alexander
Kohuch, Fred
Kohuch, Nicholas
Kohuch, Roy
Komhyr, Charles
Komhyr, Harry
Komhyr, Roy
Kornyk, John
Kornyk, Paul
Korolyk, Alex

Kosteski, John
Kostesky, Michael
Kotyk, Carl
Kowal, Peter
Kowal, Tony
†Kozak, Alexander
Kozak, Matt
Kozar, Henry
Kozar, Horace
Krysowaty, Nick
Krysowaty, Mike
Krysowaty, Pete
†Krysowaty, Sam
Kurchaba, Paul
Kuzenko, Harry
Lewis, Arthur
Lillie, Jas.
Lindsay, Blair
Lindsay, Robert
Locke, Mildred
Lowe, Rev.
Luhowy, Walter
Malaniuk, Alexander
Matiation, Andrew M.
Matiation, Andrew S.
Matiation, Bill
Maydaniuk, Anton
Maxwell, David
Maxwell, John
Maxwell, Robert
McDonald, Floyd
McDonald, James
McEvoy, Bert
McFarlane, Hugh
McIntosh, Weldon
McIntyre, Gordon
McKague, Milton
McKay, Hugh
McKenzie, Donald
McKinnon, Carson
McKinnon, Waverley



McLeod, John
 McPhail, Archie
 McPhail, Neil
 McRae, Andrew
 McQuebec, Michael
 Michalyshyn, Walter
 Michalyshyn, Mike
 Miller, Bernard
 †Miller, Everett
 Mitchell, Fred
 Mitchell, Joseph
 Mitchell, Thomas
 †Moulson, Audrey
 Moulson, John
 Naherniak, Max
 Nychuk, Steve
 Odaisky, Fred
 Olynyk, John
 Olynyk, Michael
 Oryniak, Alexander
 Oryniak, Kate
 Oryniak, Michael
 †Partridge, Harold
 Pawluk, Daniel
 Pawluk, Walter
 Peden, Clair
 Peden, Jack

†Peden, Nelson
 Peden, Ray
 Peech, John
 Peech, Steve
 †Piasta, Henry
 Pohanayko, Peter
 Pokrapany, Matthew
 Plante, Darcy
 Plante, Jack
 Plante, Margaret
 Pradiniuk, George
 Rattlesnake, Tom
 Ryshytylo, Kate
 Sawchuk, Matthew
 Sawchuk, William
 Sawchuk, Tony
 Schaworski, John
 †Semaniuk, William
 Severight, Fred
 Shaw, Alexander
 Shingoose, Charles
 Shust, Edward
 Sidlar, Nicholas
 Sidlar, Michael
 Simkiw, Walter
 Sokolan, Alexander
 Sotas, Michael

Sleigh, Harry
 Steele, Frank
 Stitt, Clifford
 Stitt, Eric
 Stitt, Evan
 Stitt, Gerald
 Strank, Alexander
 Strank, Daniel
 †Strank, George
 Strank, Jack
 Strank, Matthew
 Strank, Michael
 Strank, Peter
 Strank, William
 Strong, Clifford
 Strong, James
 Swereda, Michael
 Taylor, Everett
 Tokaryk, Milton
 Taylor, William
 †Topolnisky, Frank
 Topolnisky, Nestor
 Topolnisky, Paul
 Topolnisky, Stanley L.
 Topolnisky, Stanley
 Tucker, Elliot
 Twovoice, Michael

Urbanowski, Lawrence
 Urbanowski, Michael
 Veitch, Rowat
 Vonhagen, Elmore
 Walko, George
 Wasilka, Sam
 Williamson, Everett
 Wladyka, Peter
 Woychesin, Steve
 Woychesin, Peter
 Yarish, Joe
 Yarmey, William
 Yaskiw, Nicholas
 Yaskiw, Paul
 Yorke, Edward
 Yorke, Fraser
 †Yorke, Leslie
 Young, Robert
 Zegalski, Michael
 Zenchyshen, Peter
 Zenchyshyn, Peter
 Zentner, Albert
 Ziemianski, Charlie
 Zimmerman, Anton
 Zimmerman, Joseph
 Zimmerman, Lloyd
 Zimmerman, Paul

Royal Canadian Legion, Rossburn Branch #40

An application for a Charter for the Rossburn Branch of the Canadian Legion was made on December 20, 1932. The Charter members were William Armstrong, Robert Beecher, Orville McFeetors, Arthur Smith, Cecil Bayfield, George Sinclair, G. Harold Beirnes, Ed. H. Harris, Dunc McKenzie, William Finch, George Bowles, and Roy Irwin.

In 1935, the Canadian Legion British Empire

	President
1948	Harris Huston
1950	Peter Wladyka
1951	Clarence Johanneson
1953	Fred Hodgkinson
1954	James Lillie
1955	Fred Clark
1957	Mike E. Antoniwi
1958	Mike E. Antoniwi
1961	Mike E. Antoniwi
1962	Lawrence McMillan
1964	Lawrence McMillan
1965	Ed Harris
1966	Carman Brown
1969	Carman Brown
1980	Ed Shust

	Treasurer
	J. H. Graham
	Harris Huston
	Harris Huston
	Everett Taylor
	Everett Taylor
	Lawrence McMillan
	Orville McFeetors
	Orville McFeetors
	Orville McFeetors
	Rowatt Veitch
	Elmer Brown
	Elmer Brown
	Elmer Brown
	Rowatt Veitch
	Rowatt Veitch

	Secretary
	Peter Hyska
	Jack G. Stitt
	Jack G. Stitt
	Harold Middlemass
	Harold Middlemass
	Harold Middlemass
	Wilson Stitt
	Rowatt Veitch
	Rowatt Veitch
	Rowatt Veitch
	Rowatt Veitch
	Rowatt Veitch
	Rowatt Veitch
	Rowatt Veitch

Ed Harris was Sergeant-At-Arms until 1971, followed then by Elmer Brown. Through the years more than one hundred members have been on the Roll Call. A letter dated April 4, 1950, stated a request, that a plaque bearing the names of the fallen comrades of World War II be engraved on the cenotaph, and that arrangements be made to have the names of the Great War (1914-1918) fallen veterans retouched as necessary. This matter was attended to.

As follows —

Dead	World War II, 1939-1945
World War I, 1914-1918	
1. Robert Cumming	1. Leslie York
2. Donald Christian	2. Everett Miller
3. William Collins	3. Harry Partridge
4. Mastyn Gay	4. Oswald Armstrong
5. Frank Jackson	5. Nelson Peden
6. Peter Oage	6. George Strank
7. Russell Preston	7. Alex Kozak
8. Peter Wilson	8. William Cluff
9. Thomas Young	9. Henry Piasta
10. Lawrence Collins	10. Frank Topolniski
11. Wilfred Strong	11. Mike Bidochka
12. William Woods	12. Fred Bidochka
	13. Audrey Moulson

At one time, the Legion was quite active with Sports Days, Curling, Bingos, and Scouts. The highlight of the year was Remembrance Day Service which was held in the Town Hall, with the ministers of each religious faith represented. A poppy was placed on a cross to remember each of the fallen comrades of both wars, also with wreaths from the Municipality, the Village, and the Legion, along

Service League was formed. The minute book from the early years was lost, so there is no record of the executive. Some of the early members were Jack Stitt, John Collins, A. G. Smith, Dunc McKenzie, Alex Cormack, Harold Beirnes, Roy Irwin, Orville McFeetors, Leslie Grundy, Dr. Charles Manley, Wilson Stitt, and Howard McIntosh.

In 1960, by Royal assent, the Legion became the Royal Canadian Legion. From 1948 to 1981, the officers were as follows —

with the trumpet sounding "The Last Post" in reverence and two minutes silence to those departed. A parade of veterans to the cenotaph, where a salute was made and placing of wreaths, will always be a memorable sight. In the evening a banquet and dance would follow to commemorate the end of the wars.

The Legion Hall was purchased from the Loyal Orange Lodge in 1950. Due to declining membership, the hall was sold to Scarrow's Link Hardware in 1978. The sale of furnishings followed.

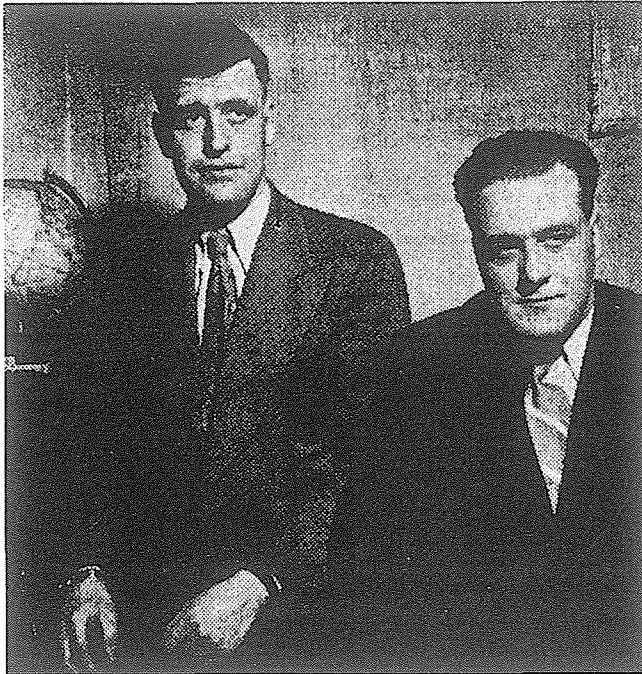
An Honor Roll of World War II departed comrades, besides those of the war of 1914-1918 is being placed in the new Library. The Legion donated a reception desk to the Library. Secretary-Treasurer, Rowatt Veitch presented a plaque on behalf of the Legion to Gladys Berney, President of the New Horizons. A contribution towards the purchase of new kitchen cupboards and the Legion piano, also went to the New Horizons' Drop-In Centre.

Vets, Crowe Bros., Top Scholars

"Harry won the University Gold Medal in the arts honor course and a \$400 university travelling fellowship.

John earned the Buckwold Gold Medal in economics.

Another brother, Marshall, who is between John and Harry in age, also distinguished himself as a scholar in Winnipeg. He took a Governor-General's Medal at Daniel McIntyre when he graduated from



For the first time in the history of the University of Manitoba, two brothers each received a Gold Medal at the 1947 Convocation. They were John Crowe (left) and Harry Crowe.

Grade 11 several years ago. He is now with the department of external affairs."

— **Winnipeg Tribune, May 14, 1947.**

A former columnist for the Telegram and dean of Atkinson University for 12 years, Harry Crowe died of a heart attack at the age of 58. Crowe, a distinguished writer, speaker and historian, was appointed dean in 1969.

A Rosburn, Man. native, Crowe received the Milner Award for Academic Freedom in 1979. He served as an infantry officer during World War II in the Welsh Regiment of the Canadian and British armies, and was awarded the Military Cross for bravery in 1945. After the war, Crowe completed an honors BA at the University of Manitoba, winning the university's gold medal. He continued his studies at the University of Toronto and pursued graduate studies at Columbia University in New York.

He became an associate professor of history at the University of Manitoba in 1950 and was the central figure in a controversy concerning academic free-

dom there in 1958. He was dismissed from his post but reinstated after an investigating committee ruled in his favor.

He left academic life to write a comprehensive labor study as a research director for the Canadian Brotherhood of Railway Transport and General Workers. He was also a research associate for the Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism.

A columnist for the Telegram from 1966 to 1970 Crowe was also speech writer for T. C. Douglas during his 1965 campaign. He was a member of the Cyrus Eaton's Canadian Pugwash Committee.

— **Press Review, Fall-Winter 1981.**

Accomplishments of Crowe Brothers

Harry was awarded a Military Medal for bravery in leading a patrol on the Western Front. John served with the Royal Winnipeg Rifles, in the 3rd Canadian Division, Canadian and American attack on the island of Kiska, before being transferred over to England. Their older brother, Elliot, took part in the Italian Campaign, spending about 5 years overseas.

Framed Honor Rolls

The First World War Honor Roll, presently to be seen in the Rosburn Town Hall, has an interesting history. The article following, tells of the Honor Roll's background.

"A service commemorating the Rosburn boys who fell in the First World War was held in the Union Church on Sunday, May 23, 1920, at which was unveiled a framed Honor Roll presented by the Ladies Aid of the parish and executed by W. H. Wallins of Birtle.

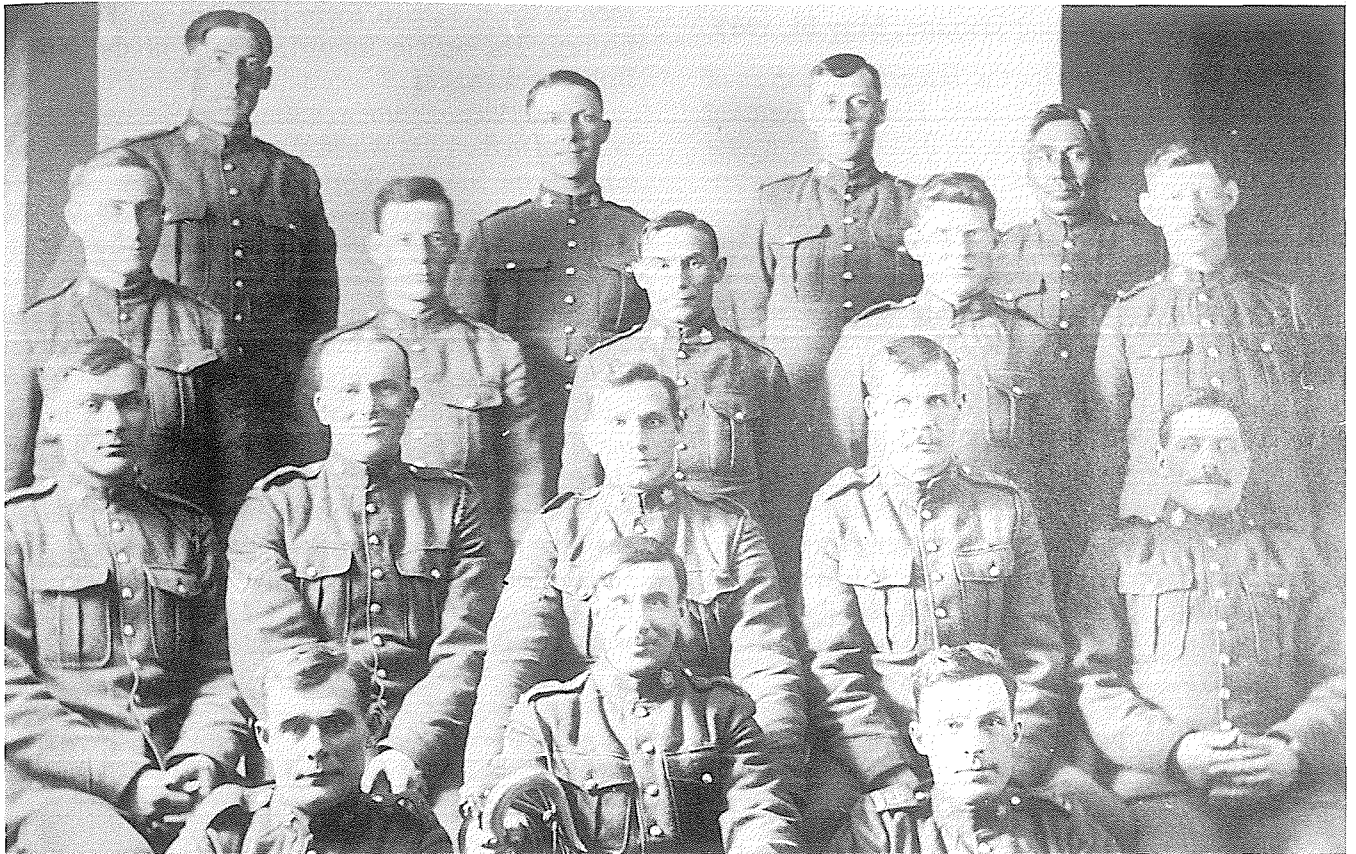
The work is done in sepia toned water colors and represents a church window in the pointed style of medieval times with elaborate trefoil decorations within and around the head of the arch. Set in the panel is the Roll, admirably done in script. The Honor Roll reflects great credit upon the artist."

The Honor Roll of Second World War veterans has also been placed in Rosburn Town Hall. This Honor Roll was compiled by the Rosburn Canadian Legion Branch No. 40. Doug Cameron did the art work and the project was completed Oct. 28, 1982.

World War I



Rossburn Volunteers for the front, Nov. 1914. Back row: Mastyn Gay, Alf Ingram, Joe McKinnon, Bob Cummings. Front row: Ed Harris, George Hendry, Ed Mansell, L. Grundy.



Pictured in 1916 is this group of veterans of the 1914-1918 war. Starting from back row: Bill Finch, Frank Chegwin, Bill Chegwin, John Black; Harold Beirnes, Jack Sutherland, , Bob Muirman, George Andrew; Wilfred Miller, George Hendry, Jack Sangster, Harry Pearce, ; William Collins, Teddy Hanlin and Dan Christian.



Among soldiers of the 196 Battalion in 1916 were: Left to right: Joe Clouter, Leslie Grundy, Orville McFeetors, Wm. Armstrong. Front row: Percy Drayson, Ab Sirette, Roy Irwin.



Rosburn's first doctor, Dr. J. W. Evans came to Rossburn in 1905.



L to R: Howard McIntosh, Harold Beirnes, Herb Shipley. Howard McIntosh and Harold Beirnes were WWI veterans.



Pictured at Camp Hughes (Shilo) in 1916 were: Standing, left to right: Bill Finch, Bill Stevens, Jack Sutherland, Duncan. Sitting, left to right: Bill Adams, Jack Reed, Tommy Thompson.



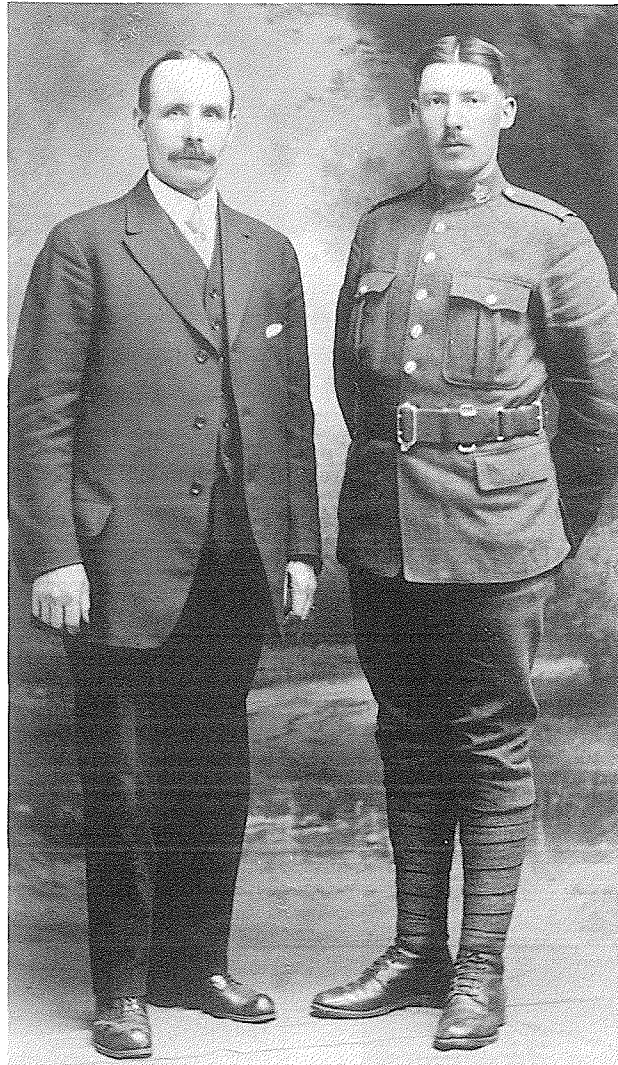
Tom Collins (1914-1918).



George Mansell (World War I).



John Collins
(1914-1918).



Ernie and Bill Finch (1916); Bill was a World War I veteran.



George Sinclair, 1917.



George Andrew



John Reid

World War II

120 years of military service in one family

The Danyleyko family boasts 120 years of military service for one family. The late Dmytro and Nastia Danyleyko had five sons, one grandson, one granddaughter in the Canadian Forces during the war period and during peace time.

Wesley served for a brief period during the war, and is now retired;

Mike served for 10 years and left the forces as a Corporal;

Terry served for 26 years, and served in North West Europe, Egypt, USA, and retired as a Warrant Officer;

Bohdan served for 20 years and served in North West Europe, France, Warsaw, Poland, and USA and retired as a Sergeant;

Joe who is still in the service has 25 years service, has served in North West Europe, Egypt, Cyprus, USA, and at present is a Captain with the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry;

Bonnie served for 3 years and left the service as a Private;

Andrew served for 35 years and retired in 1979, Andrew served in USA, North West Europe, Egypt, Cyprus, Korea, and although he was army, he was attached to the navy and saw service on the Yellow Sea, and in China. He was wounded in Korea in 1952, served for one year there, on return to Canada, he remained in the service. He has eight decorations, one being the "Order of Military Merit" which is the



Chief Warrant Officer Andrew Danyleyko O.M.M., C.D., shown being invested into the Order of Military Merit in 1973, by His Excellency the Right Honourable Roland Michener C.C., C.M.M., C.D., in Ottawa at Government House.

fourth highest decoration which can be awarded in Canada. He retired as a "Chief Warrant Officer and holds the decorations of O.M.M., C.D. behind his name, a privilege granted by the Sovereign of the Order "Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II" and the "Chancellor" His Excellency the Right Honourable Roland Michener, C.C., C.M.M., C.D.



Gnr. Stan Hughes, Jack Adams, George Pringle, "Corp." Carpenter and Rowat Veitch. Pictured in Italy, Sept. 1944.



Brown family, 1945. Back, left to right: Wilfred, Chrissie. Bottom, left to right: Elmer, Robert.



Mike Charney and Paul Zimmerman, 1943. Mike, youngest son of the late Mr. Matt Charney and Mrs. Julia Charney. Paul, son of late Mr. and Mrs. Frank Zimmerman.



David Andrew



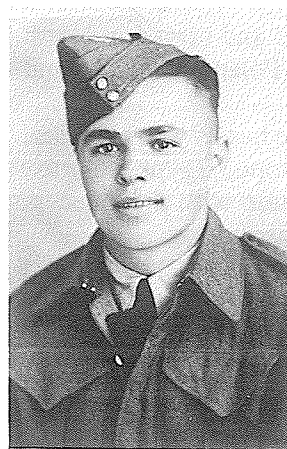
L. Sgt. Arthur Andrew



Douglas Andrew



Cpl. Mike E. Antoniwi.



Nick Belinsky
Nick, the son of Onofrey and Anne Belinsky enlisted in the Royal Canadian Army Medical Corp. in 1943 in Winnipeg. He was stationed at Camp Borden, Ontario. Eventually he was posted to Peterborough Army hospital in Ontario. He returned to Winnipeg in 1946. Nick continues his long term service as postal letter carrier in Winnipeg.



Bill Belinsky
Bill, the son of Onofrey and Ann Belinsky enlisted in the Canadian Army in September, 1942. He took his basic training in Alberta and was overseas-bound in March 1943. His first action was in Sicily, where he was assigned to the Seaforth Highlanders Regiment. This Regiment landed on the mainland of Italy on September 3, 1943. Bill was wounded in Ortona and was out of action for 6 weeks. Upon his return, his Regiment proceeded into Germany and Holland. After the war Bill returned to Canada and received his discharge in November 1945. Bill served in Canada, the United Kingdom, Central Mediterranean and Continental Europe. At present, Bill, his wife Helen, and family live in Vancouver, B.C.



Stanley Bewza enlisted in 1942, served overseas with the Royal Winnipeg Rifles until 1945. He was a sergeant when he was discharged.



Walter Belinsky
Walter, the son of Anne and Onofrey Belinsky, joined the army in March, 1942. He went overseas in August, 1942 with the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders. Walter later transferred to the Medical Corps and served in Africa and Italy. After the war he returned to England, then back home in 1946. Back home, Walter worked for the Dept. of Veteran Affairs in Winnipeg until his retirement in 1979. At present Walter lives in Winnipeg with his wife Helen.



Stirling Campbell. 65th Bty.,
5th Artillery Reg., 4th Div.
1942-1946.



John Carson, 1945.



Pete Charney, oldest son of
Mr. and Mrs. John Charney,
Rossburn.



Matt Kachan.



Ann Kachan



Michael Kawka



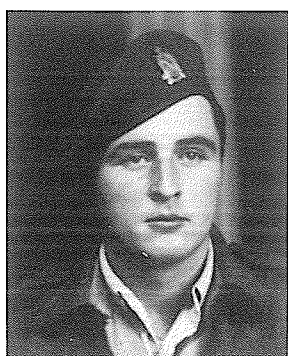
Fred Kohuch



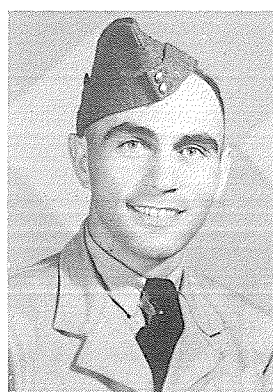
John M. KostECKI in Red
Deer, Alberta, 1941.



Pte. Carl J. Kotyk, Canadian
Light Infantry. 1945-1946.



Pte. Paul Kotyk, Army Ser-
vice Corp., 1940-1946.



Harry Komhyr

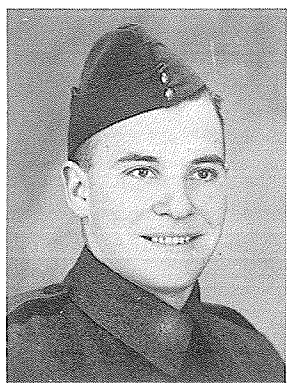


Bill Matiation

Bill, the son of Mike and Ann Matiation, joined the army in 1942. After training at Winnipeg and Shilo, Bill was transferred overseas on December 25, 1942. Spending a brief training period in England, he joined the 4th Division Lake Superior Regiment in 1943. He fought in Belgium and Germany. Bill was wounded in April 1945 and received his discharge that same year. At present Bill resides in Montreal, Quebec.



Bernard Miller



Everett Miller



PO. Henry Albert Partridge
(World War II).



Bill Sawchuk, R.C.E., 1942, overseas in 1943.



Matt Sawchuk: R.C.A., 1943, served short while overseas.



Tony Sawchuk served with the Winnipeg Grenadiers on the Kiska Islands during WW II in the year 1942.



Ed Shust.



L/Cpl. Everett Taylor served in England during WW II.



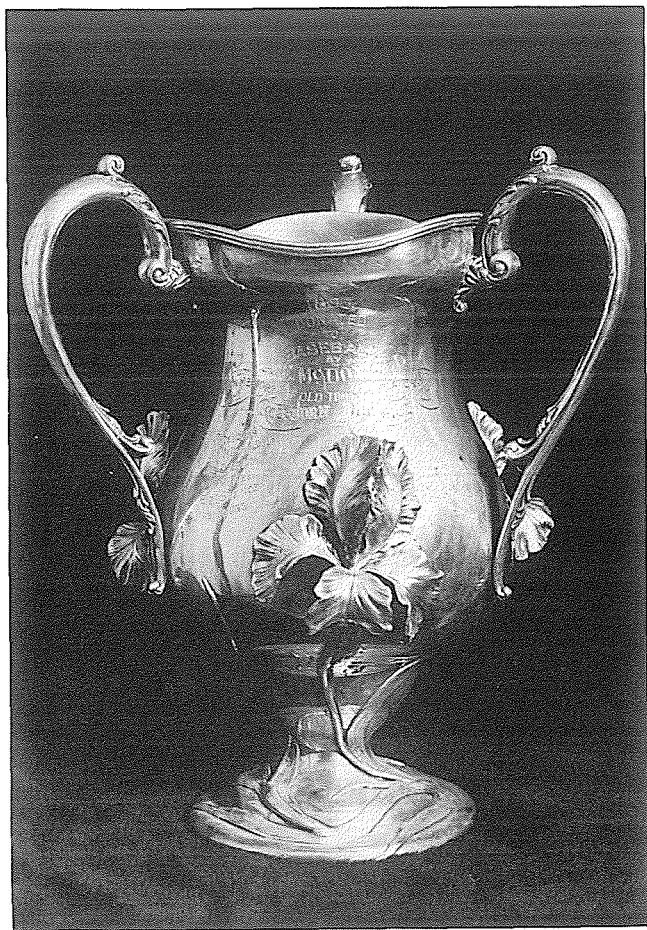
Bill Veitch (World War II).

Sports

Rosburn Baseball History

It's hard to believe but there's still a trace of baseball history from the 1890's.

In 1896 a silver cup was presented by A. E. (Bert) McDonald, one of the players of that time, to baseball in the Rosburn district. From then on it was to be used as a trophy for the North-West Baseball League Champions.



A. E. MacDonald Baseball Cup, 1895 — in memory of old times, Rosburn District.

The inscription on the trophy reads as follows:

1896
DONATED
to
BASEBALL
by
A. E. McDONALD

In memory of the Old Times and players of Rosburn District.

Thos. Young	Robt. Wiggins
Wm. McDonald Jr.	A. E. McDonald
Jas. Irwin	Wm. Peden Jr.
Wm. McKee	Alex Stewart
Robt. Spence	Dave Broadfoot
James Young	

Little seems to be known about where this trophy was housed during its first years. For a time it was kept in C. W. Wickett's Drug Store. After Mr. Wickett left Rosburn, the trophy was discarded into the garbage. It was salvaged by someone, and then later came into the possession of Claire Peden. When Claire left Rosburn, he took the trophy with him and now has it in Fort McMurray, Alberta. A resilvering job has now restored it to a more presentable state.

The picture on the next page shows one of Rosburn's finest pioneer ball teams. It was taken at Russell in 1910 just after they won the Manitoba North Western League Championship. In all, 21 games were played that season. The Rosburn team lost the first game, tied the second, and won the next nineteen games. In the championship game, with defeat just around the corner, "home-run-king" M. R. Hamilton went to bat and made a home run, bringing in two runs to win the game and losing the ball in the timber behind where the picture was taken.

Then in the year 1911, the Rosburn Baseball Team won the League Championship again and followed it up for three consecutive years. Some of the known teams in the league were Russell, Virden, Birtle and Rosburn.

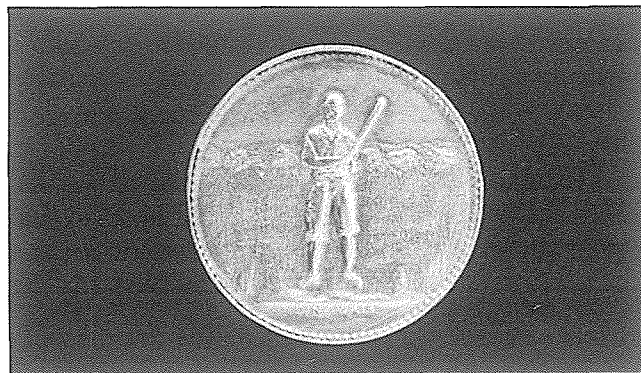


The above picture shows one of Rossburn's finest pioneer ball teams and was taken at Russell in 1910 just after they had won the Manitoba Northwestern Baseball League Championship. In all, 21 games were played that season. The Rossburn team lost the first game, tied the second and won the next nineteen games and the championship. In the final game, for the championship, with defeat just around the corner, home-run king, M. R. Hamilton went to bat and hit a home run, bringing in two runs to win the game, and losing the ball in the timber behind where the picture was taken. Those in the picture are: Front row, left to right: Joe Hendry, (C); George Watson, (CF); George Hendry, (Pitcher). 2nd row, left to right: Wm. McDonald, (manager); Dave Mitchell. 3rd row, left to right: Wesley McIntosh, (SS); M. R. Hamilton, (RF); Robert Peden, (1B); George Tucker, (LF); Martin (Slim) Lee, (3B); Tom Peden, Jr., (2B).

Below is a picture of the 1913 team along with the McDonald Cup.

Following are the names of the players on that team.

Robt. Carson	C.F.	G. R. Tucker	L.F.
Thos. Peden	2nd	Wm. McDonald Jr.	manager
Ivan M. Caldwell	P	Dr. J. W. Evans	President
Thos. Young	S.S.	Dave Hough	R.F.
Robt. Peden	1st	Joe Hendry	C.
Howard Alexander	R.F.	Teddy Hanlon	mascot
George Hendry	3rd		



Gold Medallion honoring the North West Manitoba Baseball championship for 1911. Inscribed on the reverse side is N.W.M.B.L. 1911. Rossburn received the Championship Medals on that occasion.



Winners of the McDonald Cup — Champions of the N.W. Manitoba Baseball League. Back row: R. Carson, Centre Field; Thos. Peden, 2nd Base; I. M. Caldwell, Pitcher; Thos. Young, Short-stop; Robt. Peden, 1st Base; H. Alexander, Rt. Field. Front row: Geo. Hendry, 3rd Base; G. R. Tucker, Left Field; Wm. McDonald, Manager; Dr. J. W. Evans, President; D. Hough, Rt. Field; Jos. Hendry, Catcher. Sitting in front: E. Hanlon, Mascot. 1913.

Then in 1914 World War I broke out and for a number of years baseball was at a standstill, until around the year 1946 when Dunc McIntyre organized a team called the "Hungry 9."

An unusual version of the story behind the team's name was that they were playing at a tournament in Birtle. With the times being as hard as they were the players didn't have enough money to buy any kind of a meal, so the community of Birtle fed the whole team. From then on they were known as the Hungry 9.

Some softball players from the 30s were:

Jack McLeod	Carson McKinnon
Hugh McDonald	Irvin (Douflicker) Harrison
Jimmy (Red) McDonald	Bill Douglas
Fred Mitchell	Lloyd Douglas
Eugene Caldwell	Elmer Brown

Teams in the League were from Russell, Shoal Lake, Birtle, Foxwarren, and Rossburn.

A few years later, Howard McIntosh, a man who was instrumental in keeping baseball alive in this community by donating much of his time, formed a team consisting of the following players:

Bill Taylor	Ronald Hamilton
Weldon Red McIntosh	Mike Strank
Bob Lindsay	Harold Armstrong

Although the list is incomplete, players from the

previous and minor teams completed the roster in order to field a team.

Then shortly after the Second War, H. McIntosh again coached another team that was entered in the North-West League.

Members of that team were:

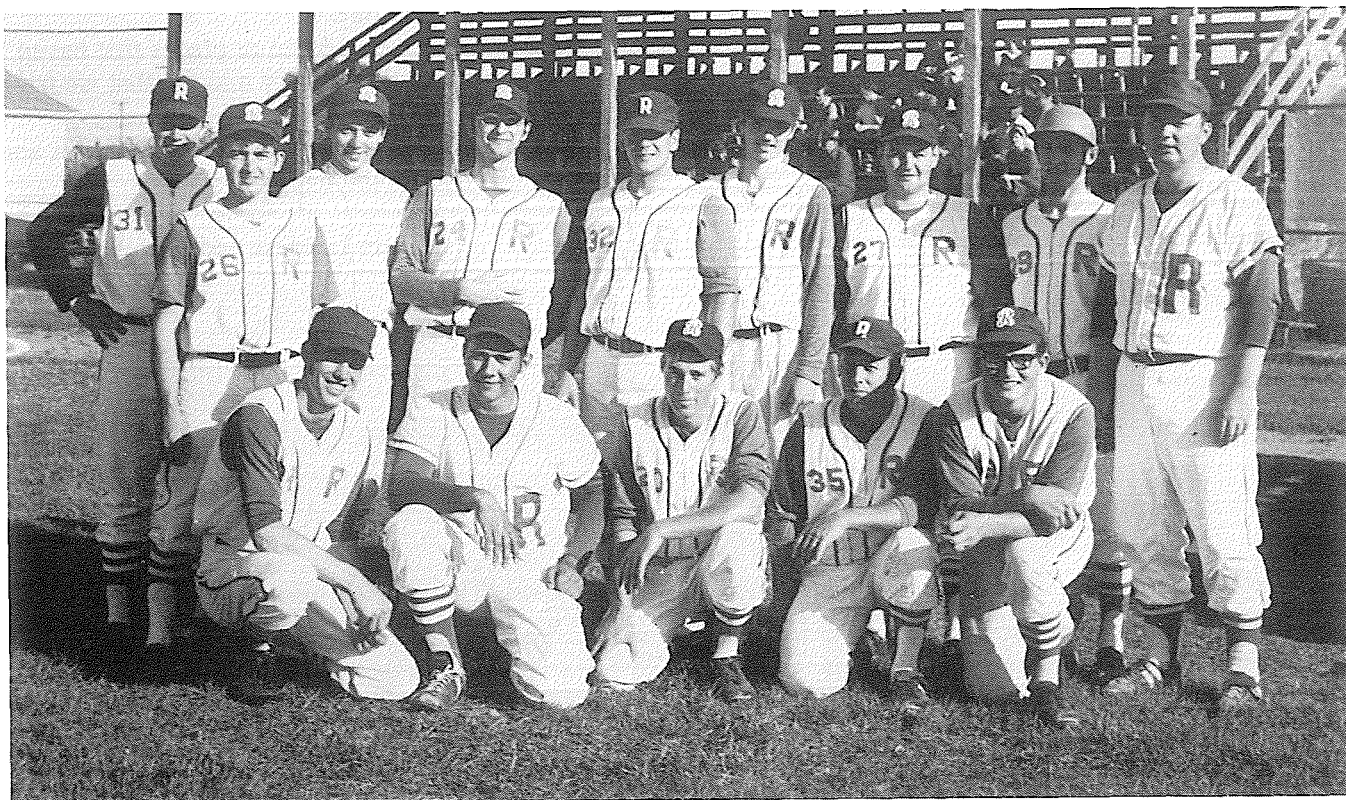
Bill Carson	Doug Joiner
Bob Carson	Bill Joiner
Ed Carson	Keith Stitt
John Williamson	Don Stitt
John Mitchell	Duff White
Garf Lindsay	Murray Cormack

As the years rolled by so did the players. The following list has some of the players that played ball during the fifties under the direction of Howard McIntosh.

Alan Boychuk	Ed Strank
Tom Carson	Jim Olson
Harold Slon	Morley Kostecky
Brian Kowal	Keith Stitt
Dean Hamilton	Henry Hrubenuik
Ivan Hlagie	George Clarke
Nick Kalynuik	Clarence Lazaruk
Jerry Stupnisky	Larry Hamilton

The teams played mainly tournament ball and one of the largest tournaments during that time was in Rossburn with 21 teams attending.

There was a lapse again for a few years until the formation of the Rossburn Mallards in the mid six-



Rossburn Mallards about 1970. Back row: Ken Hamilton, Dwain Lawless, Delmar Yaskiw, Robert Stupnisky, Dennis Martin, Tony Ryshtylo, Al Kitching, Tony Kalechyn, Brian Doolan. Front Row: Russ Brown, Leonard Yaskiw, Ross Taylor, Leighton Kachur, Randy Katchin.

ties, under the coaching of Ronald Hamilton who gave much of his time to the team.

Members of that team during the sixties were:

Dwain Lawless	Phillip Brown
John Ryshytylo	Wayne Carson
Rick Hamilton	Tony Kalechyn
Ron Taylor	Dennis Martin
Robert Stupnisky	Don Lohowy
Leonard Mackedenski	Al Kitching
Warren Brown	Leighton Kachur
Don Hrubenuik	Randy Kachan
Ken Hamilton	Brian Doolan
Brian Brown	Darryl Ortynski.

Later they were joined by some younger players coming up thru the minors.

Larry Huston	Tony Ryshytylo
Allan Hamilton	Ross Taylor
Grant Armstrong	Leonard Yaskiw
Russell Brown	Delmar Yaskiw

At present there is no senior team, but prospects look very good as minor baseball is active with teams in all age groups beginning with the 8 and unders and up to the midgets.

It was also noted that in the early thirties there were teams in the surrounding districts such as Lakedale, Marco, Mears, and Vista. They played mainly against each other on Sundays and didn't take part in any tournament ball or league play.

Also during this era of baseball there was a well recognized fastball team in town called the Rossburn Bears. The team was formed in the early 60's and disbanded around 1970.

Members of that team were:

Pete Kuzenko	Nick Hrycak
Mike Ryshytylo	Wally Perchaluk
Ronald Hamilton	Andrew Bidochka
Bill Taylor	Ernie Stefanuk
Joe Borowski	Ed Shust
Lorne Lohowy	Elmer Brown



One of the many Rossburn Minor Baseball teams coached by Harris Huston. This team, pictured in about 1967, shows Left to Right: Front row: Bob Chuchmuch, Brian Rodeck, Milton Drosdoski, Andy Chuchmuch, Ross Taylor. Back row: Larry Huston, Miles Chuchmuch, Grant Armstrong, Russell Brown, Bobby Yaskiw, Harris Huston (coach).

Sam Hrycak
George Lazaruk

Myron Kuzenko
Bill Belbas

Almost every weekend the team could be seen heading out of town to some tournament and along with them their many fans. All in all, every one was out for an enjoyable day.

No doubt there are people or places that haven't been mentioned in this history and for that we truly apologize.

We hope the information is of some interest and that it brings back some happy memories.

Contributed by
Dwain Lawless and John Ryshytylo

Sporting Highlights



Rossburn Sports Day — 1912. Howard Alexander appears in foreground.



Rossburn's football team is pictured with the championship cup received in 1909. This team won the cup and received gold medals three years in succession. Back row, left to right: Dave Hough, Harry Staples, Tom Young, T. H. Alexander, Scotty Gilroy, Geo. Hendry. Second row: Pat Bone, Tom Peden, Reg Ricon, Dr. Evans. Third row: Cam Menzies, Chic Plant, Garf Gilroy, Chas. Douglas.

A Baseball Anecdote

One of the humorous anecdotes from the days of the trains occurred in the late 1940s. A number of supporters of the ball team were concerned that their ace pitcher would be unable to pitch for the local team in an important baseball play-off game at Bin-scarth. As the pitcher was desperately wanted, help was needed at the CNR station where he was the relief agent. Volunteers took on the relief agent's duties of meeting the train.

The load of eggs that was to be loaded on the oncoming CNR train, unfortunately was placed at the edge of the platform a little too close to the approaching engine. Eggs and baggage cart flew in all directions and the resulting financial loss in eggs resulted in a benefit dance being held to help pay for the \$150.00 loss. Incidentally, the ball team lost the game — and there are a few from that group who still don't like omelets.



1912 Football Team. The above picture depicts the football team of the Vista-Elphinstone-Rossburn League of 1912. From left to right, front row: Howard Alexander, Garf Gilroy, Bert Wilson. 2nd row: David Hough, Alex Brown, Bill Brown, Bert Hook. Back row: Tom Peden (manager), Harry Staples, Tom Young, Pat Bone, George Bear and George Bolton (manager).



Fishing — W. J. Peden.



Dog Derby at Rossburn. Competition was keen at the first Dog Derby held Jan. 1st, 1934. Competitors lined up across Mountain Avenue between Sandy Johnson's Bakery (west side) and G. Curtis Cafe (formerly Sam Fox Confectionery — east side) were: Herb Douglas, Alex Shaw, Bud Campbell, Weldon McIntosh, boy (unknown) from Waywayseecappo Reserve, Elmer Brown and Alistair McKenzie.

Rossburn Curling Rink

The first Curling rink was built in Rossburn in 1914. It was a lean-to built onto the skating rink and was owned and operated by the late Dick King. This rink was used until 1928 when the weight of the snow on the roof caused it to cave in. Rossburn was without a curling rink until 1947 when Jack Stitt, Mayor of the town instigated the building of a new one, on the property of the late Hugh Warnock. Roland Craig was the overseeing carpenter on the project, the waiting room was insulated with wheat straw.

The first officers were President — John Cormack, Secretary — Jack Stitt, Treasurer — Russell Hutton. Nick Sicinski made the ice, Wesley Williamson was drawmaster and Bob Crookshanks was the first caretaker. The curling rocks were bought from the Red Lake Curling Club. Each family bought their own rocks for \$25.00 a set. They had two clubs, the



Winners of the first two Dog Derbies held at Rossburn were Bud Campbell with 'Spider'. Picture taken Jan. 1, 1934 also shows Dr. Sam Peikoff's hospital in background, Andy Peden is seen standing at back, and Howard Alexander's dray team at left.



Rossburn Curling Rink, located adjacent to CNR tracks on Victoria Avenue West. This rink was constructed in 1947.

ladies had approximately 12 rinks and the men 20 to 24 rinks.

There were no electric pumps so the flooding was done by pail until they had a coat of ice over both sheets, they then flooded with barrels of soft water which they got by melting ice. This was very slow, taking two days to put on one flood.

There was no heat on the ice and the rink had only one ply of lumber so on a cold windy night it was nearly as cold on the ice as it was outside. Even with all the cold, people very seldom missed a game and it wasn't uncommon to see farmers coming in on horseback when they were snowed in.

Curling Highlights



Rosburn Bonspiel winners about 1950. Back row: Norman Major, Jack Lindsay, Roy Irwin, Dave Cleland. Front row: Garf Lindsay, Mel Stitt, Ed Shust. Winners of the Grand Challenge Event were Jack Lindsay, (skip), Mel Stitt, Garf Lindsay and Ed Shust.

In later years we have lined the rink, have heat on the ice and waterworks but not nearly as many curlers as in early years.

Some highlights in the new rink . . . a rink composed of Walter Armstrong, John Cormack, Albert Berney and Bert Mitchell who won the Seniors Curling with finals between Dauphin and Rosburn, with the great Ab Gowanlock skipping the Dauphin rink. The ladies not to be outdone by the men had a rink composed of Anne Moan, Beryl Williamson, Rose Stefanuk and Alice Lindsay score an eight ender.

submitted by E. Brown and L. Veitch



Grand Aggregate Winners of Men's Open Bonspiel in 1957. Left to right: Alex Cleland, Doug Joiner, Bill Joiner, Wendell Cleland. They also won the second event.



Grand Aggregate Winners of Ladies' Open Bonspiel in 1957. Left to right: Mrs. Margaret Cleland, Mrs. Don Holmes, Mrs. Jack Stitt and Mrs. Lizzie Cleland.



Ladies Rink Scores Eight-ender. Left to right: Anne Moan, Rose Stefanuk, Beryl Williamson and Alice Lindsay.



This rink scored an 8-ender at the North-Western Bonspiel held at Foxwarren in 1953. They won first in the Second Event and First in the Third Event. L. to R.: Steve Maydaniuk, Alex Saley, Dunc McIntyre and Norman Major (skip).

Rosburn Golf Club

On April 27, 1962 an organizational meeting was held in Slon's Garage concerning the formation of a Golf Club. The first executive consisted of Otto Elvers — President, Harold Metcalf — Secretary-Treasurer, Norman Major — Vice President. Greens and Ground Committee — Jack Stitt, Douglas Joiner and Jerry Stupnisky. Finance Committee — Maron Slon, Norman Scarrow and Orest Smyncnuik.

The land for the golf course was purchased by the Rosburn Game and Fish Association from Alex Marynuik, and then given to the Golf Club to be operated as a golf course. With John Klym as caretaker and much voluntary work the course became playable. The Cubs and Scouts helped individuals to pick stones, cut scrub and plant trees.

A building donated by Rowatt Veitch was used as the first club house. In 1966 Chmelnyski School was purchased and moved to the present location. Nick Antoniwn ran the first concession and at the same time was the caretaker.

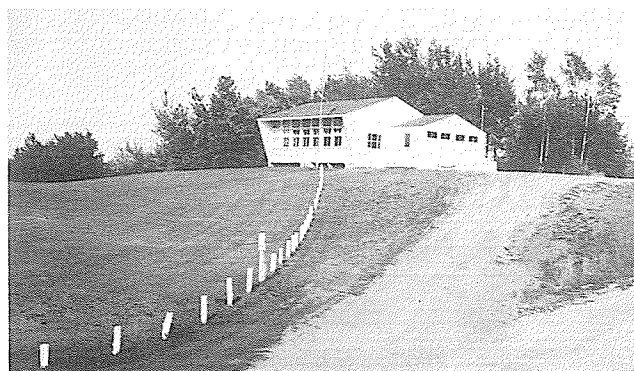
Golfing fees were first set at \$20.00 per family; \$10.00 for men, \$7.00 for women and \$5.00 for students.

Men's and Ladies tournaments have been held every spring and fall. In 1967 permission was given by the Manitoba Golf Association for the Fall Tournament to be called the "Manitoba Sand Greens

Open!" This has continued each year since, at the same time as the Rosburn Fall Festival.

Alex Cleland donated a trophy for the annual men's club competition. Dave and Margaret Cleland donated a trophy for annual women's competition. Otto and Emma Elvers donated a trophy for annual two ball foursome competition. The Rosburn Golf Club donated a trophy for annual senior competition. Orest and Joyce Smyncnuik, from the Rosburn Hotel donated a trophy for the Manitoba Sand Greens Open Tournament.

Improvements have been made every year. It is now considered one of the most scenic and challenging courses in Manitoba.



Rosburn Golf Club House.

Rosburn Memorial Arena

The Rosburn Memorial Arena was officially opened and dedicated on Dec. 12, 1952. An estimated 650 persons attended that important event in the recreation life of the community.

A committee had been formed in January, 1949 with construction of a new covered arena as its objective. Construction of the arena commenced in the summer of 1950 with a cost of \$7,989 for the truss rafters manufactured at Boissevain by Drings and a further \$400 of steel for the foundation.

At the opening ceremonies of the Memorial Arena, Earl Moffat, president of the Memorial Arena Committee, presided. Squadron leader Stibbard who was Senior Protestant Chaplain at the Joint Air Training Centre, Rivers, gave the address of dedication of the new facility. At that time he made special comment that the Memorial Arena "would serve a constructive purpose in the community not only for this generation, but for the years to come."

The concept of a rink serving as a memorial emphasized "the upholding of the principles for which such great sacrifices were made which should be the continuous concern of everyone. This in itself would serve as the greatest and most enduring memorial."

Hon. Ronald Robertson, Minister of Agriculture, represented the provincial government and gave the official opening address and cut the ribbon.

Incidentally, Rosburn lost the official opening night game played in that Arena by a 2-1 score to Cardale. Local players who played in that first game were: Don Stitt (goal), Gib Chesney, and John Williamson (defence), Garf Lindsay, Eddie Strank, N. Tanner, Rowat Veitch, Doug Joiner, Cliff Williams, George Heindle, Bill Joiner and George Bone. Coach — Alex Cleland, Manager — Jack Lindsay.

In a letter published at that time in the Rosburn Review, Mrs. Nona Peden reminisced as follows:

"It might be interesting to reminisce and tell you that after World War I, Tom Peden worked hard to have either a Community Hall or an Arena erected as a memorial. And believe it or not, myself and a number of others opposed it, advocating a monument in a cemetery or in the middle of the street. What a wonderful thing it is we change our minds! And today we can look on a memorial which is a credit to any community."

The building had been constructed through countless hours of volunteer labor and excellent support through voluntary contribution and donation.

In the late 1970's, the need for improved waiting room, dressing rooms and other facilities at the Arena as well as a large ice surface resulted in another

project at the Memorial Arena. The resulting \$140,000 project was officially opened on Jan. 28, 1978. A crowd of nearly 800 attended that occasion.

Orest Smycniuk, acting as master of ceremonies on this occasion, reviewed the history of the project from its early beginnings to completion of the modern facilities of which the community can well be proud.

Addressing the gathering on behalf of the Village of Rosburn was Mayor Rick Plaisier; and John Mitchell, Reeve, spoke on behalf of the Rural Municipality of Rosburn.

Guest speaker for the occasion was Harry Graham, M.L.A. for Birtle-Russell, who also cut the ribbon, held by Reeve Mitchell and Mayor Plaisier, in the ribbon cutting ceremonies.

A presentation of framed certificates in recognition of: a bequest from the late Thomas Stitt Estate, and a memorial gift in memory of the late Barrie Lawless, also highlighted the short program.



Rosburn Memorial Arena was originally constructed in 1952 with Official Opening Dec. 12, 1952. Renovations, including construction of a new waiting room, and dressing rooms in the lower level, took place in 1978. This \$140,000 project was constructed as additional floor space at the front of the arena.

Hockey

Hockey has long held prominence as the winter sport so popular with players and fans alike in our community. From the earliest days, of which little record remains, the local senior hockey team was important in the public's view.

An article printed in the Rosburn news column in February 1908 pointed out that Elphinstone had defeated Rosburn at hockey by a score of 8-7. The score at half time was 5-5. Elphinstone's team was composed of three players from Strathclair and four from Elphinstone. Dr. Evans, manager of the Rosburn team, is anxious to arrange home and home games with the Russell team. Note the reference to half time instead of periods.

In January 1910 it was reported that Rosburn's

hockey players were: Watson, Burnie, Gilroy, Staples, Plant and Strong.

As the years passed by, the popularity of hockey continued to increase until at one time there was even a three-team hockey league right in Rosssburn. There were open air rinks at various locations in Rosssburn, one being north of the CNR station, another north of Slon's Garage, another one southwest of the elevators, and another on the south side of Victoria Avenue, approximately across from the present Mike Baubie residence.

In April 1930, it was reported that "the Rink Building committee have about 30,000 feet of lumber on the ground for the construction of a community skating and curling rink before next winter. The lumber was hauled from the mill by volunteer labor. It is hoped that the building will also be done by gratis work." In the Nov. 27, 1930 Rosssburn news column it was reported that "Rosssburn at last has a skating rink. Owing to hard times the committee decided to leave the curling rink for another year."

Travelling to hockey games away from home was different in those days — sometimes transportation was by truck with a van on the truck for seating, at other times it was by team and van.

During the winter of 1933-34, the Rosssburn hockey team had an extremely successful season — winning 29 games, losing two games and tying one game. Their two losses that season were to Birtle and Saltcoats. That team was comprised of: Lornie McKinnon, Ernie McIntosh, Norman Clubley, Floyd McDonald, Rowat Veitch, Morris Clubley, Clarence Carson, Irwin Harrison, Colin Barlow, George Blackmore, Chas. Douglas (president) and Jack Lindsay (coach).

In November 1948, location of the open air rink was moved from south-west of the elevators to village



Rosssburn Hockey team in the 1930's. Left to right: Lornie McKinnon, Harold Beirnes (MGA), Tom McDonald, Wes Williamson, Carl Woods, Greg Easson. Sitting in front: Irwin "Dooflicker" Harrison, Morris Clubley.

property on Victoria Avenue opposite the curling rink.

There was, however, another early rink. This was known as the Dick King rink. It was a covered rink and had both skating and curling. The rink was located on the west side of the street leading to the elevators just past the back lane behind the residences on the north side of Victoria Avenue. It was apparently built about 1914 and served skating in the community for a number of years. After the roof sagged, supports were built which prevented its further use for hockey games. Finally it was torn down and the lumber sold.

Rosssburn did not have another covered rink until construction of the Curling Rink in 1946 and the Skating Rink in 1950. After construction of the new Rosssburn Memorial Arena a team playing exhibition games provided plenty of good hockey for Rosssburn fans. Coached by Howard McIntosh, the team was always competitive and had a winning record. However the need for an organized league became apparent. Thus it was that in November 1954 the first meetings were held that resulted in formation of the North Central Hockey League. Originally, the teams included Angusville, Binscarth, Inglis and Rosssburn. From this early modest beginning the league gradually expanded, although none of the founding teams remained continuously as members of the league.

The team, then known simply as the Rosssburn Intermediates, was gradually strengthening and gaining in experience. In March 1957, the Rosssburn Intermediates accompanied by a large contingent of fans travelled north for a weekend exhibition series with The Pas Huskies. This marked the first bus excursion of the team and fans to such a distant point.

The next season, 1957-58 the Rosssburn Intermediates won the North Central Hockey League championship with the trophy being presented by Jack Lindsay, Beaver Lumber Co. manager in Rosssburn. The team had been close to winning the NCHL championship on several occasions since the league was formed in 1954, but the finals had not been completed previously. Personnel of that first NCHL championship team were Don Stitt (goal tender), Doug Joiner, Bill Joiner, John Williamson, Tom Brown, George Heindle, Steve Strank, Dean Hamilton, Orest Matiwosky, Ed Strank, Paul Strank, John Mitchell, Ed Stetch, Fred Severeight, Rollie Mentuck, Delroy Stitt, Allan Boychuk, Harry Aylwin (coach).

For several years following, Rosssburn was in contention for the NCHL championship but were sidelined during league play-offs. In the winter of 1960-61, Rosssburn lost a very close series to Decker,

for the right to play in the Intermediate C provincial play-off finals. In reaching the provincial semi-finals they had sidelined Cardale and Elkhorn.

From the championship season of 1957-58, the Rossburn Intermediates had a twenty-four year wait until they were again able to bring home the NCHL trophy in the 1981-82 season. In the intervening years, they had become known as the Rossburn Hornets. In 1981-82, Doug Hedley, a Rossburn Hornets team member, won the M.V.P. Award of the north division, in addition to being top scorer of the north division of the NCHL with 86 points. Team personnel in 1981-82 were: Randy Woychyshyn, Larry Tanasychuk, Noland Morris, Dan Jackson, Mark Stefanuk, Ron Hedley, Darcy Gerelus, Grant Lazaruk, Jim Procyk, Kevin Hedley, Doug Hedley, Brad Lonsberry, Fred Nicks, Don Jackson, Rick Lane, Rory Kreshewski, Irvin Kostaskey, Brent Desiatnyk, Darryl Leganchuk, Ray Zegalski, Mike Hengen, Dennis Kowal, Mike Korb, Mathew Charney and David Barnesky (trainers), Dwain Lawless (coach).

Other highlights through the years included: Jim Procyk, top scorer, west division NCHL in 1974-75; Doug Hedley, top scorer of north division NCHL in 1976-77 with 64 points; Doug Hedley won the M.V.P. award for the north division in 1976-77, Rossburn Hornets.

All Indian Hockey Tournament

The first All-Indian Hockey Tournament was an exciting event held at the Rossburn Arena on March 18, 1959. The tournament in following years, however, has been held at Elphinstone. On the occasion of the first event, mild weather marred ice conditions.

Five teams participated in 1959, namely Elphinstone, Griswold, Long Plains, Rolling River and Waywayseecappo. Elphinstone Canadians won out and became champions of that first tournament.

Waywayseecappo players included: James Brandon (Goal), Roland Mentuck, Fred Severeight, David Mentuck, Leo Brandon, Alex Clearsky, Jack



Rossburn Hornets 1981-82 N.C.H.L. Champions. Front row, left to right: Matthew Charney (trainer), Randy Woychyshyn, Larry Tanasychuk, Noland Morris, Dan Jackson, Mark Stefanuk, Ron Hedley, Darcy Gerelus. Back row: David Barnesky (trainer), Grant Lazaruk, Jim Procyk, Kevin Hedley, Doug Hedley, Brad Lonsberry, Fred Nicks, Don Jackson, Rick Lane, Dwain Lawless (coach). Missing: Rory Kreshewski, Irvin Kostaskey, Brent Desiatnyk, Darryl Leganchuk, Ray Zegalski, Mike Hengen, Dennis Kowal, Mike Korb.

Keewatincappo, Gerald Cloud, Henry Tanner, Chesley Seaton, Frank Seaton, Melville Wabash, Edward Tanner, Clarence Tanner.

An interesting feature of the tournament was a broadcast of the final game over CKDM, Dauphin. This was possibly the first 'live' radio broadcast of an event from Rossburn.

Volleyball Championships

Any account of the sporting history of Rossburn would not be complete unless the remarkable efforts of the R.C.I. Volleyball teams were included in that story.

Back in 1968, R.C.I. first sent two Zone X Championship Volleyball teams to the provincial tournament held that year in Gimli. The boys team came home from that provincial tournament with 6 wins out of 12 games. The girls won 8 out of 12.

The next season, R.C.I. was again in the running with both boys and girls teams winning the Zone X Championships. The girls went on to defeat Hartney, Rivers and Gimli to win the Provincial "B" Championships. The boys lost out in a series with Roblin,

Crystal City and Morden at the provincial championship. Members of that winning R.C.I. girls volleyball team were: Frances Walmsley, Donna Walmsley (assistant captain), Janice Borowski, Karen Borowski, Colleen Kozak, Sharon Waytowich, Theresa Perchaluk and Betty Ann Slon (captain). The R.C.I. girls team who had won the Provincial "B" championship then played a series with the Provincial "A" Teams, but lost out in a series with Kelvin (Winnipeg), Dakota Collegiate (Winnipeg), Steinbach and Miles Mac (Winnipeg). 1969 thus proved to be a memorable year for R.C.I.

In 1970 R.C.I. won their Zone Championship for the third consecutive year. Members of the girls team were: Donna Walmsley, Frances Walmsley, Debbie Walmsley, Karen Borowski, Janice Borowski, Theresa Perchaluk, Sharon Waytowich, Melvyn Herchak, and Linda Matusko. The boys team personnel included Marshall Kachan, Tony Ryshtylo, Larry Perchaluk, Dennis Kalyn, Lawrence Palmer, Ray Glushka, Dwight Aylwin, Lucas Kotesky, Karl Lepischak and Ross Taylor. The girls team went on to again win the Provincial "B" crown for the second



Provincial "B" Volleyball Champs 1973. Front row, left to right: Karen Borowski, Debbie Walmsley (co-captains). Back row: Mariellen Brown, Linda Matusko, Cornelia Obedniak, Pat Perchaluk, Melvyn Herchak, Irene Bonchuk, Mr. D. Ortynsky (coach).

consecutive year. They sidelined Altona, St. Claude, Portage la Prairie and Rivers in straight games — an amazing record. The girls won in the final by defeating Altona two games to one. The boys lost out in the provincial finals at Portage la Prairie defeating Brandon (Harrison High), and splitting with Roblin and Arborg. They lost out in a semi-final series to Morden. The R.C.I. girls team then just about accomplished the greatest upset possible in provincial volleyball when, after defeating Transcona and Tech. Voc. (Winnipeg), they split with Steinbach and John Taylor Collegiate (Winnipeg). In the ensuing playoff they lost out to Miles Mac (Winnipeg) in a 17-15 third and deciding game of the "A" vs. "B" championship series.

In 1971, the R.C.I. girls volleyball team again proceeded on their winning ways by winning the Zone X tournament as well as other tournaments. However, on this occasion, R.C.I. finished in fourth place behind Morden, Winnipegosis and Flin Flon. The provincial tournament on that occasion was in Thompson.

For the fifth consecutive time R.C.I. boys and girls teams again won Divisional championships in 1972. The girls went on to capture the Zone championships and from there proceeded to the provincial "B" championships in Rivers. The R.C.I. girls volleyball team had thus reached the provincial finals for the fifth consecutive year — 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971,

and 1972. They were again successful — and were crowned Provincial "B" Champions. Thus they were provincial champions in 1969, 1970 and 1972. Team members were: Debbie Walmsley, Karen Borowski, (co-captains), Pat Perchaluk, Melvyn Herchak, Linda Matusko, Cornelia Obedniak, Irene Bonchuk, Mariellen Brown, managers — Evelyn Kambeitz, Brenda Baubie; Coach — Darryl Ortynsky. They again played against the best of the "A" division Winnipeg teams for the "A" championship, but came up short, winning four and losing four.

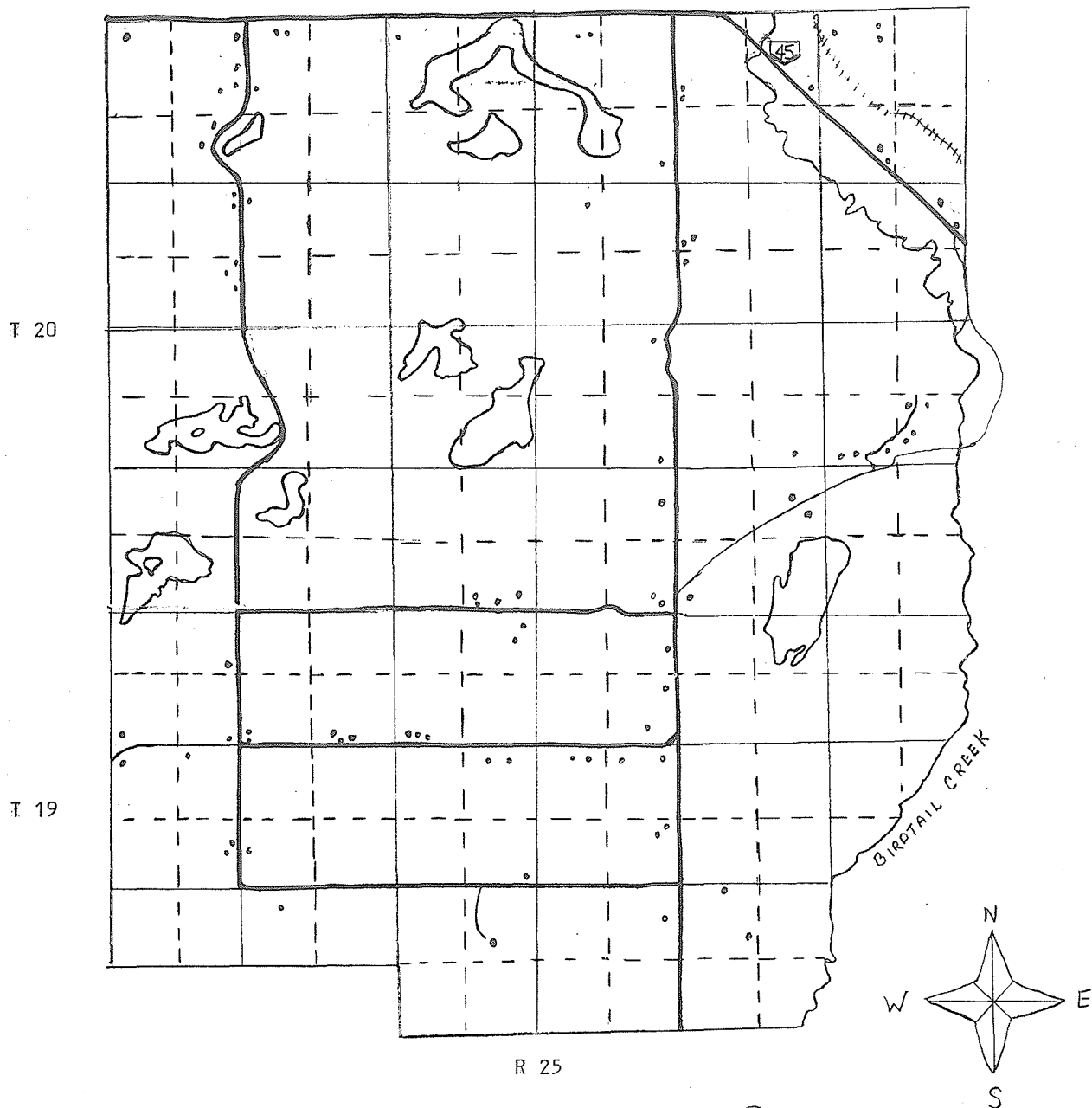
1973 again saw both R.C.I. volleyball teams reach the provincial "B" finals. The girls retained their Provincial "B" Championship for the 4th time in 5 years in the Championship Tournament at Rivers. The boys fell short the final series, winning 6 games and losing four.

R.C.I. girls again proceeded onto the "A" Championship, placing third to Winnipeg Teams.

In 1974, R.C.I. girls volleyball team was again knocking on the Provincial "B" championship door — but lost out in the playoffs at Steinbach on this occasion. Again, in 1976, R.C.I. contenders, were back in the Provincial Championships — this time in the "C" division. The girls won 12 out of 13 games in the final, losing that last game to Riverton.

R.C.I. has indeed been a power in provincial volleyball.

Waywayseecappo



WAYWAYSEECAPPO BAND

Brief History of Waywayseecappo Band

The beat of the war drums fell eternally silent in the vast expanse of the rich virgin prairie. The great amalgamation of the Chippewas, a sturdy stock of the Algonquin Nation, had at last peace-pipe smoked a peaceful compromise with neighbouring warring nations of which the fierce but fugitive Sioux from the United States, was the most dreaded.

Peace reigned supreme for now it was the dawn of a new era. Various bands of the Chippewas ventured to disperse to richer and happier hunting grounds in the light of this newly acquired peace. This was the beginning of the year 1870.

One band of these stalwart braves was under the capable leadership of a courageous, but peaceful Chief named Waywayseecappo, interpreted "courageously standing upright". He had proven himself a leader, both in war and the chase, and was acclaimed chief without question.

Waywayseecappo and his braves roamed in peace in an area of bountiful country, rich in game, fowl and fur, a vast tract of land extending from the source of Birdtail, south as far as where Birtle is situated and as far west as to the emptying of the Qu'Appelle River, into the Assiniboine River, north as far as the present townsite of Russell, along the banks of the Assiniboine.

The great Queen Victoria's representatives had come to stipulate lasting treaties with the Indians across the breadth of the Prairies to the Rocky Mountains. Waywayseecappo, the great Chief, along with other chiefs from Saskatchewan, concluded a Treaty with the Queen in 1875 at Fort Ellice, Man. This treaty is known as the Qu'Appelle Treaty. A cairn now stands at this site commemorating a colorful past. Chief Waywayseecappo ceded 22,000 acres of land to the Crown and retained for his braves a Reserve situated near Rosburn, an area of 42 sections.

They relocated to this new home in 1876 and left Chief Gambler at Binscarth, a Reserve from whence they came, and later sold a portion, Chief Gambler retaining what now remains to this day.

1876 was indeed a busy year for this Band of Indians. Hay had to be put up for the Piebalds ponies of the chase, shelter needed for the women and children. Food and wood was gathered in abundance before the onslaught of the deep-freeze of winter, now the braves' only enemy. They were a hardy crew and easily survived the whims of the elements that winter.

The years following were uneventful, but were very busy years, as the people now prepared permanent dwellings, and gathered their daily staples from what could be gotten at hand. They had come to accept a more settled way of life.

There was unrest among the people at the time of the uprising of Louis Riel in 1885. Chief Waywayseecappo staunchly sided his sympathies with the Government who had proven benevolent to him and his braves. He did not take any action but counselled his braves for peace and insured that they kept it.

Chief Waywayseecappo went to his reward in the early 90's after a full and fruitful life. Time now has obliterated where lay the final resting place of this much loved chief.

His son, Astakeesic, succeeded him in the control of the destiny of his people. When he died, he was succeeded by Prince Astakeesic, a son, the last of the hereditary chiefs. Prince was at the helm of his people for 25 years. He resigned and did not run for candidate when the new elective system came into effect in 1950.

Chief Lynn McKay is the first chief under the new Indian Act. He has been elected three times, a term of two years for each term. He is thought of in high esteem both in the reserve and the outside.

The Indian Administration, under the sponsorship of the Government, will have to be given full credit in the Welfare of the people and in steering them in the things of life that are good. The Indians of Waywayseecappo feel forever grateful for this, as they have been well cared for from the earliest times.

The Presbyterian Church of Canada established a mission on the Reserve shortly after the quelling of the Riel Rebellion; while the Catholic church had sent missionaries before this. They founded the first school on the Reserve, but was later given up when Residential Schools were built in centrally located places to serve a greater number of Reserves. Much can be said of both churches in administering to the Indians. Two new churches stand on the Reserve, evidence proving the unceasing labor in the spiritual welfare of the people. Perhaps it would be remiss not to mention the builders of these fine churches. Rev. H. Crump built the Presbyterian Church, in the mid-thirties, while the Catholic Church was constructed by Rev. Father Comeau, along about the same time.

Among those who labored on behalf of the Presbyterian Church, the following have left lasting memories; Rev. Scott, Rev. Hyson, Rev. Crump and Rev. Garret. Mr. Pollock is now the minister and is much respected and loved by the people.

The Indian Agents who are the most prominent with the Indians are Mr. Wheatley, Mr. Lazenby, Mr. Lavendar, Mr. Smith and Mr. Nield. Mr. Clarke, the assistant agent, has been recently replaced by Mr. M. J. McDonald, a young man, who has great interest in the Indian people. He is expected to go a long way in the Indian work.

Vast changes in the environment of the people have been seen in the last 25 years. The Indians first

ventured in sheep raising and cattle raising, both were successful in their time. Band and community farms were instituted and later replaced by the more profitable lease-rental system, a scheme from which most of the reserve's revenue derives.

Where once the Reserve was almost totally isolated, roads that compare favorably with class "B" highways have been constructed. Two roads now run in a cross shape through the Reserve. Modern homes are being built yearly, replacing the old log frames. A telephone is at the disposal of the Indians wishing fast communication service. The Manitoba Hydro Commission has power lines running into the Reserve and the Indians expect to use these facilities in the next few years.

The government has constructed two modern and fully equipped day schools for the elementary grades. Two qualified and very competent teachers teach in these schools and have the same standards and curricula followed in other schools.

A high educational level has been attained and the government is ever striving to improve education and vocational standards. A new day school is under plan and this will be erected shortly. The present residence of the agent, built in 1927, will be converted into a teacherage, while the agent will move to town.



Joe Bone on the Lizard Point Reserve, 1938. The Reserve is located just west of Rosssburn.

One wise Indian patriarch still living could well narrate this episode of Waywayseecappo, the son of "Ayenakoneke" named Joe Bird, who is 103 years

old. Joe was 19 years old when the Fort Ellice Treaty was enacted and has been a living part of the gradual transition of his fellow Indians from the old way to the new. He is truly in the position to contradict this author in this effort.

There are direct descendants of Waywayseecappo living, the former chief, Prince and his three children. One served in the First Canadian Division in 1939 and saw action in North Africa, Sicily and Italy. George is a true heir to the hereditary chieftainship.

In concluding, much could be gathered from story research should one want to do a thesis for an Arts degree. The author leaves inviting anyone who wishes to do so.

This history of the Waywayseecappo Band was written by Michael Twovoice for the Rosssburn Review during the late 1950s.



Mrs. Staples is shown with a group of Indians that she nursed on the Lizard Point Reserve.

Council of the Waywayseecappo Band Lizard Point Reserve No. 62

Way-way-se-ca-pow (The Man Proud Of Standing Upright), signed Treaty No. 4 on September 21, 1874 on behalf of the Indians in his band. Ota-ma-koo-ewin (Sha-pous-e-tung's First son) (The Man Who Stands on the Earth), signed the treaty at the same time, as Head Man of the band.

The following information has been extracted from the "*Book of Indian Chiefs and Minor Chiefs, 1894*" for the Indians paid at Lizard Point Reserve.

Astakeesic (Sky is Crossing), age 44, elected chief by the band in 1885.

Pasqua (Night Hawk), age 60, Head Man at First Treaty.

Ota-ta-ka-win (The Gambler), age 62, Head Man, appointed at time of making treaty.

Missiquot (Clear Sky), age 58, Head Man.

The following information has been extracted from the Annual Report of Indian Affairs, 1897
Waywayseecappo Band

Astakeesic, elected Chief August, 1886.

Gambler, elected Head Man in 1874, acknowledged when treaty made.

Messiquot, elected Head Man in 1886, (the term to last while satisfactory).

Extract from the Annual Report of Indian Affairs, 1898

Waywayseecappo Band

Astakeesic, elected Chief July 1, 1898, for one year.

George Bird, elected Councillor July 1, 1898 for three years.

Manito Wignane, elected Councillor July 1, 1898 for three years.

Chiefs and Council of Waywayseecappo from 1874 on

Chief	Councillors	Years Served
Waywayseecappo		1874-1883
	Otuakooewin	1875-1885
	Pasquah	1875-1880
		1887-1889
	The Gambler	1875-1880
Shapnanatung, Tom Astakeesic		1887-1897
	Savage	1876-1878
		1880
		1884-1885
		1886-1928
	Clear Sky	1886-1889
		1891-1897
	Night Hawk	1890
	George Bird	1898-1900
	Manito Wigwan	1898-1903
	John Baptiste	1902-1918
	Billy Longclaws	1905-1937
	Hugh McKay	1920-1925
		1941
		1930-1953
Prince Astakeesic	Donald Ross	1930-1951
	Arch Shingoose	1942-1951
	Wilfred Blackie	1953-1954
	George Cloud	1953-1954
	Walter Longclaws	1953

Following is a list of Chiefs and councillors since Prince Astakeesic.

Year	Chief	Councillors
1954	Lynn McKay	Wilfred Blackie John Brandon George Cloud Archie Shingoose
1956	Lynn McKay	Archie Shingoose Arthur Shingoose Tommy Rattlesnake John Brandon
1958	Lynn McKay	Archie Shingoose Arthur Shingoose John Brandon

1960	Lynn McKay	Wilbur Cooke Wilbur Cooke Arthur Shingoose Isabel Cloud Michael Twovoice
1962	Lynn McKay	Arthur Shingoose Lizzie Oudie Isabel Cloud Joe Cooke Hugh McKay Hugh McKay Frank Seaton Tommy Rattlesnake John Brandon Roy Brandon
1964	Wilfred Blackie	Lynn McKay took over Wilfred Blackie's position in 1965.
1967	John Brandon	Roy Brandon Hugh McKay James Mentuck Tommy Rattlesnake Frank Seaton Roy Brandon Isabel Cloud Edward Longclaws Hugh McKay Frank Seaton Tom Rattlesnake Leslie Longclaws James L. Mentuck Wilbur Cooke Frank Seaton Edward Longclaws Roy Brandon Sr. Gerald Cloud Harvey Cook Kingsley Keewatincappo Tom Rattlesnake Frank Seaton Norbert Tanner
1969	Lynn McKay	Wilfred Blackie Leon Brandon Roy Brandon Sr. George Gerald Cloud Kingsley Keewatincappo Lawrence Shingoose Leslie Longclaws Norma Rattlesnake Lawrence Shingoose Mrs. Alma Tanner Norbert Tanner Leon Brandon Leslie Longclaws Lawrence Shingoose Robert L. Shingoose Mrs. Alma Tanner Norbert Tanner Leon Brandon Fred Brandon Gilbert Cooke Lloyd Mecas Norbert Tanner Lawrence Shingoose
1971	Hugh McKay	
1973	George Cloud	
1975	George Cloud	
1977	Leonard Wabash	
1979	Leonard Wabash	
1981	Leslie Longclaws	

Lizard Point Church Constructed

A newspaper account published in January 1901 records the opening of a new church on the Lizard Point Reserve.

The news article stated:

"A large number of Indians gathered to witness the opening of the new church on Lizard Point Reserve when Rev. F. W. Pritchard preached. The ladies of the Rossburn Presbyterian Church provided the Indians with a sumptuous tea the following evening to mark the event when a short program consisting of music and magic lantern views was rendered and presents kindly provided by Miss McLaren, Matron of Birtle Indian Boarding School, were distributed. Much regret was felt at the absence of Mr. W. J. Small to whose energy and enterprise, the church owes so much, but other duties prevented his attendance."

Presbyterian Mission

Early information concerning the Presbyterian Mission on Lizard Point Indian Reserve is practically non-existent at this time.

However information is known that Mr. Flett was the first minister for the Waywayseecappo Indians, as he was on the Okansis Reserve. It is recorded that not only was he spreading the gospel at that time, but he was also in good standing with the Indians.

Presbyterian archives are unable to provide other information prior to the turn of the century. Since then information available in the archives indicates that ministers who worked on the reserve include: Rev. Tom Pritchard, Rev. R. Bailey, Rev. Scott, Mr. Harry Crump, Rev. J. Y. Garrett, Mr. Tom Pollock, Rev. W. Donovan, Rev. Brian Penny, Rev. Ken Stright and Rev. John Oldenkamp.

The early ministers all lived in the manse situated next to the church.

During the time of Rev. Crump the church was fairly active with his daughter greatly involved with the Indian ladies. With her help they formed a Ladies Aid Society as well as a Missionary Society. One Indian man used to play the violin in the church. A fair number of Indians were devoted to the church and would attend regularly. They also got involved with Sunday School with one Indian girl memorizing 107 of the shorter catechisms and receiving a white Bible.

The first cemetery is 1½ or 2 miles southwest of the church and it was here that the first Treaty was paid out.

Presbyterian Mission Reminiscence

In May of 1932 Rev. and Mrs. H. Crump and Miss Phoebe Crump moved into the Mission House on Waywayseecappo Reserve. Mr. Crump was to serve the Indian friends and Argyle Congregation near Vista.

It was not long before the Indian Ladies asked for a meeting, so Mrs. Crump organized a W.M.S.

group, with the help of Phoebe. They also attended the Ladies Group of Argyle Church at that time.

Mr. Crump held Bible Study and Prayer meetings during the week with the Reserve congregation. It was not long before the ladies requested a meeting to help their own church and so a Ladies Aid was formed and under Phoebe, the Ladies made clothing and sold it among themselves. In this way they raised money and when in 1936 the new Church was built they paid for the full sized basement. The people worked voluntarily in building the Church and also gave food to help feed the men at noon; and also Mrs. Stanley Clearsky (Jean), newly graduated from school, lived at the Mission and helped Mrs. Crump all she could, Phoebe ran errands and helped inside and out at that time, too. The Ladies Aid continued to work and bought all the Pews and colored glass windows for the church and other items as well.

In 1939 the people of the Ekford School District requested Mr. Crump to deliver them a Service, which he did, also a W.M.S. and Ladies Aid Group was formed and a "Mission Band" under Phoebe, and at this time the Argyle Young Peoples was formed from their "Mission Band" as they were too old for it; the three meetings were held on the same day, at Ekford from 3-4 p.m., Ladies Group from 4-5 p.m. and Argyle in the evening and Phoebe staying the night at Armstrong's and returning home the next day.

Mr. and Mrs. Crump visited the sick and well on the Reserve and also at Argyle and Ekford, it was a busy time for all.

Then in November 1943 owing to failing health Mr. Crump requested an easier field and returned to Rolling River Reserve with his family.

They cherish the years spent at Rossburn and have many fond memories.

Roman Catholic Church (Waywayseecappo)

Records of the Archdiocese of Winnipeg indicate that the church was built on the Lizard Point Reserve in 1937 by Father Charles E. Comeau, O.M.I. The blessing of the church by Archbishop Sinnott occurred on Monday, Oct. 18, 1937 at 9:00 A.M.

Father Romeo Beaulieu, O.M.I., residing in Birtle, was amongst those who served the mission on the Reserve during the ensuing years. He was succeeded in 1971 by Father Dennis Bourbonnais, O.M.I. In 1973, Father Gerard Rioux, O.M.I., then resident in Toutes Aides, looked after the mission. During 1977 and 1978, Father Francois Paradis, from Duck Bay, ministered to the reserve. From 1979 until 1981, Father Aurele Prefontaine, O.F.M. Cap., resident in St. Lazare, was in charge. Since then, the reserve has

been looked after by Father Ken Foran, pastor of St. Theresa's Parish in Rossburn.

Unfortunately in recent years, the church has suffered from vandalism.



Joe Bone is shown with his team of dogs.

Waywayseecappo Reservation

In the early spring of 1952, Fred, my husband, and I moved from Long Plain Reserve, near Portage la Prairie, to work on the Waywayseecappo Reserve, near Rossburn.

We decided to have a meal in Rossburn before going to the Reserve and as Fred parked the car an Indian man stepped from the sidewalk and asked if we were the Clarke family, on our way to the Reserve. When Fred said that was right the man introduced himself as George Cloud. He shook hands with us and our two sons, Terry and George and welcomed us very warmly. He then showed us where we could get a good meal and later directed us to our new home.

The furniture van was there before us and much to our surprise a group of Indian men were helping unload and unpack our furniture.

They introduced themselves and with hearty handshakes welcomed us all to the Reserve.

We had a comfortable four bedroom home but no telephone, electricity and no water!

Most of the Indian people are very reserved and withdrawn until a white person proves himself to them and gains their respect and trust. They always seem to expect persons in authority over them to treat them as an inferior class.

Our friends on Wayway soon found out that they were to be treated as equals. That really "paved the way" for us, and when they learned that I worked under Indian Health and would go out among them when there was illness etc., taking them to and from Doctors, or Hospital, they were very pleased.

At that time the Band Fund of Wayway was very

low and needed to be built up, but they were at a loss about how they could make more money.

The Indians did have small farms, but not too well kept. One or two white farmers had rented some acreage from them. Mr. Alex Cleland had rented from them for years, but he was a much respected and loved man by the Indians and did much to help them.

There were many, many acres of very good land that had never been under cultivation and lying useless. Fred suggested renting out this land to white farmers and have it producing, thereby increasing their Band Fund.

Band meetings were held and renting was discussed, but not really accepted by all until Fred took Chief Astakeesic and the Council down to the Long Plain Reserve where this method was working very well.

After a couple of days down there talking to the Long Plain Natives and shown all the large fields that were under cultivation and producing well, the Chief and Council of Wayway came home with all the good news and soon renting of their land began.

Mr. Hi Johnson of The Pas was one of the first to take a big lease, then Rod and Harold Clement of Russell leased a large acreage.

Later Mr. Wm. Tanasychuk and Charlie Koloski took leases, and others followed suit.

The Day School was started with Miss Helena Rubeniuk as their first teacher. She married Metro Zink later, but kept on with her teaching. Their daughter Wendy was born there.

Helena was a very good and an experienced teacher. She said that the Indian children were very intelligent and easier to handle than any pupils she had ever had during her teaching career.

The main road through the Reserve was improved and later the telephone was brought to our residence and office.

The Office was in our backyard and we had a car garage attached to the back of it. One side of the Office was a good sized store room.

Indian people are very talented and love music and dancing. An amateur night was held one night at the Day School. We had so many people attend it, that a year or so later an Indian Amateur night was held in the Rossburn Hall and we filled that!

In the summer time their Sun-dance was held. It would last about three days and everything stopped for that! Time off for everyone!

To many white people the Sun-dance is merely a get-together and a picnic for fun and games — But in truth the Sun-dance is a yearly Thanks-giving. Giving thanks for blessings they have received during the year and a plea to the Great Manitou for health,

happiness, good crops etc. during the coming year. During all our years with Indian Affairs we have never known it to rain, or weather to be bad during an Indian Sun-dance.

One does not know the Indian people until one lives among them as we did. We attended their Church and tried to share in their happy times and in their sorrows, and they repaid us over and over again by sharing in our good and bad times.

There are so many very fine people living on Reserves, but these are people the outside world sees little of. They go to town to do their shopping but do not linger there. They go quietly back to their homes.

Unfortunately there are those who, when they get into town, drink, fight and cause troubles. They are, of course seen and heard by the white people, who then judge all Indians by the behaviour of these few.

About two years before we left Wayway electricity and water-works were installed, much to our delight.

A Band farm was run under Fred's supervision and most of the time Roland Mentuck did the work. The Indian Affairs had one on every Reserve and it was supposed to be a model for the Indian to follow.

When the Government decided that the Indian be allowed into Beer Parlours, two men came out to a meeting at Wayway Day School and held a meeting to discuss Liquor Laws with the Natives. Of course they wanted that privilege and voted for it. Mr. Young Shingoose attended that meeting and sitting on the floor quietly listening to it all. It was decided that the men could go to the Bars, but could not bring liquor to the Reserve. When Mr. Shingoose heard that he got on his feet and said "You are doing this all wrong." He went on to say that many of the women enjoyed a drink too and what should be done was that no one be allowed to go into the Beer Parlours to drink, but they could buy the Beer and have to take it straight to their homes. Otherwise, he said the men would stay drinking in the Beer Parlours while the women and children would have to wait out on the streets. He said the children would be cold, tired and crying. The women tired and angry. Some would have bought extracts and be drunk. The men would come out at closing time and be furious at the discontent and anger they would find in their wives and then the fights would start.

No one listened to or heeded his warnings, and I am sorry to say that his prophecy came true in many cases.

Treaty Day was a big day on the Reserve. The Superintendent would be there from Portage la Prairie with a Clerk to count out the money to be given to each family. Fred had to be there and an R.C.M.P. always present.

Fred and I had to make a daily report of everything we did among the Indians. Fred for Indian Affairs and I for Indian Health and at the end of every month six copies had to be typed and sent to the Head Office.

For those who could not support themselves Welfare was given and all that had to be typed and sent in.

Our office burned down the last year we were at Wayway. Fred had started the oil stove to warm up the Office as we intended to spend that day working on reports. We were just going from the house to start work when the stove exploded and the whole place was aflame. We did get the car out of the garage. Fred had some big cabbages in the garage and a young Indian boy reached in and threw them all out — But not far enough — They all roasted beautifully! All reports, furniture and everything in the storeroom went up in flames and again the Indian people came to do what they could to help us.

They started an All Indian Hockey Team and played in Rossburn and towns around. They co-operated so very well with the White teams. We were very proud of them. A few of the Native men played with the Rossburn Hockey team.

Our boys attended the Rossburn School until George left to join the Army. Terry then attended the Indian Day School and was very happy with the Indian children.

The years we spent on Wayway were very happy ones. We enjoyed the friendship of the Indian people and also our social life in the town of Rossburn. Fred was one of the Charter Members of the Credit Union and also President of the Legion.

In 1957 Indian Affairs decided to send us to Lynn Lake to set up an office there for the Northern Indians, as The Pas was too distant for them.

Our Indian friends gave us a surprise farewell party at the Day School and presented us with lovely matching lamps. The smaller one is right by our bedside right now and as we switch it off at night it brings back many happy memories.



Mr. and Mrs. Fred Clark, Indian agents on the Lizard Point Reserve for five years.

Michael Twovoice expressed our life among his people beautifully. Their feelings toward us and ours toward them.

by Lillian Clarke

Waywayseecappo Indian School Holds First Official Closing

The July 4, 1951 edition of the Rossburn Review provided the following interesting report of the first official closing of the Waywayseecappo day School.

"The newly-built Waywayseecappo Indian Day School, on the Lizard Point Reserve, marked its first official closing for the summer holidays on Friday, June 22.

After regular morning classes, followed by a picnic lunch, the event was marked by races, which resulted as follows:

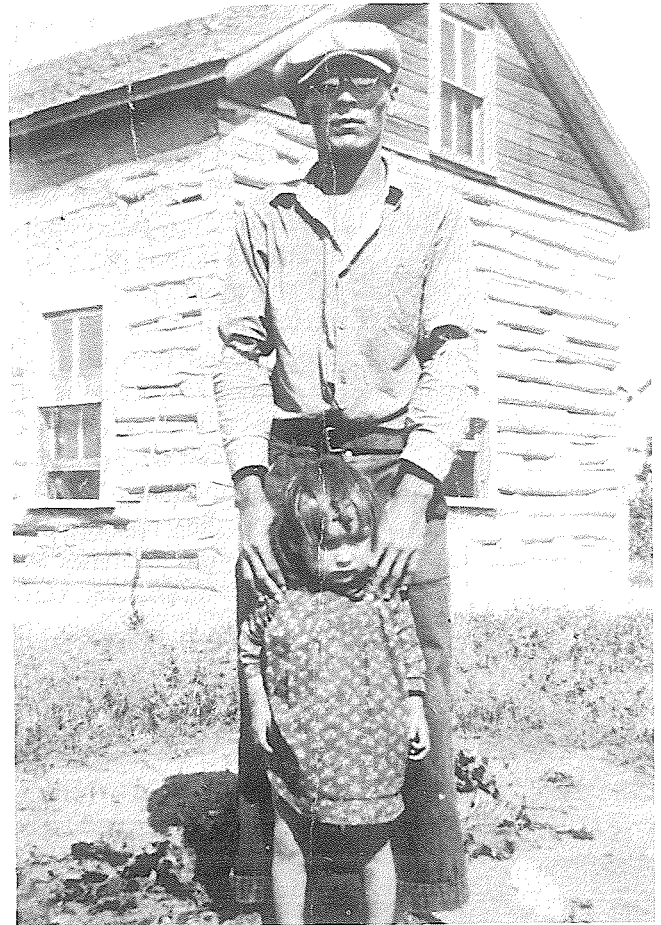
Junior girls — Myrtle Severeight (first), and Alice Clearsky (second); junior boys, Norman Shingoose and Russell Mecas; senior Girls, Cora Longclaws and Lillian Clearsky; senior boys, Alex Clearsky and Harry Clearsky.

Harry Clearsky and Kingsley Twovoice won the three-legged race, with Russell Mecas and Norman Shingoose coming second, and little George Clearsky and Harvey Seaton making a close third.

Winners of the grade one Waboose Race were Alice Clearsky and Walter Mentuck.

A peanut scramble which everyone enjoyed followed the races.

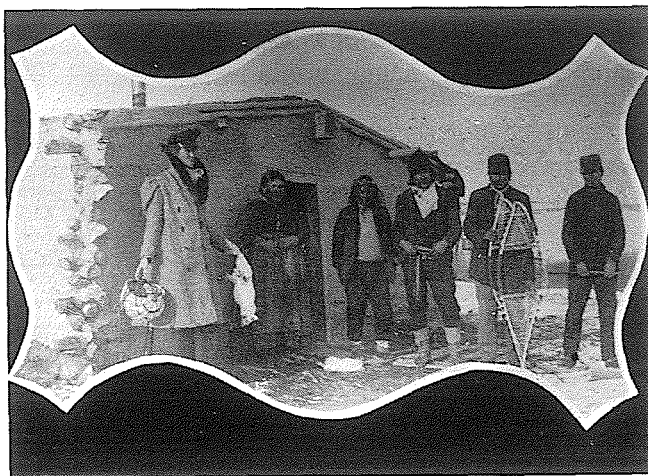
After this, the schoolmaster, Donald M. Dean, awarded prizes in English, Art and Health. Grade one English prizes went to Myrtle Severeight and



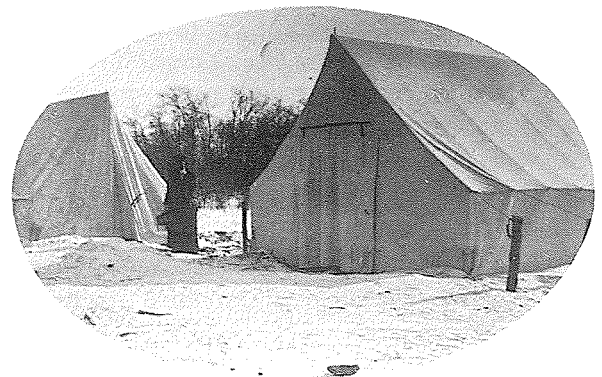
Scottie Seaton with daughter Alma around 1940.

Earl Shingoose; Health prizes to Earl Shingoose and Myrtle Severeight. The senior health prize was awarded to Cora Longclaws."

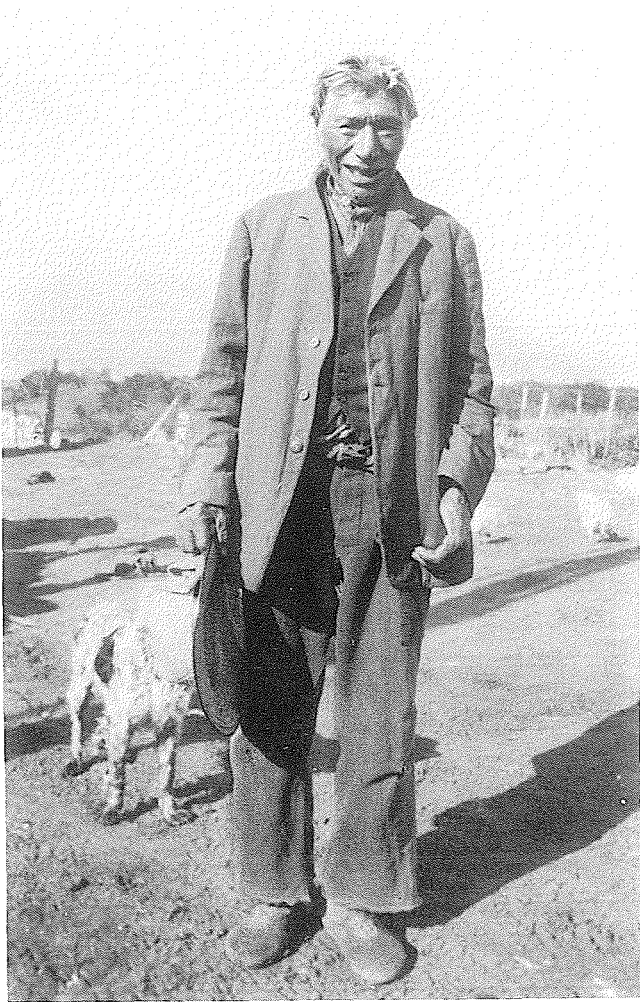
In Days Gone By



Mrs. Staples is shown with a group of Indians that she nursed.



During the small pox epidemic on the Lizard Point Reserve, tents were used as hospitals. Mrs. Staples was the nurse caring for the medical needs of the Reserve population.



Joe Bone was noted for his dedication to checking his trapline along the Birdtail and visiting each family. He would walk his circuit . . . 12 to 15 miles each week both summer and winter.



Hattie Mecas and Beulah Bearbull on the Lizard Point Reserve.

Poems

The Early Pioneers

Many came from distant lands
Unaware what the future held,
To settle on unknown Canadian virgin lands
A new life, in a new land to weld.
To their dismay, they found neither shack nor
stable,
Only a wilderness and a clear sky of blue;
With a willing heart and mind and hands capable
At once, they realized there was much to do.
The steadfast few who earlier came
Had begun a way of life, to establish
That seemed to satisfy their goal — their aim.
So, what else could they possibly wish.
They soon were joined, by hardy newcomers who
came
From a different land, of different race and
tradition.
Yet, they had the same goal — the same aim
To build a united new thriving free nation.
They, one another could not understand
For one was of English tongue
The other, from East and West European land,
In time, one another's confidence they had won.
One would converse with help of hands, I guess
To show what was really meant,
The other would observe, nod his head, meaning
yes;
Oh, what mental torment!
Yet somehow by good grace
Co-operatively, they worked patiently, enduring all
strife.
Making headway at their own sure pace,
Striving to their utmost to achieve the best in life.
Unmistakably, they were the early loyal settlers —
our staunch pioneers
The backbone — the foundation of all we now hold
dear
Perseveringly they toiled thru out many long years,

Truly they are most worthy of our congratulations
this Manitoba Centennial Year.

Mrs. J. Skavinski
(Annie Danyleyko)

Fond Memories of Rossburn

Rossburn, we humbly greet you and sincerely send
cheers
In this year of Manitoba's Centennial.
You were our native home in younger years
Till we departed, for such was our Fate.
It was not easy — just to take off, to leave,
You were our home, we loved you so.
Silently a tear we'd shed, a sigh we'd heave
But, we had to go, such was our fate.
We comforted ourselves by saying we'd return
To see the old town and all those dear to us
But many a year slipped by, oh how we'd yearn
To glimpse at the surroundings of the old home
place.
Whenever we returned, changes we'd notice
Some of our loved pioneers had entered into
eternal rest.
Many younger ones had left too, like us,
To those who stayed, kept the home fire burning,
we send our best.
Rossburn, many a time we think of you,
The old homesteads, fields of waving grain,
meadows of sweet-smelling hay,
The winding Birdtail River, the beautiful valley,
and a hill called "View";
Oh so vividly, each stands out in our mind today.
We bear in mind the swimming hole at the side of
the railway track,
The muskrat huts, ice skating on the frozen water
pool;
The tinkling of sleigh bells, a ride on the hay rack,
The snow-banks and mire we trodded thru' on our
way to church and school.

Pioneer Lodge, atop the cemetery hill, crocuses,
 tiger lillies, cowslips — many more
 We hold dear this Manitoba Centennial Year.
 Rossburn, we honour you, as never before
 For, you were the place we were inspired to go, to
 seek, to endure.

Mrs. J. Skavinski
 (Annie Danyleyko)

A Tribute to Our Pioneers

The following poem is a dedication to all pioneers throughout the Dominion of Canada.
 They settled in a sparsely populated, unbroken country,
 To start life anew with sweat and tears.
 Like pillars, long shall they stand out in our memory.
 They are our steadfast early pioneers.
 They toiled unceasingly for a common aim,
 To build; to mould; to share; to make first starts,
 Little did they think of luxury, glory or fame,
 Loyalty and freedom were deep-set in their hearts.
 Onward, devotedly, they toiled with glowing hearts.
 For a vision of freedom danced in their stride,
 Like the ancient mariner as they gained set marks,
 Their faces lit with gladness they could not hide.
 Who eagerly, but patiently toiled without regret?
 Who kindled the spark and fought for freedom thru' the years?
 These are the ones, we shall never forget,
 For they are our dearly cherished early pioneers.
 In honour of those who toiled, persevered, held deep convictions
 Our memories fondly turn to none other than our staunch pioneers,
 Their worthiness regenerates, they rightly deserve the congratulations.
 The freedom we now enjoy, they achieved thru' their trial years.

Mrs. J. Skavinski
 (Annie Danyleyko)

The Last of the Dray Teams

To three old friends of mine — The black dray team and their teamster
 The last of the dray teams are clomping by,
 Shoulders to the collar and heads swung high
 Up to the depot and then to the store,
 The load offloaded, then away for more.
 A load of dry goods, or a load of wood,
 Tugged on the hard road, or ploughed through the mud

That true black team have been pulling their weight,
 As through the long years, they've hauled Rossburn's freight.
 Springtime summer or winter, true as steel,
 To rumbling dray wheel or the sleigh shoes squeal
 They've leaned in the collar and pulled their loads,
 Through the summer's heat, or the frost heaved roads.
 And never an inch on a Rossburn street,
 But has heard the clomp of the black team's feet
 And never a kid but has hitched a ride,
 Behind the dray team with the sleek black hide.
 Those old friends of mine I would often meet
 When in those long gone days the trains we'd meet,
 The mare in mock fury, her ears laid flat
 Then nuzzle my hands for a friendly pat.
 And the friendly drayman drives up the street,
 With a swarm of small fry under his feet
 Who with gay laughter have high-jacked his dray,
 Or slide behind on a hitch hiking sleigh.
 And never a kid for nigh four decades,
 But has snatched a ride on those small fry raids
 But never a lad and never a lass,
 But remember those raids as the years pass.
 And many a girl to womanhood grown,
 Remembers the thrill and fun she had known
 When as a child she had jumped up to play,
 Along the top deck of Howard's old dray.
 And the old drayman with heart so kind
 May smile to himself as he looks behind,
 And sees there grown up now some lad or maid,
 That back through the years on his dray had played.
 Now diesel and gas trucks replace today,
 That long time old stand-by, the old horse dray
 And we old timers mourn the clomping feet,
 Of proud stepping horses along the street.
 Aye, now the last dray team passing by,
 Leaning in the collar and coming nigh
 To the end of the trail life's race well run,
 And Vallhalla's Marshall saying WELL DONE.

E.H.H.

The Old Crooked Birdtail

There's a lazy winding river, comes crawling through the hills,
 Across a quiet green valley, on fire with daffodils
 Where the rolling Ridings's hill-slopes are decked with evergreens,
 And laughing black-eyed Susans grow among the lone ravines.
 I love that lazy old Birdtail's every wind and twist,

When the fragrance of the wild rose, perfumes the
 morning mist
 Or the whip-poor-wills are calling and ground dews
 shimmer white,
 And the zing of zooming nighthawks come
 whirring through the night.
 Here in the lonely city crowds, above the traffic
 roar,
 Forgotten songs of featherland are coming back
 once more
 I seem to hear the wood thrush's song, the robins
 morning trills,
 And the meadow larks gay warbling, across the
 Riding Hills.
 I hear again the vesper's song, low through the
 sunset mist,
 While elfin sprites from featherland, still keep their
 twilight tryst,
 I hear again the bullmoose call on Ridings far off
 glades,
 And from Birdtail's boggy marshlands, the bull
 frog serenades.
 When the morning sun is waking and summer
 daytime dawns,
 Then a shy-eyed doe comes leading, a pair of
 spotted fawns
 Across the lush green meadow lands, or down
 some bankside combe,
 While a mother duck is calling her truant downies
 home.
 Again I hear from far off lakes, the loon's
 remembered cry,
 And see above the muskeg swamps, the hawk and
 eagle fly
 From Riding's spruce and poplar aisles, I seem to
 hear once more,
 The hunting call of timber wolves, and black bear's
 mating roar.
 It matters not where e'er I go or where the journey
 ends,
 I'll still recall the old Birdtail, and all her winding
 bends
 The sunlight on the meadow lands, the moonlight
 on the plains,
 Her valley white with winter's snow, or green in
 summer rains.

E.H.H.

Riding Mountain Nostalgia

To all of you, who live, or have lived, among the
 Riding's rolling ridges and although some of you are
 scattered far and wide today. These verses are dedi-
 cated, in the hope that they will bring a pleasant

memory or two and some kindly thoughts of the
 Riding's green cloaked slopes, with the little farm-
 steads nestling among the ridges.
 Have you watched the dawnlight breaking
 Over Riding Mountain's crest.
 Have you seen the sunset flooding
 All across the golden west.
 Do you know where lone lakes ripple
 There among the evergreens.
 And dancing shadows hide and seek
 In the quiet lone ravines.
 Have you watched a lazy river
 Crawling through a valley wide
 With the whip-poor-wills at twilight
 Calling from the riverside.
 Do you know the dun elks hideout
 Far in lonely Riding glades.
 Where the woods folk will be stirring
 Now that daylight slowly fades.
 Have you walked the Riding's bush trails
 On some fresh sap scented morn.
 With the tangy taste of springtime
 On the early dawn winds borne.
 Have you heard the lark and robin
 In the Riding Mountain spring.
 When their happy songs of springtime
 All across the Parklands ring.
 Do you know where Mallards mother
 Little broods of six or seven.
 Rippling lakes of quiet waters
 In that Riding wild-duck heaven.
 Have you heard the cowbells ringing
 When the mists are rising slow.
 On the Birdtail Valley pastures
 As the sun is dropping low.
 Have you trod wild flower carpets
 Spreading over Riding's dales.
 When the wild rose scent still lingers
 Over all the woodland trails.
 Have you seen the duck hawks soaring
 High above the cropland plains
 When the golden wheat was dancing
 In the smiling summer rains.
 Do you know where the Riding's moonlight
 Shadow peeps the cool night breeze.
 With all elflands mystic music
 Throbbing low, among the trees.
 Have you watched, while impish painters
 As they wander up and down.
 Blaze the Riding's Autumn tree tops
 In a rainbow color crown.
 Have you heard the songbirds chorus

All among the Riding Hills.
 With honey throats in featherland
 Bursting there with spring-time trills.
 Have you trod foot-easy grass trails
 Through tall groves of birch and oak.
 And heard the low voiced whispering
 Of the secret forest folk.
 Have you seen the Riding Hill tops
 All ablaze with sunshine gold.
 When June has found, the Parkland groves
 And the poplar cones unfold.
 Have you heard that mystic music
 Tinkling through the Riding woods.
 When the night winds in the branches
 Kiss alive the bursting buds.
 Do you know where Riding's storm fiends
 Brew the blizzard icy loads.
 And the roaring cold Nor'wester
 Smothers all the Riding roads.
 If these are scenes your childhood knew
 And though now, you're far away.
 These verses from the Riding slopes
 May bring memories today.

E.H.H.

(Note: Ed H. Harris used the initials E.H.H. on all his delightful poetry.)

The Rossburn "Seventy-Niners"

Few, few are now left, increasing their years,
 Who trekked into Rossburn as pioneers.
 The Stitts and the Armstrongs, where are they?
 The only survivor is friend J.J.
 The Taylor brothers, both Robert and Will,
 Are lying asleep on the Birdtail Hill.
 Of the Warnocks who came, new homes to find,
 Friend Hugh survives and keeps smiling, tho blind.
 Bob Murray, who hated the porridge Hugh made,
 Many years ago in his grave was laid.
 And what of John Fraser and Hugh McKay?
 Both long since have passed from the earth away.
 Of the Porterfields who arrived that year,
 Only George doth now on the earth appear.
 McKenzie, the Mansons, and Sandy Low,
 Are memories now of the long ago.
 Of the Lawfords, Harry alone survives;
 Of the Chamberlains, Bailey lives and thrives.
 We think of George Finch and Harry Sleigh,
 Their bodies lie mould'ring beneath the clay.
 Of Youngs, who as "seventy-niners" came,
 Maggie and Jim are still playing life's game.
 Of "seventy-niners" who still survive,
 The Broadfoot family still can name five,
 For Quinton and Jim and Mary and John
 With David, the eldest are living on.

Of Pedens there still are three on the job,
 Johnnie and Tom and the rollicking Bob.
 Of Rosses who to the settlement came
 Ere the place could boast an official name,
 The number has now dwindled down to two;
 The surviving pair are Watson and Hugh.
 The Gerrand family, that trekked in the fall,
 Have passed from the earth; they've died one and all.

Three decades ago we saddened to see
 The earthly remains of William McKee.
 He passed while still in young manhood's fair
 prime
 And made us all feel 'twas before his time.
 Jim Ferrier, who came that self same year,
 Ended long ago his earthly career.
 Copeland and Rose, who proclaimed the true word
 In Heaven now reap their Master's reward.
 May those who remain all reach the same goal
 Where sorrow ne'er comes, the home of the soul.

— H. R. Ross.

(The Above Poem Was Written About 1910)

The Hamilton Ball Team — "To Martha"

Well, now there was nine on the ball team
 Five boys and four girls, counting you
 Seven have gone to the showers.
 Seven from nine leaves two.
 The ball game will soon be over,
 Seven players have had their day
 There are only two games left,
 Two, you and I have to play.
 So, I hope you live to be one hundred,
 And I live to be one hundred, less a day
 For life won't be worth living,
 When you have had your day.
 Then I hope they call it a double header,
 And we both go to bat the same day
 And when we step into the batter's box,
 And the umpire dusts off the plate.
 We will pull down our cap — hitch up our pants,
 Tap the dirt from our shoes with the bat
 I can't help but remember,
 The only real ball player was Matt.
 Well, if you do reach the one hundred,
 And get that far on in the race
 I will just be a pop fly in the infield,
 And will be called out at first base.
 Then that will be the end of the ball game,
 As far as we are concerned
 You'll remember how Dad used to argue,
 That this old world never turned.

Well, don't worry about it,
It's only a part of the scheme
Scores of players never get by the minors,
We're lucky to still be part of the team.
So you keep on working at living,
Keep that sweet smile on your face

Even tho' it's the end of the ball game,
There will still be the human race.
Well now, how's about dinner?
I see by the clock it's near noon
Tell Howard to keep his wooden leg on,
And I'll see you in Rossburn next June.

Jim

Land Ownership

The following list has been compiled as completely as possible from information available to the History Club. However, apologies are expressed for

any inaccuracies or omissions that may have occurred.

Township 19 Range 23

Section 1		N.E.		Dmytro Bucklaschuk		Section 8	
N.W.		Wm. Ingersoll	1901	Tom Halliday		N.W.	
Nykola Nychuk	1912	M. B. Wasilka	N½	S.E.		Hudson's Bay Co.	
John Sicinsky		Danyluk	S½	Laura Dauphnaiss	1903	K. Skavinski	
Lawrence Stebeleski		C. A. Menzies	S½	Paul Lohowy		Andrew Matiation	
N.E.		Lawrence Stebeleski	S½	Mrs. Antonio Lohowy		Mike Matiation	
Anton Barroch	1903	Steve Wasilka	N½	Adolph Kotyk		John Hrynkiw	
Hrynko Slon		S.W.				Mike Olyarnyk	
Michael Sytnyk		Thos. Gardiner	1901	Section 6		Robert Olyarnyk	
Hnat Sytnyk		Wm. Ingersoll		N.W.		N.E.	
Sytnyk Family		Joe Matiation		Laughlin McDonald	1881	Hudson's Bay Co.	
S.W.		Mike Matiation		Donald McDonald		Steve Pohaneyko	
John Menzies	1901	S.E.		David and Anthony		Peter Pohaneyko	
Mike Sitko		Thos. Gardiner	1901	Woychyshyn		Anthony and David	
Peter Antonation		Wm. Ingersoll		N.E.		Woychyshyn	
Peter Kashton		Joe Matiation		University of Manitoba	1898	S.W.	
S.E.		Mike Matiation		M. Mischanchuk		Hudson's Bay Co.	
John Menzies	1901	Section 4		Donald McDonald		Alex and George Andrews	1909
Mike Sitko		N.W.		David and Anthony			
Peter Antonation		Robert Kerr	1882	Woychyshyn		Sam Matiation	
Peter Kashton		Fred Michalyshen		S.W.		Andrew Matiation	
Section 2		Mike Sheeshka		Alexander MacDonald	1881	John Clayton	
N.W.		Myrcel Sheeshka		Donald McDonald		Peter Pohaneyko	
John Menzies	1909	N.E.		David and Anthony		Anthony and David	
A. Danyluk		John Lavineway	1890	Woychyshyn		Woychyshyn	
Mike Wasilka		John Kotyk	1918	S.E.		S.E.	
Steve Wasilka		Alexander and Lionel Kotyk	1918	Alexander MacDonald	1884	Hudson's Bay Co.	
N.E.				Donald McDonald		J. Halliday	
John Menzies	1884	S.W.		David and Anthony		Andrews	
Kazimir Sobkow		Andrew Gardiner	1882	Woychyshyn		Mike Wasilka	
Lawrence Stebeleski		Joe Michalyshen		Section 7		Walter Wasilka	
S.W.		Mike Sheeshka		N.W.		Section 9	
Alex Menzies	1882	Myrcel Sheeshka		John Bell	1899	N.W.	
Joe Skavinsky		S.E.		J. Chegwin		Nichola Glushka	1909
A. B. Fishman		University of Manitoba	1898	Wilfred Chegwin		Harry Peech	
Tony Skavinski		Gardiner		N.E.		Nicholas Peech	
S.E.		John Kotyk		Sandy Black	1905	Mike Shwaluk	
Alex Menzies	1908	Alexander and Lionel Kotyk		Mike Shwaluk		Walter Shwaluk	
Grescoe		Section 5		Walter Shwaluk		N.E.	
Joe Skavinsky		N.W.		Michael Shwaluk		Dmytro Nowosad	1903
A. B. Fishman		Soldier Settlement Board	1908	S.W.		Mike Nowosad	
Tony Skavinsky		A. Andrew		Alex McDonald	1901	Matt Nowosad	
Section 3		Sam Matiation		Joe Shwaluk		Orest Nowosad	
N.W.		Peter Pohaneyko		John Antonation		S.W.	
Metro Glushka		Anthony Woychysen		Mike Baydock		Alex Klymkiw	
M. Danyluk		N.E.		Walter P. Shawluk		Mike Matiation	
A. Danyluk		Mike Wasilka	1911	S.E.		Peter Matiation	
C. A. Menzies		Walter Wasilka		Sandy Black	1901	Myrcel Sheeshka	
Lawrence Stebeleski		S.W.		Mike Shwaluk		S.E.	
		Birtle Blair	1912	Walter Shwaluk		Robert Ormiston	1903

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N.E.		John Bucklaschuk		Walter Mychasiw		Mike Drozda	E½
Kost Maduke		Milton Tokaryk		Peter Mychasiw		Peter Zegalski	W½
Peter Maduke		S.E.		Rudy Kristalovich		Joe Zegalski	
S.W.		Wasyl Swystun		S.E.		Hal Hedley	W½
Thos. Burndett	1884	John Tokaryk		Michael Shwaluk	1900	M.A.C.C.	E½
Maydanuk		Section 26		Chuckrey		S.E.	
Fred Stebeleski		N.W.		Peter Woychshen		Stan Maskiw	1938
Joseph Sitko		Hudson's Bay Co.		Anton Woychyshyn		Irene Bobachuk	
S.E.		Nick Kashton	E½	Section 29		Irene Maskiw	
John Yanyk	1900	Metro Maduke	W½	N.W.		Crown	
Fred Stebeleski		N. Borodie		Dunbar Hudson	1916	Section 32	
Joseph Sitko		John Kashton	E½	Mike Drozda		N.W.	
Section 23				Walter Drozda		Martin Woycheshin	1899
N.W.		Peter Maduke	W½	M.A.C.C.		Prokip Hersak	
John Pawchuk	1904	Del Drozda		N.E.		Mike Woycheshen	
John Shkwarok		N.E.		Crown Land		Melvin Woychyshyn	
Peter Kawchuk		John Antonation	1900	Machtay Mychasiw		N.E.	
Harry Kawchuk		Stan Antonation		Metro Mychasiw		Macko Woycheshen	1901
N.E.		Nick Werzak		Fred Werzak		Mrs. Anne Chuchree	
Panko Luhowy	1906	Linda Werzak		Bruce Peart		John Mychasiw	
John Shkwarok		S.W.		S.W.		Peter Woychyshyn	
Peter Kawchuk		Hudson's Bay Co.		S. Maskiw		Bill Lewicky	
Harry Kawchuk		Nick Borodie		Mike Bucklaschuk		Myrcel Michalyshen	
S.W.		Stan Drozda		Mike Drozda		S.W.	
Anton Pawchuk	1901	Don Drozda		Walter Drozda		Oleksa Hrycak	1901
Frank Drozda		S.E.		S.E.		Mike Drozda	
Raymond Lazaruk		Hudson's Bay Co.		Mike Werzak	1916	Joe Mychasiw	
S.E.		John Antonation		Metro Werzak		George Bucklaschuk	
P. Luhowy	1901	Stan Antonation		Fred Werzak		Peter Mychasiw	
Placinski		Nick Werzak		Walter Werzak		John Mervyn	
John Shkwarok		Linda Werzak		Iebeling Kaastra		Leonard Mychasiw	
Peter Kawchuk		Section 27		Section 30		S.E.	
Harry Kawchuk		N.W.		N.W.		Mike Hrycak	1901
Section 24		Mervyn Markle	1911	Jos. Moulton	1886	Peter Mychasiw	
N.W.		S. Yanyk		Lucas Zegalski		John Mervyn	
Harry Parsons	1884	Peter Shwaluk		Paul Zegalski		Leonard Mychasiw	
Byskal		Metro Shwaluk		Ken Oakley		Section 33	
Nick Bucklaschuk	E½	Olha Farms Ltd.		N.E.		N.W.	
George Tokaryk		N.E.		Stephen Kokorudz	1903	M. Mychasiw	
Bomek		Wm. Ingersoll	1906	Nick Mychasiw		John Mychasiw	1937
Mykola Melechko		John Maduke		Paul Zegalski		Klaus	
N.E.		Henry Maduke		Ken Oakley		Frank Budz	
M. Krysowaty	1899	Peter Maduke		S.W.		Raymond Mychasiw	
John Bucklaschuk		Delmar Drozda		Fred Hullick	1900	N.E.	
Fred Twerdun		S.W.		John Hullick		Andrew Baubie	1906
Milton Tokaryk		Mike Shwaluk	1903	Leonard Hullick		Peter Baubie	
S.W.		D. P. Kowal	1918	S.E.		Lawrence Maduke	
Dmytro Lazorko		Peter Kowal		Ilko Maskiw	1902	S.W.	
G. Tokaryk		Bill Lewicky		Henry Maskiw		Macktay Mychasiw	1906
Chapple		Myrcel Michalyshen		Bill Nychuk		Wasyl Mychasiw	
Hans Tveiten		S.E.		David Nychuk		Bill Mychasiw	
Dick Lamb		Eliza Ann Richardson	1910	Section 31		Rudy Kristalovich	
S.E.		John Wychkowski		N.W.		S.E.	
Fred Tokaryk	1905	Dmytro Procak		Onufrey Belinski ½ of ¼	1907	John Drozda	1910
George Tokaryk		Walter Kowal		Hrynko Belinski		Mike Mychasiw	
Stanley Tokaryk		Section 28		Peter Zegalski	W½	Rudy Kristalovich	
Section 25		N.W.		Henry Belinski	E½	Section 34	
N.W.		Mykyta Mychasiw	1902	Mike Belinski		N.W.	
Harasym Osadec	1901	Mike Mychasiw		Hal Hedley	W½	Anton Kalyschen	1908
John Osadec		Rudy Kristalovich		Leonard Belinski	E½	Nick Dnistranski	
Joe Krysowaty		N.E.		N.E.		John Halischak	
Peter Wasilka		Philip Russin	1901	Joe Woycheshen	1908	Joe Dutchak	
Leonard Manuliak		John Mychasiw		A. Wozney		N.E.	
N.E.		M. Shwaluk		John Wozney		Harry Maduke	1908
Stephan Krysowaty	1906	Metro Mychasiw		Jack Zegalski		Joe Maduke	
Joe Krysowaty		Rudy Kristalovich		Hal Hedley		Peter Zenchyshen	
Leonard Manuliak		S.W.		S.W.		S.W.	
S.W.		Dmytro Werzak	1900	Crown		K. Shwaluk	
Ivan Bucklaschuk	1917	John Drozda		Mike Hersak	W½	Peter Shwaluk	

Matt Shwaluk		John Kryswaty	S.E.	Peter Koltuski	
Ivan Shwaluk	1908	Peter Kryswaty	John Antonation	Steve Babyk	
Vernon Tulley		Stan Drozda	Stan Antonation	Bill Maduke	
Bill Halliday		Mervin Drozda	Nick Werzak	S.W.	
Nick Werzak		N.E.	Linda Werzak	Wasył Luhowy	1900
Linda Werzak		Paul Luhowy	Section 36	Nick Luhowy	
S.E.		John Kryswaty	N.W.	Roman Hutzal	
K. Shwaluk	1899	Peter Kryswaty	Dmytro Luhowy	Steve Chwaluk	
Peter Maduke		Stan Drozda	P. Luhowy	Tom Buternowski	
Metro Maduke		Mervin Drozda	Hnat Budiwski	S.E.	
Del Drozda		S.W.	Peter Kondrat	P. Koltuski	1899
Section 35		Filko Drozda	Dick Kreshewski	Wasył Swistun	
N.W.		Stan Drozda	N.E.	Peter Ewashko	
James McDonald	1904	Mervin Drozda	John Koltuski	Bill Maduke	
Mervyn Markle					

Township 19 Range 24

Section 1		John A. MacPhail	B. J. Scafe	Orest Chwaluk	
N.½ of N½		Jim Campbell	Drs. Coyle and O'Sullivan	S.W.	
Alexander MacDonald		Will Young	S.W.	G. Porterfield	1881
George Yaskiw		Robert Young	John D. McKinnon (H.S.)	Jas. Armstrong Sr.	
Dick Yaskiw		Dennis Young	1882	Walter Snider	
Donald MacDonald		S.E.	John L. McKinnon	Melvin Luhowy	
Matt Shwaluk (T)		Alexander Bell	Catherine Armstrong	S.E.	
David and Anthony Woychyshyn		John A. MacPhail	Mrs. Wm. Armstrong	G. Porterfield	
S½ of S½		Jim Campbell	Hugh Armstrong	Jas. Armstrong Sr.	
Alexander MacDonald		Will Young	S.E.	Walter Snider	
George Yaskiw		Robert Young	John D. McKinnon	Melvin Luhowy	
Mike Hrysak		Dennis Young	1896	Section 7	
Pete Wasilka		Section 3	John L. McKinnon	N.W.	
Donald MacDonald		N.W.	Catherine Armstrong	D. McAinsh	1899
Matt Schwaluk (T)		D. A. Downie Co.	Mrs. Wm. Armstrong	Ralph Stitt	
David and Anthony Woychyshyn		John MacPhail	Hugh Armstrong	Wm. Stitt	
South ½		Catherine MacPhail	Section 5	Wilson Stitt	
A. MacDonald		Alexander MacPhail	N.W.	Vivian Stitt	
D. Yaskiw		N.E.	Jas. Armstrong Sr.	Russ and Norman Andrew	
A. MacDonald		D. A. Downie Co.	Percy Armstrong	N.E.	
J. and P. and J. Conrad		John MacPhail	Walter Snider	J. Taylor	1902
A. MacDonald		1906	Wm. Taylor	Gordon Taylor	
M. Hrycak		Catherine MacPhail	N.E.	Spencer Taylor	
Nick Hrycak		Iain MacPhail	Jas. Armstrong Sr.	S.W.	
MacDonald Sisters		Marian McCormick	1901	A. R. Mitchell	1900
Halliday Bros. (R)		S.W.	Wm. Taylor	John Cameron	
John Halliday		D. A. Downie Co.	S.W.	Margaret Cameron	
Mychasiw Bros.		R. J. Brown	Walter Armstrong (H.S.)	Russ and Norman Andrew	
Walter Mychasiw		Albert Woods (T)	1882	S.E.	
Section 2		Harold Brown	1894	A. R. Mitchell	1900
N.W.		Ray Brown	John Armstrong	John Cameron	
Alec McAinsh (H.S.)	1882	S.E.	S.E.	Margaret Cameron	
A. McPhail		D. A. Downie Co.	Wm. H. Armstrong Sr.	Doug Andrew	
Hector McPhail		R. J. Brown	1907	Russ and Norman Andrew	
Wilfred Brown		Albert Woods (T)	Wm. Armstrong	Section 8	
Alex Mackedenski		Harold Brown	John Armstrong	N.W.	
Leonard Mackedenski		Ray Brown	Section 6	Hudson's Bay Co.	1881
N.E.		Section 4	N.W.	G. Shaw Sr.	
Donald J. MacDonald		N.W.	Robert Carson Sr. (H.S.)	Wm. Shaw	
(H.S.)	1881	Wm. J. Hamilton (H.S.)	1891	Paul Chwaluk	
Mrs. J. McKinnon		Arthur Chesney Sr.	Robert Carson Jr.	Orest Chwaluk	
Paul Slobodeski		1889	A. Carson Sr.	N.E.	
Peter Chwaluk		Albert Chesney	James Sherritt	Hudson's Bay Co.	1881
Frank Shewchuk		Steve Matowski	David Sherritt	Joe Stitt	
Dugald McKinnon — Julien		B. J. Scafe	Doug Andrew	Dixon Stitt	
Morrell		Drs. Coyle and O'Sullivan	N.E.	Don Stitt	
Mychasiw Bros.		N.E.	Robert Carson Sr.	Ray Brown	
Walter Mychasiw		Alexander Hamilton Jr.	1882	Chris Mitchell	
S.W.		Wm. J. Hamilton	A. Carson Sr.	S.W.	
Alexander Bell (H.S.)	1891	Arthur Chesney Sr.	James Sherritt	Hudson's Bay Co.	1881
		Albert Chesney	Everet B. Taylor		
		Steve Matowski	Paul Chwaluk		
			David Sherritt		

Mrs. Jas. A. Armstrong		Peter Bilinsky		S.E.		N.E.	
Bill Shaw		N.E.		Sam Riddell	1889	J. Cumming	1881
Paul Chwaluk		Alexander McDonald	1907	Charles Lamont		Geo. Shaw Sr.	
Orest Chwaluk		G. Yaskiw		Geo. Williamson		Kalynuik Bros. (T)	
S.E.		Mrs. A. A. Forde		Peter Starensky		Steve Shust	(1936-39)
Hudson's Bay Co.	1881	Noel Steele		Michael Bilinsky		John Miller	
Joe Stitt		David Woychyshyn		Bill Sheppard		S.W.	
Dixon Stitt		S.W.		Walter Zegalski		J. Cumming	1891
Don Stitt		G. Fraser				Geo. Shaw Sr.	
Ray Brown		Crown		Section 14		Kalynuik Bros. (T)	
Chris Mitchell		T. O. Miller (R)		N.W.		Steve Shust (T)	
Section 9		Gurnick (R)		David Maxsom (H.S.)	1885	Harold Taylor	
N.W.		Yanick (R)		Tom Stitt		Paul Bilinsky	
A. Cumming	1904	Joe Chegwin (R)		Leonard Bilinsky		Richard Bilinsky	
Mrs. H. MacPhail		Wilfred Chegwin (R)		N.E.		Ray Brown	
J. Cumming		Steve Woychesin		David Maxsom	1881	S.E.	
Sam Brown		Peter Bilinsky		Tom Stitt		James Cumming	1885
Brown Bros.		Walter Mychasiw		Leonard Bilinsky		Geo. Shaw Sr.	
Ray Brown		S.E.		S.W.		Kalynuik Bros. (T)	
N.E.		Archibald A. Forde	1907	J. C. Cole	1881	Steve Shust (T)	
A. Cumming	1904	Mrs. A. A. Forde		Charles Lamont		Harold Taylor	
Mrs. H. MacPhail		Gwen Steele		Wm. McNally		Paul Bilinsky	
Sam Brown		David Woychyshyn		Gordon Taylor		Richard Bilinsky	
Brown Bros.		Section 12		George Williamson		Ray Brown	
Ray Brown		N.W.		Harvey Hamilton		Section 17	
S.W.		David Machan	1881	Mychasiw Bros.		N.W.	
F. Taylor	1906	Jack Cummings		Robert Olyarnyk		Wm. Cormack	1907
Arthur Chesney		A. A. Forde		S.E.		J. W. Cormack	
Joe Zubrack		Flora Forde		J. C. Cole	1880	N.E.	
Syzon Sytnyk		Lorne Hrysak		John Lamont	1888	George A. Cormack	1907
S.E.		Nick Lysyshin		Charles Lamont		J. W. Cormack	
F. Taylor	1906	N.E.		George Williamson		S.W.	
Arthur Chesney		Jim Paul	1881	Rev. Wilkinson		M. Cormack	1916
Joe Zubrack		W. Heritzon		Wm. McNally		W½ Wm. Cormack	
Syzon Sytnyk		Milton Gardiner		Gordon Taylor		E½ Alex Cormack	
Section 10		W. Hrysak		Alex Andrew		Paul Bilinsky	
N.W.		Lorne Hrysak		Mike Olyarnyk		Richard Bilinsky	
John McKinnon		Nick Lysyshin		Section 15		Melvin Luhowy	
George Wildgoose		S.W.		N.W.		S.E.	
John MacPhail	1899	George Machan	1881	Hudson's Bay Co.		Alexander Cormack	1907
Catherine MacPhail		Jack Cummings		Mrs. John Brodie		Harvey Hamilton	
Alexander MacPhail		A. A. Forde		Donald McDonald		Mychasiw Bros.	
N.E.		Frank Steele		Peter Bilinsky		Walter Mychasiw	
Jos. Moulton (H.S.)	1882	David Woychyshyn		N.E.		Ray Brown	
John Armstrong		S.E.		Hudson's Bay Co.		Section 18	
Wm. Miller	1905	Jim Paul (H.S.)	1884	Mrs. John Brodie		N.W.	
Wm. Stitt	1918	W. Heritzon		Donald MacDonald		John G. Ramsay	1886
Willis Stitt		Milton Gardiner		Andrew Bilinsky PT of NE		J. J. Stitt	
Ray Brown		Wasył Hrysak		Peter Bilinsky PT of NE		Robert Stitt	
S.W.		Lorne Hrysak		S.W.		Don Stitt	
John MacPhail (H.S.)	1882	Nick Lysyshin		Hudson's Bay Co.		N.E.	
Catherine MacPhail		Section 13		M. D. Hamilton		John G. Ramsey (H.S.)	1881
Alexander MacPhail		N.W.		Harvey Hamilton		J. J. Stitt	
S.E.		Hugh Glass	1899	Willis Stitt		Robert Stitt	
Robert Johnson (H.S.)	1888	W. J. Hamilton		Neil Stitt		Don Stitt	
William Miller	1905	Adolph Kotesky		S.E.		S.W.	
Wm. Stitt	1918	N.E.		Hudson's Bay Co.		Ed Simpson	1893
Willis Stitt		A. Weikson and H. Hall	1903	M. D. Hamilton		John Matiowsky	
Mychasiw Bros.		J. Bilinsky		Harvey Hamilton		Rose Matiowsky	
Walter Mychasiw		N. Bilinsky		Mychasiw Bros.		S.E.	
Section 11		J. Brian Chegwin		Walter Mychasiw		Ed Simpson	1883
N.W.		S.W.		Section 16		John Matiowsky	
G. Fraser and McDermott		Sam Riddell	1901	N.W.		Rose Matiowsky	
Crown		Charles Lamont		Alex Cumming (H.S.)	1887	Section 19	
T. O. Miller (R)		George Williamson		Geo. Shaw Sr.		N.W.	
Gurnick (R)		Joe Woychesin		Kalynuik Bros. (T)		Wm. Gerrond Jr.	1881
Yanick (R)		Walter Woychesin		Steve Shust	1936-39 (T)	Wm. McIntosh	
Joe Chegwin (R)		Frank Zegalski		John Miller (T)		Alec Fostakowski (T)	
Steve Woychyshyn		Walter Zegalski		Wally Miller		Ernie McIntosh W½	

Howard McIntosh E½		N.E.		S.W.		Steve Chuhai	
Nick Klym		Geo. Forrest (H.S.)	1891	Confederation Life	1911	M.A.C.C.	
N.E.		Mrs. I. Hamilton		D. A. Downie Co. S½		Tony Kryshewski	
Wm. Gerrond Jr.	1881	W. J. Hamilton		R. J. Brown N½		S.W.	
Wm. McIntosh		W. R. Hamilton		Municipality of Rosburn S½		John A. McDonald	1881
Alec Fostakowski (T)		Carman Brown		Morley Brown		Alec Hamilton	
Howard McIntosh W½		S.W.		S.E.		Mrs. Annie Hamilton	
Wes McIntosh E½		John Brodie (H.S.)	1881	Crown		Ronald Hamilton	
Nick Klym		Geo. Bilinsky (T)		Tom Stitt		S.E.	
S.W.		Andrew Bilinsky		Bill Kuz		Albert McDonald	1891
Joseph J. Stitt (H.S.)	1884	S.E.		P. Chegus		Wm. Miller (T)	
Orville McFeetors		A. Cumming	1883	Dora Chegus		Bob Wiggins (T)	
Mrs. Mary McFeetors		G. Cormack		Nellie Sytnyk		Harry Woods	
Elwyn McFeetors		G. Cormack Jr.		Section 26		Mrs. Annie Hamilton	
S.E.		Melvin Cormack		N.W.		Ronald Hamilton	
Joseph J. Stitt	1881	Carman Brown N½		Hudson's Bay Co.	1881	Section 29	
Orville McFeetors		Andrew Bilinsky S½		J. Brown	1905	N. W. Wm. McDonald Jr.	
Mrs. Mary McFeetors		Section 23		Walter Brown		(H.S.)	1881
Elwyn McFeetors		N.W.		Carman Brown		Tony McDonald	
Section 20		Richard Seeman	1895	N.E.		Michael Koteski	
N.W.		Miller		University of Manitoba	1898	Mike Ryshytylo	
Wm. Taylor	1883	R. J. Brown		Harry Klym		N.E.	
Gordon Taylor		Morley Brown		Jack Klym		Wm. McDonald Sr.	
R. Spencer Taylor		N.E.		S.W.		(H.S.)	1884
N.E.		Daniel Hamilton	1899	Hudson's Bay Co.	1881	Mrs. Jim Armstrong	
Mrs. J. Porterfield	1891	W. J. Hamilton		J. Brown	1905	Mike Koteski	
Wm. Taylor		Adolph Kotesky	1960	Mrs. James Brown		Stanford Koteski	
Gordon Taylor		S.W.		Walter Brown		Mike Ryshytylo	
R. Spencer Taylor		Matthew Hamilton	1899	Carman Brown		S.W.	
S.W.		Howard Hamilton		S.E.		Wm. McDonald Jr. (H.S.)	1885
John Gerrand	1881	Wilf Chegwin		Hudson's Bay Co.	1881	Tom McDonald	
M. Cormack		S.E.		Harry Klym		Mike Koteski	
D. Cormack		Daniel Hamilton	1899	Jack Klym		Morley Koteski	
John Cormack		W. J. Hamilton		Section 27		Mike Ryshytylo	
S.E.		Adolph Kotesky	1960	N.W.		S.E.	
George Cormack		Section 24		Richard Seeman	1894	Wm. McDonald Sr. (H.S.)	1881
Mrs. G. Cormack Sr.		N.W.		Alex Stewart		Mrs. Jim Armstrong	
John Cormack		Murdock Cormack	1892	Geo. Stewart		Mike Kotesky	
Section 21		D. Cormack		Mike Bucklaschuk		Tony Koteski	
N.W.		Alex Cormack		Steve Chuhai		Anton Koteski	
Richard Seeman	1895	Morley Brown		M.A.C.C.		Mike Ryshytylo	
Charlie Haywood		N.E.		Tony Kryshewski		Section 30	
Ben Cormack		George Bennett	1899	N.E.		N.W.	
Wm. Gapka		Paul Chegus		James Brown	1933	Robert Hamilton	1885
David Gapka		Dora Chegus		Alec Brown		J. Hamilton	
N.E.		S.W.		Carman Brown		Jack MacLeod (T)	
Winnipeg Western Land Corp.		Robert Moulton (H.S.)	1881	S.W.		Vernon Hamilton (T)	
Mrs. B. and Mrs. G. Cormack		Robert Glass		Wm. Hamilton	1906	Harry Bilinsky	
Wm. Gapka N½		Mrs. W. J. Hamilton		W. R. Hamilton		Mike Bilinsky	
Wally Miller S½		Adolph Kotesky		Carman Brown		N.E.	
S.W.		S.E.		S.E.		Wm. Strong	1881
Richard Seeman	1895	John Whyman (H.S.)	1891	Geo. Stewart	1900	Wes Strong	
John Cormack		Mrs. Matthew Hamilton		Alex Stewart		H. McKague (T)	
G. Cormack Sr.		G. Belinsky		R. J. Brown and J. Brown		Sid Hamilton (T)	
Ben Cormack S½		Brian Chegwin		Carman Brown N½		Alex Fostakowski	
Mike Drozda N½		Section 25		Morley Brown S½		Jack and Steve Fostakowski	
David Gapka N½		N.W.		Section 28		John Ryshytylo	
John Cormack S½		Winnipeg Western Land		N.W.		S.W.	
S.E.		Corp.	1902	Wm. McDonald Sr. (H.S.)	1886	Alex Warnock	
George Cormack Sr.	1899	R. J. Brown		Mrs. Wm. McDonald Sr.		Wm. McIntosh	1881
George Cormack Jr.		Mrs. Jean Brown		Tom McDonald		Gertrude Anne Midgely	
Mrs. F. K. Cormack		Anton Slon		Mike Koteski		Alec Fostakowski (T)	
Wally Miller		N.E.		Sam Chicheluk		Art McIntosh	
Section 22		Winnipeg Western Land Corp.	1902	Mike Verbowski		Nick Klym	
N.W.				N.E.		S.E.	
John Brodie	1894	R. J. Brown		Robert Taylor	1884	Wm. Strong	1884
J. Brown (T)		Mrs. Jean Brown		Mrs. J. Taylor		Mrs. W. Strong	
Andrew Bilinsky		Anton Slon		Herb Taylor		H. McKague (T)	
				Mike Bucklaschuk		Sid Hamilton (T)	

Alex Fostakowski		Mrs. Judd Taylor		Harry Boychuk		Corp.	1902
Jack and Steve Fostakowski		H. Taylor (T)		S.W.		J. J. Hay	
John Ryshtylo		Bessie Taylor		Richard Seeman	1894	Bill Shermata	
Section 31		George Lawless		W. A. Peden		Terry Sherman	
N.W.		N.E.		Wilson Stitt		S.W.	
Alec McKenzie	1881	Wm. McKee	1884	Harry Boychuk		Winnipeg Western Land	
Wm. Miller		Wm. Taylor		S.E.		Corp.	1902
T. C. Peden		E. Woods		Richard Seeman	1894	J. J. Hay	
Metro Glushka		Pete Kuz		W. A. Peden		Maurice Dutchak	
J. G. Stitt		Bill Hullick (T)		Wilson Stitt		W. Maskiew	
Peter Hasiuk		Harry Goletz		Harry Boychuk		Helen Koloski	
Kowalchuk Bros. (T)		Leonard Goletz		Section 34		S.E.	
Murray and Wm. Hryciuk		S.W.		N.W.		Winnipeg Western Land Corp.	1902
N.E.		Robert Taylor	1881	Robert Brown	1901		
Wm. Taylor	1883	Judd Taylor		Harold Collingridge		J. J. Hay	
John Irwin W½		Herb Taylor		Andrew Pachkowski		Stanley and Nick Bidochka	
Lorne Lawless W½		Harry Goletz		Matt Trynchuk N½		Cliff Evans	
Barrie Lawless W½		Leonard Goletz		Ernest Drul S½		Arvied Raean	
Jean M. Lawless W½		S.E.		N.E.		Section 36	
Tom Lawless W½		Wm. McKee	1881	Crown (Arrow Lake)		N.W.	
T. J. Lawless Sr. E½		Wm. Taylor		S.W.		University	1898
Lorne Lawless E½		E. Woods		Alexander Stewart	1881	Jack Klym	
George Lawless E½		Pete Kuz		G. Stewart		Edward Clowes	
S.W.		Bill Hullick (T)		John Drul		N.E.	
Village of Rosburn		Harry Goletz		Ernie Drul		University	1898
S.E.		Leonard Goletz		S.E.		G. Chicheluk	
Wm. Taylor	1883	Section 33		Alexander Stewart	1892	Frank Zegalski	
John Irwin W½		N.W.		G. Stewart		Walter Zegalski	
Lorne Lawless W½		Robert Hamilton Jr.	1904	John Drul		Stephen Waytowich and	
Barrie Lawless W½		E. Woods		Ernie Drul		Julian Lucyshen	
Jean M. Lawless W½		Peter Yaskiew S½		Section 35		S.W.	
Tom Lawless W½		Metro Glushka N½		N.W.		Univesity	1898
T. J. Lawless Sr. E½		Peter Sidlar N½		Winnipeg Western Land		Jack Klym	
Lorne Lawless E½		Joseph Glushka S½		Corp.	1902	Edward Clowes	
George Lawless E½		Bill Hryciuk S½		J. J. Hay		S.E.	
Section 32		N.E.		Bill Shermata		University	1898
N.W.		James W. Stitt		Terry Sherman		Frank Zegalski	
Robert Taylor	1884	Wilson J. Stitt		N.E.		Walter Zegalski E½	
Judd Taylor		Mrs. W. Peden		Winnipeg Western Land		Stephen Waytowich and	
						Julian Lucyshen W½	

Township 19 — Range 25

Section 1		N.E.		S.W.		S.W.	
N.W.		Thomas Young	1898	J. Sharman	1884	J. Sharman	1884
Duncan McAinsh	1899	William Mitchell Sr.		A. J. Hamilton		Workman Bros.	
William Mitchell Sr.		William Mitchell Jr.		William Mitchell Sr.		Peter Melnyk	
Mrs. William Chegwin		Mrs. Frances Wladyka		William Mitchell Jr.		Michael Melnyk	
N.E.		S.W.		Peter Melnyk		S.E.	
Duncan McAinsh	1899	University of Manitoba	1898	Frank Melnyk		J. Sharman	1884
William Mitchell Sr.		William Mitchell Sr.				Workman Bros.	
Robert Carson Jr.		William Mitchell Jr.		S.E.		Peter Melnyk	
Elmer Brown	1960	Mrs. Frances Wladyka		William Mitchell Sr.	1902	Michael Melnyk	
Brian Brown		S.E.		William Mitchell Jr.		Section 5	
S.W.		University of Manitoba	1898	Russell Tanasychuk		N.W.	
Duncan McAinsh	1905	William Mitchell Sr.		Mrs. Frances Wladyka		Robert Simpson	1879
William Mitchell Sr.		William Mitchell Jr.		Section 4		Alexander Gemwell	
Mrs. William Chegwin		Mrs. Frances Wladyka		N.W.		Warring Kennedy	1879
S.E.		Section 3		J. Sharman	1884	Robert Mountain	
Robert Carson Sr.	1900	N.W.		Dick Hamilton		William Moulson	
Robert Carson Jr.	1930-58	J. Sharman	1884	William Campbell		Norman Moulson	
John Stitt		H. Hyde		Peter Melnyk		N.E.	
Elmer Brown	1960	Sam Chicheluk		Michael Melnyk		J. Sharman	1884
Section 2		Adam Chicheluk		N.E.		Robert Mountain	
N.W.		N.E.		J. Sharman	1884	William Moulson	
Thomas Young	1884	William Mitchell Sr.	1902	Dick Hamilton		Norman Moulson	
William Mitchell Sr.		William Mitchell Jr.		William Campbell		S.W.	
William Mitchell Jr.		Russell Tanasychuk		Peter Melnyk		Alexander Gemwell	
Mrs. Frances Wladyka		Mrs. Frances Wladyka		Michael Melnyk		Warring Kennedy	

Robert Simpson	1879	S.E.		N.E.		S.W.	
Robert Mountain		Hudson's Bay Co.	1881	Alex Young	1894	J. Sharman	1884
William Moulson		Wm. Moulson		Chrispin Bros.		Nick Hrycak	
Norman Moulson		Norman Moulson		John Kiez	1945	Sam Hrycak	
S.E.		Section 9		Dan Kiez	1951	S.E.	
Alexander Gemwell		N.W.		Lyle Kiez	1981	J. Sharman	1884
Warring Kennedy		Wm. Moulson	1909	S.W.		Hyde's	
Robert Simpson	1879	Norman Moulson		Albert Porter	1892	Sam Chicheluk Sr.	
Robert Mountain		N.E.		Mrs. A. N. Mitchell		Matt Chicheluk	
William Moulson		J. Sharman	1884	Miss Madge Mitchell		Section 16	
Norman Moulson		Nick Hrycak		Margaret Cameron		N.W.	
Section 6		Sam Hrycak		Vivian Stitt		Indian	
N.W.		S.W.		Douglas Andrew		Reserve	
University of Manitoba	1898	Jos. Sharman	1884	S.E.		N.E.	
A. L. MacLeod		Murda Campbell		Duncan McAinsh	1888	J. Sharman	1884
Norman Moulson		Wm. Moulson		Leslie Grundy		Hyde's	
Melvin Rainey		Norman Moulson		Douglas Andrew		Sam Chicheluk Sr.	
David and Mowbray Mountain		Peter Melnyk		Section 13		Matt Chicheluk	
N.E.		S.E.		N.W.		S.W.	
University of Manitoba	1898	Jos. Sharman	1884	Jos. Sharman	1884	Indian	
A. L. MacLeod		Sam Chicheluk		Wm. Mitchell Sr.		Reserve	
Norman Moulson		Murda Campbell		Mrs. Wm. Chegwin		S.E.	
Melvin Rainey		Peter Melnyk		N.E.		J. Sharman	1884
David and Mowbray Mountain		Frank Melnyk		J. Sharman	1884	Nick Hrycak	
S.W.		Section 10		Alex Young		Sam Hrycak	
Margaret Ann Russell	1886	N.W.		Chrispin Bros.		Section 17-20 incl — Indian	
Percy Mountain		J. Sharman	1884	John Kiez	1945	Reserve	
David and Mowbray Mountain		Nick Hrycak		Dan Kiez	1951	Section 21	
S.E.		Sam Hrycak		S.W.		N.W.	
Margaret Ann Russell	1882	N.E.		Jos. Sharman	1884	Indian	
Percy Mountain		J. Sharman	1884	Wm. Mitchell Sr.		Reserve	
David and Mowbray Mountain		H. Hyde		Mrs. Wm. Chegwin		N.E.	
Section 7		Sam Chicheluk Sr.		S.E.		Indian	
N.W.		Sam Chicheluk Jr.		J. Sharman	1884	Reserve	
Charlie Mickle	1901	Mary Chicheluk		Alex Young		S.W.	
Mrs. D. Copping		S.W.		Chrispin Bros.		Indian	
Oscar Copping		J. Sharman	1884	John Kiez	1945	Reserve	
Albert Ament	1933	H. Hyde		Dan Kiez	1951	S.E.	
Gordon Ament	1947	Sam Chicheluk Sr.		Section 14		J. Sharman	1884
N.E.		Adam Chicheluk		N.W.		Miss Louise Hyde	
Arthur Doig	1908	S.E.		J. Sharman	1884	Mathew R. Hamilton	
E. Scully		J. Sharman	1884	George Black		Steve Ukrainetz	
Oscar Copping		H. Hyde		Bert Mitchell		Lorne Tanasychuk	
Albert Ament	1933	Sam Chicheluk Sr.		John Mitchell	1958	Section 22	
Gordon Ament		Sam Chicheluk Jr.		N.E.		N.W.	
S.W.		Mary Chicheluk		J. Sharman	1884	east of river	
Charlie Mickle	1901	Section 11		George Black		J. Sharman	1884
Jim Dunbar		N.W.		Bert Mitchell		Miss Louise Hyde	
Albert Ament	1933	John Young	1907	John Mitchell	1958	Mathew R. Hamilton	
Gordon Ament	1947	Mrs. Jessie Heneghan		S.W.		Steve Ukrainetz	
S.E.		N.E.		Thomas Young	1883	Lorne Tanasychuk	
Wm. Dutton, J. Johnson	1914	Peter Black		Peter Black		N.E.	
Mrs. D. Copping		Bert Mitchell		Bert Mitchell		J. Sharman	1884
Oscar Copping		S.W.		S.E.		Miss Louise Hyde	
Albert Ament	1933	Wm. Mitchell Sr.	1907	J. Sharman	1884	Mathew R. Hamilton	
Gordon Ament	1947	John Carson		Peter Black		Steve Ukrainetz	
Section 8		Wayne Carson		Bert Mitchell		Lorne Tanasychuk	
N.W.		S.E.		Section 15		S.W.	
Hudson's Bay Co.	1881	Wm. Mitchell Sr.	1907	N.W.		east of river	
Wm. Moulson		John Carson		J. Sharman	1884	J. Sharman	1884
Norman Moulson		Wayne Carson		Hyde's		Miss Louise Hyde	
N.E.		Section 12		Sam Chicheluk Sr.		Mathew R. Hamilton	
Hudson's Bay Co.	1881	N.W.		Matt Chicheluk		Steve Ukrainetz	
Wm. Moulson		Wm. Young	1881	N.E.		Lorne Tanasychuk	
Norman Moulson		Alex Young	1901	J. Sharman	1884	S.E.	
S.W.		Chrispin Bros.		Hyde's		J. Sharman	1884
Hudson's Bay Co.	1881	John Kiez	1945	Sam Chicheluk Sr.		Miss Louise Hyde	
Wm. Moulson		Dan Kiez	1951	Matt Chicheluk		Mathew R. Hamilton	
Norman Moulson		Lyle Kiez	1981			Steve Ukrainetz	

Lorne Tanasychuk		Orville McFeetors		S.E.		Metro Danyleyko	
Section 23		Elwyn McFeetors		Hudson's Bay Co.	1881	Harry Yaskiw	
N.W.		Section 25		John Young		N.E.	
Hugh Warnock	1883	N.W.		Mrs. Jessie Heneghan		Richard Ross	1879
John Young		Angus McCall	1882	Mickey Heneghan	1977	Charles W. Ross	
Mrs. Jessie Heneghan		George Williamson		Section 27		Andrew Matskiw	
N.E.		Wesley Williamson		N.W.		Metro Danyleyko	
Edward Farrar	1908	Mrs. Beryl Williamson		Indian		Harry Yaskiw	
Wm. Mitchell Sr.		N.E.		Reserve		S.W.	
Alex Hamilton		Richard Seeman	1895	N.E.		William Peden	1879
J. G. Stitt		George Williamson	1892	east of river		Andrew Peden	
Steve Shust		Wesley Williamson		Crown		Joe Juce	
Edward Shust		Mrs. Beryl Williamson		Earle Taylor	1956	Joe Kreshewski	
S.W.		S.W.		S.W.		S.E.	
Sam Warnock	1883	Angus McCall	1882	Indian		William Peden	1879
Wm. Crowe		George Williamson		Reserve		Andrew Peden	
Paul Pomehichuk		Mathew R. Hamilton		S.E.		Joe Juce	
Mike Pomehichuk		Miss Louise Hyde		east of river		Joe Kreshewski	
S.E.		Steve Shust	1939	Crown		Section 36	
Sam Warnock	1884	Edward Shust	1948	Earle Taylor	1956	N.W.	
Wm. Crowe		S.E.		Section 28 to 33		Robert R. Hamilton	1882
Paul Pomehichuk		Richard Seeman	1895	inclusive — Indian Reserve		Jack Sinclair	
Mike Pomehichuk		Edward Butler	1900	Land		W. A. Clubley	
Section 24		George Williamson		Section 34		Frank Gumieny	
N.W.		Wesley Williamson		N.W.		Bill Kreshewski	
James Stitt	1896	Mrs. Beryl Williamson		Indian		N.E.	
Ralph Stitt		Section 26		Reserve		Robert White Sr.	1879
Joe Zemianski		N.W.		N.E.		J. Sinclair	
Elwyn McFeetors		Hudson's Bay Co.	1881	Crown		Frank Gumieny	
N.E.		Mathew Whaley		Metro Danyleyko	1940	Peter Checkowsky	
James Stitt	1881	A. McKee		Nick Maryniuk		W. A. Clubley	
Ralph Stitt		Wm. McKee		Harold and Fred Clement		Andrew Kalyniuk	
Joe Zemianski		Robert McKee		S.W.		Nick Kalyniuk	
Elwyn McFeetors		Earle Taylor	1944	Indian		S.W.	
S.W.		N.E.		Reserve		Robert R. Peden	1884
John Porterfield	1883	Mathew Whaley	1888	S.E.		Jack Peden	
Thomas Lawless		Wm. McKee		Crown		William Elvers	
J. J. Stitt		Robert McKee		Metro Danyleyko		Mike Wolanyk	
Orville McFeetors		Earle Taylor	1944	Nick Maryniuk		Ed Kreshewski	
Elwyn McFeetors		S.W.		Harold and Fred Clement		S.E.	
S.E.		Hudson's Bay Co.	1881	Section 35		(Outside town limits)	
John Porterfield	1881	John Young		N.W.		Robert R. Peden	1881
Thomas Lawless		Mrs. Jessie Heneghan		Richard Ross	1879	Joe Peden	
J. J. Stitt		Mickey Heneghan	1977	Andrew Matskiw		Mike Wolanyk	
						Ed Kreshewski	

Township 20-Range 23

Section 1		Ron Drozda		N.½ Fred Twerdun		John Shwaluke	1910
N.W.		N.E.		Alex Mychasiw		Alex Zegalski	
Andrew Skabarski		Nykola Levitski	1902-28	Mrs. Alex Mychasiw		John Chop	
Steve Boychuk		Nykola Budiwski	1928-42	Walter J. Mychasiw		Peter Kondrat	
Matiowski		Frank Twerdochlib	1942-67	S.W.		Anton Wasilka	
Frank Silewich		Mike Dnistranski	1967-79	Confederation Real Estate		Ed Mychasiw	
N.E.		Frank Niznowski	1979-80	Wm. Zenchyshyn		S.W.	
M. Kuzek		S.W.		Peter Zenchyshyn		Onofrey Korolyk	1899-1920
George Sheeshka		John Twerdochlib	1900-29	S.E.		W.½ Bill Korolyk	
Mike Sheeshka		Ted Twerdochlib	1929-35	John Kondrat		Mrs. Mary Wasilka	
Joe Kowal		John Hnatiw	1935-42	Frank Wozney		Mike Korolyk	
Walter Kowal		Peter Zenchyshyn	1942	Ted Twerdochlib	1953-80	Ed Mychasiw	
S.W.		S.E.		Michael Twerdochlib	1980-	E.½ M. Korolyk	
Crown		Nykola Topolniski	1900-35	Section 4		John Mychasiw	
S.E.		Steve Topolniski		N.W.		Frank Budz	
Crown		Dick Kryshewski		Sam Yanick	1899	Ed Mychasiw	
Section 2		Section 3		Frank Budz Sr.		S.E.	
N.W.		N.W.		Frank Budz Jr.		Nick Wozney	1899-1910
Kazemer Skavinski		Crown		Ed Mychasiw		Mrs. N. Wozney	1910-1932
John Osadets		N.E.		N.E.		John Zenchyshyn	
Mike Drozda		S.½ Wm. Twerdun		Wasyl Leschyshyn	1899-1910	Nick Dnistranski	

John Halischak		Johnny Chuha		Section 12		Joe Derkach	
Joe Dutchak		Edward Reddaway		N.W.		Frank Twerdochlib	
Section 5		Crown		Hnat Mitch	1942	Alex Mychasiw	
N.W.		S.W.		Julie Maydaniuk	1942-79	Dick Kryshewski	
Harry Berehulka		Peter Yarowshewski		N.E. N½		S.E. W½	
Paul Yareshewski		Steve Waytowich and Julian Lucyshen		Paul Beletski		Stephan Bohrey	
Steve Waytowich and Julian Lucyshen		S.E.		Mike Borodie		O. Zamonski	
N.E.		Mike Ostash		N.E. S½		Joe Derkach	
H. Baubie		Edward Wowkotrub		Paul Beletski		Frank Twerdochlib	1936-43
John Baubie		Pat Heneghan		Fred Posmituik		Mike Topolniski	1943-70
Mike Baubie		Section 9		S.W.		Tony Dutchak	1970-80
S. Wilson and L. Puhacz		N.W. W½		Fedor Mitch		Section 15	
S.W.		Peter Choptiuk		Hnat Mitch		N.W.	
Mike Baubie		John Choptiuk		Carl Maydaniuk	1942-79	Wasył Kokurudz	1910-35
Steve Waytowich and Julian Lucyshen		Fred Kuch		Frank Silewich		John Kokurudz	1935
S.E.		John Shwaluk		S.E.		Mike Chomica	
Nychola Chuckrey		Mike Shwaluk		Wasył Filas		Ed Mychasiw	
Peter Woychyshyn		N.W. E½		Paul Beletski		N.E.	
Orest Lewycky		Koleinick		Walter Kowal		John M. Leschyshyn	1911-63
Myrcel Michalysyn	1981	Wasył Choptiuk		Section 13		Stan Leschasin	1963-66
Section 6		John Choptiuk		N.W.		Peter Leschasin	1966-72
N.W.		John Shwaluk		Wasył Jumaga		Crown	
George Chicheluk		Mike Shwaluk		Adolph Flaman		Grass Land Project	
Mike Woychyshyn		N.E.		N.E.		S.W.	
Frank Woychyshyn		Harry Rodilniski		Crown		Harry Dutchak	
Joe Swidinski		Mike Baubie		S.W.		Nickola Chomica	
John Swidinski		Steve Waytowich and Julian Lucyshen		Crown		Raymond Mychasiw	
N.E.		S.W.		S.E.		S.E.	
Harry Berehulka		Crown		Crown		Nickola Dmyterko	1911-38
Mallick Peikoff		John Koleinick		Section 14		S.E. E½	
Mike Woychyshyn		S.E.		N.W.		John Dmyterko	
John Baydock		Wasył Yanick		Carl Shipowski		Nick Dmyterko	
S.W.		Walter Budz		Anna Pachorka		S.E. W½	
Andrew Woychyshyn		Frank Budz		Joe Hawryshok		Peter Dmyterko	
Mike Woychyshyn		Raymond Mychasiw		Morris Yammey		Nick Dmyterko	
Frank Woychyshyn		Section 10		Sam and Tony Kreshewski	1954-76	Section 16	
Joe Swidinski		N.W.		MACC	1976-77	N.W.	
John Swidinski		Harry Dutchak	1900	Tony Kreshewski	1977-80	Solima	1900
S.E.		Bill Chomica		N.E. N½		Fedor Chuha	
Stanley Trach		Edward Wowkotrub		Wasył Komaranski	1902-14	Nick Antoniow	
Bill Hullick		M. Fenwick		John Komaranski	1914-22	John Shastko	
Peter Swidinski		Albert Parr		W. Rogers	1922-23	Julia Shastko	
Joe Swidinski		N.E. N½		John Komaranski	1923-33	N.E.	
John Swidinski		Peter Shipowski		Ann Yaroshewski	1933-36	Wasył Prosyk	1900
Section 7		A. B. Fishman		Joe Derkach	1936-37	Mrs. Wasył Prosyk	
N.W.		Arnold Slon		Joe Hawryshok	1937-62	Stan Lechasin	1940-52
John Lepischak		N.E. S½		Dick Zenchyshyn	1962-65	Mack Leschasin	1952-65
Anton Lepischak		Lucas Zegalski		Joe Howryshok	1965-70	Norman Leschasin	1965-78
Eugene Lepischak		A. B. Fishman		Tony Kreshewski	1970-80	Henryk Marcinak	1978-80
N.E.		Arnold Slon		N.E. S½		S.W.	
Mike Chegus		S.W.		Wasył Komaranski	1902-32	Nestor Prosyk	1902-65
Peter Chegus		Mike Kotis		Peter Twerdochlib	1932-59	Bill Prosyk	1965-80
Metro Sowtis		Alex Mychasiw		Madnick		S.E. S½	
S.W.		Walter John Mychasiw		Peter Warmer		Martin Hachkowski	1900
R.M. of Rosssburn		S.E.		John Evans	1980	Nickola Chomica	
Peter Lepischak		Siman Topolniski	1900	S.W.		Albert Parr	
Eugene Lepischak		Danylo Topolniski		Dmytro Hrysak		S.E. N½	
S.E.		David Slon		Dmytro Koltuski		Rose Wasilka	
Crown		Section 11		Phillip Belinski		Joseph Wasilka	
Mike Chegus	1939-1946	N.W.		Steve Ostopchuk		Ed Reddaway	
Section 8		Crown		Matt Kuch		Crown	
N.W.		N.E.		Dave Mattis		Section 17	
Mike Chegus		Crown		MACC		N.W.	
Peter Chegus		S.W.		Brent Delmage	1981	Peter Zimmerman	
Metro Sowtis		Crown		S.E. E½		Mike Hersack	
N.E.		S.E.		Stephan Bohrey		Ernie Peleshok	
Alec Chuha		Crown		D. Zamonski		N.E.	
						Frank Zimmerman	

Joe Zimmerman S.W.		Section 20 N.W.		Section 23 N.W.		Joseph Dnistranski 1953-1980
Peter Zimmerman		Mike Shewchuk 1900-11		Vitsko Tomchuk 1909-27		Section 27 N.W.
Mike Hersack		John Wowryk 1911-50		Crown		Fred Mychasiw 1907-1957
Ernie Peleshok S.E.		Tony Zimmerman 1950-1958		N.E.		John Mychasiw 1957-1980
Fedor Chuhai 1912-26		Mike Hersack 1958-1978		Anton Twerdochlib 1910-34		N.E.
S.E. E½		Orest Salyn 1978-80		Crown		Wasył Herchak 1909-1948
Alex Chuhai		N.E.		John W. Leschyshyn 1908-29		Mike Twerdochlib 1948-1972
Johnny Chuhai		Martin Zimmerman		Mike Zenchyshyn 1929-43		Anne Twerdochlib 1972-1980
Ed Reddaway		Frank Zimmerman 1931-61		Mike Kryshewski 1943-60		S.W.
Crown		Joe Zimmerman 1961-80		S.E.		Crown
S.E. W½		S.W.		Crown		S.E.
John Chuhai		Frank Zimmerman 1900-15		Section 24		Wasył Ewanyshyn 1912-1925
Ed Zimmerman		John Ternowski 1916-50		N.W.		Crown
Ernie Peleshok		Paul Ternowski 1950-69		Martin Chegus 1900-28		Section 28 N.W.
		Orest Salyn 1969-80		London & Western Trust Co.		Andrew Shust 1900-1932
Section 18		S.E.		1928-42		Steve Shust 1932-1938
N.W.		John Zimmerman 1900-09		Dan Buternowski 1942-58		Jack Stitt 1938-1941
Alec Kachan 1900		S.E. E½		John Buternowski 1958-80		John Melnyk 1941-1945
Nick Bidochka		Stanley Zimmerman 1957		N.E.		Tom Charney 1945-1980
Mike Kachan		Henry Zimmerman 1978		Victor Topolniski 1899-42		N.E.
Joe Ternowski		Henryk Marcinak 1980		Stanley Topolniski 1942-68		Stanley Kaban 1900-1927
Lorne Ford		S.E. W½		Ted Sturge 1968-74		William Kaban 1927-1958
Herb Schultz		Peter Zimmerman 1958		Crown 1974-80		Joe Dutchak 1958-1967
N.E.		Mike Hersack 1978		S.W.		Louis Hachkowski 1967-1973
Demion Lazaruk 1900		Orest Salyn		John Jumaga 1900-13		Raymond Mychasiw 1973-1980
George Lazaruk		Section 21		S.W. E½		S.W.
John Lazaruk		N.W.		John Jumaga 1913-35		Tom Charney 1900-1906
Joe Mazeretski		John Charney 1911-27		Paul Jumaga 1935-68		Dmytro Charney 1906-1958
F. Simpson		Mike Charney 1927-61		S.W. W½		Julia Charney 1958-1973
S. Kokurudz		Joe Ternowski 1961-64		Dmytro Shyndaruk 1913-20		Ed Charney 1973-1980
Peter Kreshewski		Lorne Ford 1964-74		Dan Buternowski 1920-44		S.E.
S.W.		Herb Schultz 1974-80		Paul Jumaga 1944-68		Peter Hachkowski 1900-1953
Mike Tupniak 1900		N.E.		Ted Sturge 1968-80		S½
John Budz		Mikita Ewanyshyn 1910-1927		Crown		Jacob Hachkowski 1953-1980
Martin Zimmerman		Peter Hachkowski 1927-1953		S.E.		N-½
Mike Ewanyshyn		Joe Hachkowski 1953-1980		Oleksa Slon 1899-1944		Anna Hachkowski 1953-1963
Sam Pachkowski		S.W.		Dan Slon 1944-72		Jacob Hachkowski 1963-1980
Steve Chuhai		Martin Hachkowski 1910-39		Tony Kryshewski 1972-80		Section 29
Matt Halliday		Walter Hachkowski 1939-73		Section 25		N.W.
Tony Kreshewski		Orest Salyn 1973-80		N.W.		Crown
S.E.		S.E.		John Kryshewski 1910-1937		N.E.
Tom Zapuchlak 1900		George Lazaruk 1911-36		Alec Dnistranski 1937-1953		Crown
Demion Lazaruk		Stanley Lazaruk 1936-39		Peter Dnistranski 1953-1980		S.W.
John Lazaruk		Louis Hachkowski 1939-74		Anne Prosyk 1981		Crown
Joe Mazeretski		Edward Hachkowski 1974-80		N.E.		S.E.
F. Simpson		Lorne Hachkowski 1980		John Swereda 1925-1955		Dmytro Charney 1911-48
S. Kokurudz		Section 22		Crown		Myroslaw Charney 1948-56
Peter Kreshewski		N.W.		S.W.		Henry Nickel 1956-59
		Andrew Matskiw 1900-20		Crown		Tom Charney 1959-80
Section 19		George Lazaruk 1920-32		S.E.		Section 30
N.W.		Mike Lazaruk 1932-44		Crown		N.W.
Fred Chupa		Harold Hlagie 1944-79		Section 26		Danylo Shewchuk 1899-1905
Stanley Zimmerman 1934-57		Kathleen Hlagie 1979-80		N.W.		Phillip Chukrey 1905-21
Henry Zimmerman 1957-78		N.E.		Mike P. Kuz 1933-1953		Peter Chupa 1921-23
Iebeling Kaastra 1978-80		Wasył Ewanyshyn 1900-33		Joseph Dnistranski 1953-1980		Cam Menzies 1923-24
N.E.		Mike Ewanyshyn 1933-41		N.E.		Mrs. Martin
Nick Gulewich 1910-26		Stanley Raginski 1941-53		Alec Dnistranski 1917-1953		Hachkowski 1924-26
Crown		Peter Leschasin 1953-72		Katherine Dnistranski 1953-1980		Peter Maryniuk 1926-45
S.W.		Crown 1972-80		S.W.		John and Bill Trychuk 1945-63
S. Tychonuik 1905-15		S.W.		Andrew Matskiw 1921-1927		John Herchak 1963-69
Nickola Kachan 1915-50		George Lazaruk 1900-1944		Hudson's Bay Co. 1927-1953		Ted Shmyr 1969-74
Matt Kachan 1950-80		Harold Hlagie 1944-79		Joseph Dnistranski 1953-1980		Dennis Didych 1974-80
S.E.		Kathleen Hlagie 1979-80		S.E.		N.E.
Demian Lazaruk 1911-36		S.E.		Wasył Antonyshyn 1919-1930		Harry Pomehaichuk 1899-1920
Stanley D. Lazaruk 1936-46		Michael Leschyshyn 1900-66		Hudson's Bay Co. 1930-1934		John Fiel 1920-29
Paul Ternowski 1946-69		Peter Leschasin 1966-1972		Alec Dnistranski 1934-1953		Peter Fiel 1929-44
Orest Salyn 1969-80		Crown 1972-80				Stanley D. Lazaruk 1944-46

Paul Herchak 1946-80
S.W.
 Peter Chupa 1899-1928
 Henry Zimmerman 1941-78
 Iebeling Kaastra 1978-80
S.E.
 Michael Raginski 1902-38
 Great West Co. 1938-42
 Stanley Zimmerman 1942-57
 Henry Zimmerman 1957-78
 Iebeling Kaastra 1978-80

Section 31

N.W.
 Panko Ozarow 1923-29
 Crown
N.E.
 Walter Hachkowski 1934-39
 Crown
S.W.
 John Derkach 1917-29
 Charlie Hachkowski 1929-51
 Mike Kachan 1951-57
 Peter Didych 1957-80
S.E.
 John Konstantinowich 1918-28
 Woytko Bobinski 1928-34
 Peter Raginski 1934-44
 Crown

Section 32

N.W.
 Peter Kuzenko 1910-31
 Mike Kuzenko 1931-35
 Peter Herchak 1935-69
 Ed McComb 1969-72
 Ernie Battershell 1972-75
 Ed Charney 1975-77
 M.A.C.C. 1977-81
 Ed Charney 1981-
N.E.
 Stephen Richards
 Ed Charney 1969-77
 M.A.C.C. 1977-81
 Ed Charney 1981-
S.W.
 Harry Johnson -1934
 John Derkach 1934-51
 Peter Ewashko 1951-68
 Orest Salyn 1968-80
S.E.
 Harry Herchak 1901-45
 Peter Herchak 1945-68
 Ed McComb 1968-72
 Ernie Battershell 1971-75
 Ed Charney 1975-77
 M.A.C.C. 1977-81
 Ed Charney 1981-

Section 33

Crown
Section 34
N.W.
 Oleksa Danyluik 1901-29
 John Danyluik 1929-34
 Mike Mychasiw 1934-48
 Alex Dutchak 1948-50
 Tony Dutchak 1950-65
 Matt Dutchak 1965-80
N.E.
 Wasyl Stech 1901-28
 Alec Dutchak 1934-80
 Matt Dutchak 1981-
S.W.
 Peter Swereda 1901-32
 Mike Krawetz 1932-44
 John Mychasiw 1944-80
S.E.
 Peter Herchak 1901-33
 Wasyl Herchak 1933-48
 Alec Dutchak 1948-80
 Matt Dutchak 1981
Section 35
N.W.
 Crown
N.E.
 Crown
S.W.

Crown
S.E.
 Mike Twerdochlib 1936-80
Section 36
N.W.
 Fred Stebeleski 1901-55
 Walter Stebeleski 1955-80
N.E.
 Anton Kaskiw 1901-44
 Mike Kaskiw 1944-78
 Geo. Bernardin and Lucien Legault 1978-80
S.W.
 John Herchak 1901-21
 S½
 John Herchak 1921-45
 Mike Twerdochlib 1944-75
 Edward Mychasiw 1975-80
 N½
 Nick Herchak 1921-45
 John Melnyk 1945-61
 John Mychasiw 1961-80
S.E.
 John Kryshewski 1901-41
 Alec Yanick 1941-48
 Walter Wowk 1948-50
 Alec Prosyk 1950-58
 Ed Bobinski 1958-70
 Clarence Wyton 1970-75
 Crown

Township 20 Range 24

Section 1

N.W.
 Victor Shmyr 1909-
 John Shmyr
 Joe Mychasiw
 Nick Kuch 1943
N.E.
 George Yaskiw 1907-23
 Mike Lepischak 1934-1944
 Nick Bidochka 1945-
 Bill Bidochka -1960
 Richard Chuha 1961-
S.W.
 Paul Slobodeski 1905-1913
 Harold Slobodeski 1914-1956
 Gerald Nychek 1956-1962
 John Mitchell 1962
S.E.
 Trochim Mackedenski 1907-1919
 Sam Chicheluk 1920-23
 Harold Biernes
 Jack Zegalski 1943-1976
 Julian Lucyshen and Steve Waytowich 1976-
Section 2
N.W.
 Wasyl Loshka 1899-1906
 Dmytro Lepischak 1907-1937
 Martin Lepischak 1938-1973
 Hamilton Bros. 1974-
N.E.
 Wasyl Shmyr 1899-
 John Charney
 Stan and Martin Lepischak 1938-1974

Hamilton Bros. 1974-
S.W.
 John Muszenski 1899-1904
 Mike Luhowy 1905-
 Fred Storozyk
 Anton Luhowy
 Bill Sheremeta 1930-1970
 Terry Sherman 1971-
S.E. (E½)
 Paul Slobodeski 1899
 Harry Slobodeski 1914-1956
 Gerald Nychek 1956-1962
 John Mitchell 1962-
S.E. (W½)
 Paul Slobodeski 1899
 Safron Sheremeta 1900-1931
 Harry Klym 1932-1949
 Martin Lepischak 1950-1973
 Hamilton Bros. 1974-
Section 3
N.W.
 Wasyl Sidlar 1912-1941
 Matt Sidlar 1941-1973
 Steve Willey 1973-
N.E.
 Alex Kitlar 1910
 Alex Fostakowski
 Andrew Pachkowsky
 Mike Borowski 1944-1951
 Joe Borowski 1952-
S.W.
 Gus Dowhan 1938-41
 Ivan Ternovetsky
 Matt Borowski 1972-1978
 Terry Hanreck 1978-

S.E.
 Wasyl Sidlar 1907-1909
 Alex Fostakowski 1910-1941
 Steve Fostakowski 1941-1969
 Bill Antonow 1969-
Section 4
N.W.
 John Tomchyshyn 1899-
 Alex Tucker 1934-1950
 Carl Tucker 1950-
N.E.
 John Karmazan 1899-1907
 Stefan Kraychuk 1907
 Nick Sidlar
 John Sidlar 1941-1973
 Steve Willey 1973-
S.W.
 Frank Blaskiewicz 1899
 Wasyl Sidlar 1938-1948
 Peter Sidlar 1948-
S.E.
 Nick Sidlar 1899-1941
 Joe Sidlar
 Pete Sidlar 1969-
 Steve Willey 1981
Section 5
N.W.
 Jas. Plastow 1891
 Mrs. A. Peden
 Robert Peden
 Bill Elvers
 George Lawless 1960
N.E.
 Jas. Plastow
 R. Peden
 Nelson Peden

Nona Peden
 Ed Kreshewski
S.W.
 Jas. Plastow
 Mrs. R. W. Peden
 Mrs. A. Peden
 Robert Peden
 Marion Day
S.E.
 Jas. Plastow 1891
 R. Peden
 Nelson Peden
 Nona Peden
 Peter Sidlar 1960
Section 6
N.W.
 Wm. Manson
 A. L. Duncanson
 Jos. Huston 1933-1945
 Harris Huston 1945-1973
 Larry Huston 1973-
N.E.
 Alex Brown
 Wasyl Trakalo -1967
 Peter Leschasin 1967-1981
 Larry Huston 1981
S.W.
 Wm. Manson
 A. L. Duncanson
 Jos. Huston 1933-1945
 Harris Huston 1945-1973
 Larry Huston 1973
S.E.
 Alex Brown
 Wm. Brown
 Lorne Lawless 1919-1950

Barrie Lawless	1950-1966	Carl Tucker	1950-	S.W.		Mrs. John Hrankowski	
Jean Lawless	1966-	S.E.		Tom Kiez	1899-1902		1923-
Section 7		Wm. Peden		George Yaskiw	1902-1920	Steve Hrankowski	
N.W.		Joe Peden	-1947	Pete Yaskiw	1920-1924	(W½)	
John Duncanson	1923-	Carl Tucker	1947-	Martin Zimmerman	1928-1933	John Klym	1927-1949
Tom Duncanson		Section 10		John Chuhai		Pete Raginski	1949-1974
Eugene Caldwell	1943-1975	N.W.		Richard Chuhai	1954	Lorne Ledoux	1974-
Margaret Johanson	1976-	Gundy lake		S.E.		(E½)	
N.E.		N.E.		Maksym Yaskiw	1899-1911	Matt Hrankowski	1957-1967
John Duncanson		Nick Kitlar	1899	Pete Yaskiw	1911-1928	Dan Bachewich	1967-1971
Tom Duncanson		Sam Klym	1930-1936	Martin Zimmerman	1928-1933	Adolph Flaman	1971-
Eugene Caldwell	1943-1966	John Klym	1936-1966	John Chuhai		(Quarter divided into W½-E½	
Ken Caldwell	1966-	Peter Kreshewski	1967-	Richard Chuhai	1954	in 1923)	
S.W.		S.W.		Section 13		Section 15	
James Irwin		Alex Woychyshyn	1899-1907	N.W.		N.W.	
P. Bailey		Roman Ewanyshyn	1908-1922	Nykafor Panas	1916-1923	D. A. Downie Co.	-1923
Young		J. Bialowas		Mrs. Mary Panas	1923	Metro Gawryluk	1923-1950
John Ryshtylo	1927	Telford Bros.		Paul Serneski	1923-1936	Mike Gawryluk	1950-1959
Bill Chicheluk	1956	Andrew Antoniow	1942-1954	John Klym	1936-1938	Bill Gawryluk	1959
S.E.		John Antoniow	1954-1958	John and Nick Klym	1938-1971	N.E.	
N. Socharko		Matt Antoniow	1958-	John Klym	1971-1979	Fred Antonow	1908-1917
John Adams		S.E. (E½)		Elsie Kimpinski		Andrew Antoniow	1917-1964
John Ryshtylo	1937	Mike Borowski	1918-1958	Anne Oneschuk		Matt Antoniow	1965-
Mike Ryshtylo		Joe Borowski	1958-	Nettie Skolney		S.W.	
Bill Chicheluk	1956	(W½)		Elaine Brusegard	1979-	Fred Antonow	1908-1923
Section 8		Woytko Czykylo	1901-1907	N.E.		Steve Antoniow	1924-1951
N.W.		Mike Chmielewski	1907-1914	Crown		Metro Gawryluk	1951-1952
Dmytro Yarmey	1899	Harry Gurniak	1914-1941	Mike Sidlar	1923-1925	Joe Antoniow	1952-1954
Fred Danyleyko		Andrew Antoniow	1942-1958	Crown		Metro Gawryluk	1954-1959
Matt Zosiuk	1958	Matt Antoniow	1958-1960	S.W.		Bill Gawryluk	1979-
Mike Pawluk		Joe Borowski	1961-	Floran Hrankowski	1905-1918	S.E.	
N.E.		(Quarter split in 1918,		Mary (Florence)		Dmytro Kozak	1907
P. W. Johnston		consolidated in 1961)		Hrankowski	1918-1979	Fred Kozak	1909-1937
Jim Glenn	1915-	Section 11		Peter Lepischak	1979-	Alec Kitlar	1941-1958
M. Glushka	1920-1933	N.W.		S.E.		Steve Shust	1958-1958
Flora Johnston	-1947	Alex Kitlar	-1958	Pete Dutkywich	1911-1918	Ed Shust	1958-1968
Louis Bart	1947-1977	Steve Shust		Joseph Bartkiw	1919-1921	Matt Antoniow	1968-
George Clarke	1977-	Bill Antonow	1958-	John Woyski	1932-1934	Section 16	
S.W.		N.E.		John Lepischak	1934-1940	N.W.	
Alex Brown		R. Bailey		Peter Lepischak	1940-1979	Mike Dowhan	1899-1923
Lorne Lawless	1933-1950	Mike Borowski	1926-1965	Eugene Lepischak	1979-	Sam and George Andrietz	
George Lawless	1950	Joe Borowski	1965	Section 14		Bill Antonichuk	
S.E.		S.W.		N.W.		Anton Yarmey	1941
Harry Johnston		Crown		Fred Antonow	1899-1941	Mike Koscielny	1942-1952
Mike Glushka	1920-1933	S.E. (W½)		Mike F. Antonow	1941-1974	Mike Smycnuik	1953-1961
Harry Johnston	1946	Roman Ewanyshyn	1916-1930	William Antonow	1974-	Mary Smycnuik	1962-
Louis Bart	1947-1977	Dmytro Lepischak	1930-1955	N.E.		N.E.	
George Clarke	1977-	(E½)		Stephen Panas	1899-1919	Dmytro Kozak	1899-1941
Section 9		Dmytro Lepischak	1916-1939	Nykafor Panas	1920-1923	Mrs. Dmytro Kozak	1941
N.W.		Martin Lepischak	1939-1955	Mrs. Nykafor Panas	1923	Metro Gawryluk	
H. Johnston		(North-South split in 1955)		Paul Serneski	1923-1945	Mike Gawryluk	1979-
C. Johnston		(S½)		Mike Hrycak	1932-1942 (T)	S.W.	
M. Glushka		Martin Lepischak	1955-1974	Stanley Lepischak		Dmytro Yarmey	1899-1941
Flora Johnston		Hamilton Bros.	1974	Steve Dutkywich	1943-1945	Mrs. Dmytro Yarmey	1941
Frank Bart	-1949	(N½)		(T)		Anton Yarmey	
Carl Tucker	1949-	Mike Borowski	1955-1965	Kornel Hrankowski	1945-1957	Mike Koscielny	1945-1952
N.E.		Joe Borowski	1965	Matt Hrankowski	1957-1967	Mike Smycnuik	1953-1961
H. Johnston		Section 12		Dan Bachewich	1967-1971	Mary Smycnuik	1962
Cecil Johnston		N.W.		Adolph Flaman	1971	S.E.	
M. Glushka		Dan Chwaluk	1899-1912	S.W.		Maksym Yarmey	1899
Flora Johnston		Nick Baubie	1919	Sam Klym	1899-1955	John Yarmey	1923-1934
Frank Bart	-1949	Mike Baubie		Nick and John Klym	1955-1971	Charlie Kornyk	1934-1962
Carl Tucker	1949-	Peter Raginski	1944-74	Nick Klym	1971-	Henry Hrubeniuk	1962
S.W.		Lawrence Ledoux	1974	S.E.		Section 17	
Wm. Peden		N.E.		Jas. Young	1899	N.W.	
Joe Peden	-1919	Anton Dutkewich	1899-1920	John Hrankowski	1902-1923	Crown	
Alex Tucker	S½ 1919-1950	Steve Dutkewich	1920-43	(E½)		Fred Danyleyko	1910
Nick Tucker	N½ 1919-1940	Sam Pachkowsky	1943-54	Kornel Hrankowski	1923-1957	A. Danyleyko	1923
Alex Tucker	N½ 1940-1950	Richard Chuhai	1954	(W½)		Marko Danyleyko	1947-1977

Barry Danyleyko	1977	John Collins		Estate	1941	S.W.	
N.E.		James Cherwoniak		Steve Gawryluk	1926-1959	Mike Sidlar	-1926
Mrs. W. Danyleyko	1923	Fred Babaluk		Mike Gawryluk	1959	R.M. of Rosssburn	
Fred Danyleyko		Tony Berehulka		S.E.		Frank Gumieny	1948
Wasył Zosiuk	1941	Bill Tanasychuk	1979	Metro Kozak		Alec Marynuik	
Matt Zosiuk		S.E.		George Kozak		Rosssburn Game & Fish	
Harris Huston	1958-1972	A. Haggart		Metro Kozak		R.M. of Rosssburn	
Larry Huston	1972-1982	Wasył Kornyk		Peter Bartkiw		(Rosssman Lake Resort)	
Jerry and John Genovey	1982	Paul Kornyk		Steve Gawryluk	1926-1959	S.E.	
S.W.		Bill Mankir	1961	Mike Gawryluk	1959	E½	
Crown		Section 20		Section 22		P. Tokaryk	
Wasył Danyleyko		N.W.		N.W.		E½	
Marko Danyleyko	1910-1944	Dmytro Danyleyko	1899	Macko Cychy	1899-1926	Mike Komhyr	1908-1949
John Koscielny	1944-1967	Andrew Chuha		Metro Gawryluk	1926-1959	W½	
Mervin Koscielny	1967-1971	Yarmey		Mike Gawryluk	1959-	Joe Bartkiw	
John Koscielny	1971-	Metro Danyleyko		N.E.		Dutkewich	
S.E.		Morris Danyleyko	1951-1978	Tom Genovy	1899-1956	Pete Schaworski	
Andrew Peden		Jerry Genovy	1979-	Victor and Ivan Genovy	1956-	Nick Bidochka	
Steve Gawryluk		N.E.				Mike Komhyr	
Jack Scherban	1923	Dmytro Kuz	1899	S.W.		Joe Ternowski	1949-
Charlie Kornyk	1930-1962	Nick Trynchuk		John Genovy	1899	Lawrence Ford	
Henry Hrubeniuk	1962-	Mitchell	1916	Metro Gawryluk	1914-1959	Herbert Schultz	1979-
Section 18		Nick Torsky		Bill Gawryluk	1959	(amalgamated in 1949)	
N.W.		George Odiasky		S.E.		Section 25	
Alec Hamilton		Mike Odiasky		Martin Genovey	1899-1926	N.W.	
Matt Hamilton		Fred Kozak		Andrew Antoni	1926-1929	Joe Bobinski	
H. A. Tanner		(E½)		Thomas Genovey	1929-1956	Mike Marynuik	
Alex Hamilton		Mendell Peikoff estate	1941	Ivan and Victor Genovey	1956-	Kachur	
Annie Hamilton		(W½)		Section 23		Mike Marynuik	
Matt Pokropany	1946-	R.M. of Rosssburn	1941	N.W.		Stan Marynuik	
N.E.		Dmytro Glushka	1978	Crown		Joe Fiel	
Lazari Dimnaniuk	1899	M.A.C.C.	1978	Fred Antonow		W½	
Mrs. A. Boychuk		Wm. Michalchuk	1979-	Mike Antonow	1931-1933	Bill Stadnyk	1979
John Olynyk	1932	S.W.		John Antoni	1933-1972	E½	
Maurice Horitchie		Andrew Kornyk		Willis Livetsky	1972-	Darcy Fiel	
Peter Horitchie		Wasył Kornyk		N.E.		N.E.	
S.W.		Paul Kornyk		Indian Reserve		Woytko Bobinski	
Robert Hamilton		Bill Mankir	1961	S.W.		Joe Bobinski	
H. A. Tanner		S.E.		Mrs. Kitlar		Mike Schwarok	
Alex Hamilton		Wasył Danyleyko	1899	Crown		Bill Marynuik	1957
Peter Gluch Sr. and Jr.	1941	Andrew Danyleyko	1915	Mike Antonow	1939-1974	S.W.	
Peter Gluch Jr.		Mrs. W. Danyleyko		Wm. Antonow	1974-	Frank Gumieny	
S.E.		Jessie Kozak		S.E.		John Gumieny	
Joseph Sianchuk	1899-1917	John Koscielny	1952-1967	Crown		Joe Fiel	
Peter Gluch Sr.	1920-1940	Harris Huston	1967-1972	Pete Schaworski		Darcy Fiel	
Peter Gluch Jr.	1940-	Larry Huston	1973-1982	Frank Gumieny		S.E.	
Section 19		John and Jerry Genovy	1982	Sam Klym	1940	Mike Prokopi	
N.W.		Section 21		John and Nick Klym	1955-1971	Steve Shust	
A. Haggart		N.W.		Nick Klym	1971-1975	Mike Prokopi	
Lester Collins		David Fleming		Henry Marciniuk	1975-	Wasył Marynuik	1929-1931
Wasył Pokropany		Andrew Zaverucha		Section 24		Alec Marynuik	1931-1979
Matt Pokropany		Champ Baldrow		N.W.		Bill Marynuik	1979-
N.E.		John Zaverucha		Frank Gumieny	-1945	Section 26	
(N½)		Fred Odiasky		John Gumieny	1945-1959	N.W.	
A. Haggart		Matt Glushka	1945-	Joe Fiel	1959-1962	Hudson's Bay Co.	
John Danyleyko	1912-1947	Mrs. Nettie Glushka	-1974	Bill Marynuik	1962-	Crown	
Morris Danyleyko	1947-1950	M.A.C.C.	1974-1979	N.E.		Kost Topolniski	1917
Steve Danyleyko	1950-1952	Wm. Michalchuk	1979-	Woytko Gumieny	-1939	Frank Topolniski	1923
Matt Pokropany	1952	N.E.		Frank Gumieny	1939-1944	Nick Dunits	1941
(S½)		David Fleming		Alec Marynuik	1944-1968	Andrew Antoni	1942-1960
A. Haggart		Andrew Zaverucha		Bill Marynuik	1968	Joe Antoni	1960-1964
Dan Szkwarok		Champ Baldrow	1907	(NE-NW corner approx. 10		Matt Antoni	1964
Jerry Koltek	1912	John Zaverucha	-1932	acres)		N.E.	
Marionako Olynyk		Mike Glushka	1934-1945	Frank Gumieny		Hudson's Bay Co.	
Dr. Peikoff	1952	John Glushka	1945-1972	John Gumieny		Kost Topolniski	
John Koscielny	1953-1978	Myron Glushka	1972-	Joe Fiel		Mike Dunits	
Henry Hrubeniuk	1979	S.W.		Darcy Fiel		Kornylo Chopp	
S.W.		Wasył Antonichuk	1899			Andrew Chopp	
A. Haggart		Wasył Antonichuk				Paul Didych	1951-1971

John Day	1971	Myron Glushka	1972	S.E.		Harasym Wonitoway	
George McMaster	1973	S½		John Antonichuk		Alec Wonitoway	
S.W.		John Zawerucha	1899	Mike Pawluk Sr.	1964	Sam Trakalo	
Hudson's Bay Co.		Mike Glushka	1934	Mike Pawluk Jr. and		Mervin Trakalo	
Basil Genovey		Matt Glushka	1941	Mike Gayowski		Gordon Trakalo	
Anton Genovey		M.A.C.C.	1974	Section 32		S.W.	
George Kozak		Wm. Michalchuk	1979	N.W.		Alex Bajurak	1899-1932
Adam Kozak				Andrew Kiryluk	1899	John Kalyniuk	
Peter Deydey		Section 29		Sankey Karpuik	1913	Nick Dunits	
S.E.		N.W.		Allen Elvers	1914	Andrew Chopp	
Hudson's Bay Co.		D. A. Downie Co.		Steve Trakalo	1949	Mike Pawluk	
R.M. of Rossburn		Crown		Walter Lukinski		M.A.C.C.	
(Rossman Lake Youth Camp)		N.E.		Werner Heid		Harold Pawluk	
Section 27		D. A. Downie Co.		M.A.C.C.		S.E.	
N.W.		Crown		N.E.		John Kalyniuk	
Anton Grey		S.W.		Wasył Andrietz	1899	Nick Dunits	
George Trynchuk		Wasył Antonichuk		John Livetsky		Sam Kawka	
Matt Trynchuk	1954-1974	Crown		Walter Lukinski		Nick Chopp	
Doug Cameron	1974	Steve Trakalo		Werner Heid		Mike Pawluk	
N.E.		Walter Lukinski		M.A.C.C.		M.A.C.C.	
Fred Antonow	1930	Werner Heid		S.W.		Harold Pawluk	
Mike Antonow		M.A.C.C.		Theodore Berzanski	1899	Section 35	
Andrew Chopp		S.E.		Wm. Berzanski		N.W.	
Adam Kozak		George Danyleyko		Steve Trakalo	1936	(E½)	
Mike Sawchyshyn		Crown		Walter Lukinski		Mike Glushka	1913-1920
Walter Didych	1958	John Glushka		Werner Heid		Metro Trakalo	1920-
S.W.		Section 30		M.A.C.C.		Sam Trakalo	
Martinowich		N.W.		S.E.		Mervin Trakalo	
Boryskewich		John Danyleyko	1899	John Topolniski	1899	Gordon Trakalo	
D. A. Downie Co.		Steve Danyleyko	1946-1951	Frank Topolniski		(W½)	
George Trynchuk		Carl Tucker	1951	Walter Lukinski		Tom Trakalo	1913-1918
Matt Trynchuk	1957-1974	N.E.		Werner Heid		Mrs. Stanley	
Doug Cameron	1974	Wasył Antonichuk		M.A.C.C.		Zimmerman	1918
S.E.		Mike Hubinsky	1944	Section 33		Mervin Trakalo	
Crown		Nick Kalyniuk		N.W.		Gordon Trakalo	
John Klym		S.W.		Wm. Holloway		N.E.	
Crown		Nick Torsky		B. B. Smith		Nick Antoni	1920's
Nick Dunits		Nick Belbas		Walter Lukinski		Paul Didych	1937-1977
John Antoni	1942-1971	Metro Belbas		Werner Heid		Walter Didych	1977
Willis Livetsky	1972	S.E.		M.A.C.C.		S.W.	
Section 28		Nick Torsky		N.E.		Kornylo Chopp	
N.W.		Nick Belbas		S. B. Gearney		Nick Chopp	
Onofrey Todosiw	1899	Metro Belbas		Fred Bobbyluk		Mike Pawluk	
Elijah Todosiw		Section 31		Bill Kalyniuk		M.A.C.C.	
George Odaisky		N.W.		F. Filmore		Harold Pawluk	
S½		Harold Sleigh		Matt Ternovetsky		S.E.	
Mike Odaisky		Karmazenuk		S.W.		V. Skoncylas	1923
N½		Gladys Sleigh		Wm. Holloway		Nick Maryniuk	
Frank Usick		John McKietuik		B. B. Smith		Orest Trakalo	1954-1957
N½		John Deck		George Maryniuk		Nick Maryniuk	
Matt Klym		Lawrence Reles		Wayne Maryniuk		Jim Rubenuik	1958-1970
George Maryniuk		N.E.		S.E.		Jerry and John Genovy	1970
Wayne Maryniuk	1973	(N½)		S. B. Gearney		Section 36	
N.E.		Mrs. J. Antonichuk		George Trynchuk		N.W.	
Fedor Abramchuk		R. M. of Rossburn		F. Filmore			
John Abramchuk		Adolph Flaman		Mike Ternovetsky		Fred Didych	
George Maryniuk	1944-1972	(S½)		Bill Ternovetsky		(In 1948 split into east and west ½'s)	
Wayne Maryniuk	1973	Mrs. J. Antonichuk		Section 34		W½	
S.W.		John Antonichuk		N.W.		Paul Didych	
Onofrey Todosiw		Mike Pawluk Sr.	1964	Thos. York		E½	
Wasył Todosiw		Mike Pawluk Jr. and		W. Karmazenuk	1905	Peter Didych	
Mike Glushka	1942	Mike Gayowski		W. Ternovetski		W½	
John Glushka	1945-1972	S.W.		Kost Topolinski		Walter Didych	
Myron Glushka	1972	Hrytsko Yarmey	1915	Peter Chitz		E½	
S.E.		E. V. Wilson		Sam Trakalo		Barry Didych	
N½		R.M. of Rossburn		Mervin Trakalo		N.E.	
John Zawerucha		Nick Hubinsky	1941-1955	Gordon Trakalo		Frank Korowski	
Mike Glushka	1934	Mike Hubinsky	1955	N.E.		Alex Boyko	
John Glushka	1941	Nick Kalyniuk		Wasył Topolniski	1899		

Walter Didych
S.W.
G. D. Grant
Mike Marynuik
Stanley Marynuik
Jim Rubenuik

1960

1958-1970

Jerry and John Genovy
S.E.
John Fiel
Mike Fiel
Joe Fiel

1970-

Township 20 Range 25

Section 1

N.W.
Robert Murray 1882
Matheson
Chrispin Bros.
Mike Ryshytylo
Harry Yaskiw
N.E.
Wm. Manson 1882
Tom Duncanson
J. Duncanson
Ken Caldwell
Maron Slon
Harold Slon
S.W.
Robert Murray 1882
Matheson
Chrispin Bros.
Mike Kostaskey
Ed Charney
S.E.
Robert White 1879
S. Duncanson
Joe Glushka
Basil Trakalo
Peter Leschasin
Larry Huston
Section 2
N.W.
George Manson 1885
Broadfoot
G. Finch
A. Wyness
W. A. Clubley
Dmetro Danyleyko
Nick Maryniuk
Harold Clement
Clements Bar C Ranch
N.E.
George Manson 1885
Ellen Buchanan 1888
S. Buchanan
C. McDonald
Casey Genovy
S.W.
John Broadfoot 1884
G. Finch
A. Wyness
W. A. Clubley
Dmetro Danyleyko
Nick Maryniuk
Harold Clement
Clements Bar C Ranch
S.E.
George Manson 1879
John Broadfoot 1881
B. Buchanan
Wm. Buchanan
D. McFeetors

B. McTavish
W. A. Clubley
Frank Gumieny
Harris Huston
Larry Huston
Section 3-10 inclusive
Indian Reserve Land
Section 11
N.W.
James Young
Morley Young
Wasył Strank
Murray Tanasychuk
Lorne Tanasychuk
N.E.
Donald Sinclair 1900
Alex Sinclair
Joseph Kreshewski
Pete Kreshewski
Wm. Kreshewski
S.W.
James Crookshanks 1907
John Crookshanks
Wasył Strank

Steve and Paul Strank
S.E.
Thomas Buchanan 1907
S. Buchanan
C. McDonald
Casey Genovy
Jerry Genovy
Section 12
N.W.
Donald Sinclair 1884
A. Sinclair
Joseph Kreshewski
Peter Kreshewski
N.E.
Alexander Hamilton 1882
D. Hamilton
Tanner
J. Crookshanks
Sam Crookshanks
John Huculak
Harris Huston
Larry Huston
S.W.
Donald Sinclair 1881
J. Duncanson
T. A. Duncanson
Eugene Caldwell
Ken Caldwell
S.E.
Hamilton
John Duncanson 1882
T. A. Duncanson
Eugene Caldwell
Ken Caldwell

Section 13

N.W.
Donald Sinclair 1934
Thomas Sinclair
A. Sinclair
Mike Bachewich
Helen Bachewich
Don Hrubeniuk
N.E.
Joe Sianchuk 1910
Joe Pokrapany
Wasył Pokrapany
Mrs. N. Sacharko
Mrs. J. Pokrapany
Pokrapany Bros.
Matt Pokrapany
S.W.
Donald Sinclair 1884
Thomas Sinclair
A. Sinclair
Mike Bachewich
Helen Bachewich
Henry Hrubeniuk
S.E.
John Sinclair 1906
John Wasywell
Sacharko
J. Cherwoniak
Alex Saley
Mary Saley
Jim Saley

Section 14
N.W.
Charles Lawford 1884
Wm. Crookshanks
Metro Hrubeniuk
Don Hrubeniuk
N.E.
Charles Lawford 1881
Wm. Crookshanks
Metro Hrubeniuk (pt)
Peter Joiner (pt)
Metro Hrubeniuk
S.W.
James Young 1881
T. Young
Morley Young
Murry Tanasychuk
Lorne Tanasychuk
S.E.
James Young 1887
T. Young
Morley Young
Murry Tanasychuk
Lorne Tanasychuk
Sections 15-18 inclusive
Indian Reserve Land

Section 19

N.W.
Wm. Sibson 1912
Harry Dutchak
Fred Pushka
Pushka Estate
N.E.
Wm. Wilson 1917
John Pradinuk
Mrs. J. Pradinuk
Jerry Luba
S.W.
David Tissman 1910
M. Pomehichuk
Wm. Pomehichuk
S.E.
Soldier Settlement Board 1913
David Tissman
Mytro Pomehichuk

Section 20

N.W.
Robert Peden 1901
John Pradinuk
Walter Bilous
N.E.
Wm. Buchanan 1908
J. McIntosh
H. Taylor
Wm. Tanasychuk
Russell Tanasychuk
S.W.
Richard R. Ross 1894
W. Taylor
O. McFeetors
W. Kalyniuk
John Pradinuk
Peter Pradinuk
Russell Tanasychuk
Ivan Tanasychuk
S.E.
Richard R. Ross 1894
D. Ross
W. Taylor
O. McFeetors
W. Kalyniuk
John Pradinuk
Pete Pradinuk
Russell Tanasychuk
Ivan Tanasychuk
Section 21
N.W.
Wpg. Western Land Co.
Putman
T. R. White
G. White
Joe Schaworski
Chas. Kolosky
Mike Tanasychuk

N.E.		Metro Hrubeniuk		Ken Caldwell		Mike Sawchyshyn	W½
Wpg. Western Land Co.		Don Hrubeniuk		Keith Alexander		M. Barnesky	
Thorpe Brightwell		S.W.		S.W.		H. Barnesky	
Jim Belcher		Cdn. Northern Railway		Hudson's Bay Co.		Walter Barnesky	
Cliff Hamilton		S. Crookshanks		W. Wellers		Anton Sawchyshyn	E½
Anne Hamilton		Hryciuk		Mike Chisick		Ivan Tanasychuk	
S.W.		Alex Cleland		Mike Bart		N.E.	
Wpg. Western Land Co.		S.E.		Danny Bart		Jos. Huston	1907
Putman		Margaret Veitch	1910	S.E.		Harris Huston	
T. R. White		Mrs. M. Joiner		Hudson's Bay Co.		Russell Tanasychuk	
G. White		Wendell Cleland		Wilson Veitch		S.W.	
Joe Schaworski		Section 24		Mervyn Crookshanks		Samuel Warnock	
Chas. Kolosky		N.W.		Charles Brown		J. Sinclair and J. Young	
S.E.		Henry Palmer	1899	Calvin Brown		Paul Pomehichuk	
Wpg. Western Land Co.		Bert Barkley		Section 27		Tony Sawchyshyn	
Thorpe Brightwell		Tom White		N.W.		Ivan Tanasychuk	
Jim Belcher		Wm. Maxwell		Wpg. Western Land Co.		S.E.	
Bill Kolosky (pt)		Dave Maxwell		Bob Paul		Jos. Huston	1907
Wm. Tanasychuk (pt)		N.E.		Stanley Puyda		Harris Huston	
Cliff Hamilton		Thomas Buchanan	1900	Alex Barnesky		Russell Tanasychuk	
Anne Hamilton		Wm. Buchanan		N.E.		Section 30	
June Kolosky		Bill Collins		Wpg. Western Land Co.		N.W.	
Section 22		Fred Babaluk		Bob Paul		University of Manitoba	
N.W.		David Maxwell		Stanley Puyda		M. Melnyk	
Donald Sinclair	1885	John Oryniak		Alex Barnesky		A. Barnesky	
Fred Veitch (part)		S.W.		S.W.		Mike Luba	
Walter Veitch		Oscar Palmer	1899	Wpg. Western Land Co.		Paul Luba	
Mrs. M. Joiner		Oscar Copping		Sam Veitch		N.E.	
Sterling Veitch S½		Mrs. E. Oryniak		Fred Veitch		University of Manitoba	
Michael Kostaskey N½		Alex Oryniak		John Kostaskey		Nick Barnesky	
John Kostaskey		P. Strank		Michael Kostaskey		Alex Barnesky	
Ron Kostaskey		Mildred Strank		Ron Kostaskey		S.W.	
N.E.		S.E.		S.E.		University of Manitoba	
Samuel Veitch	1887	John Sinclair	1901	Wpg. Western Land Co.		Anton Pawluk	
Walter Veitch		Bill Collins		Sam Veitch		Morris Pawluk	
Mrs. M. Joiner		Fred Babaluk		W. Veitch		S.E.	
Rowatt Veitch		Wm. Tanasychuk		Mrs. W. Veitch		Thos. McKee	
Wendell Cleland		Section 25		Mrs. M. Joiner		N. Derkach	
S.W.		N.W.		Dan Bart		Mike Sawchyshyn	
Crown	1893	Harry Sleigh	1905	Section 28		Taras Todosiew	
George Sinclair	1893	Gladys Sleigh		N.W.		Alex Barnesky	
John Sinclair	1902	Gladys Burt		Cesson York	1900	Section 31	
Robert Peden	1906	Lawrence Kostaskey		George Sinclair		N.W.	
Clarence Cleland	1909	N.E.		N. Taylor		Jos. Juce N½	1912
Frank Cleland	1921	John Reinhart	1903	Wm. Kolosky		Mike Melnyk S½	
Mrs. F. Cleland	1947	John Danyleyko		Steve Kolosky		Mike Juce	
Alex Cleland	1952	Morris Danyleyko		Jeorg Herrman		Walter Gensiorek	
S.E.		Jim Saley		N.E.		N.E.	
Charles Lawford	1884	S.W.		Charles W. Ross	1896	Michael Kalyn	1915
John Sinclair	1902	Crown		George Sinclair		Stan Kalyn	
Robert Peden	1906	S.E.		D. McFeetors		S.W.	
C. Cleland	1909	John Reinhart	1903	Steve Kolosky		Wm. Wyness	1908
Frank Cleland	1921	H. McEvoy		Mike Bart		Mike Juba	
Mrs. F. Cleland	1947	Sam Oryniak		Michael Tanasychuk		Alex Juba	
Alex Cleland	1952	John Oryniak		S.W.		S.E.	
Section 23		Bill Pidlubny		Hugh Ross	1901	Mike Kalyn	1908
N.W.		Metro Belbas		J. McFeetors		Stan Kalyn	
Geo. and Angus Grant	1898	Section 26		John Malaniuk		Section 32	
Steve Shust		N.W.		Mike Bart		N.W.	
Sterling Veitch		Hudson's Bay Co.		Michael Tanasychuk		John Kowalchuk	1900
Steve Koloski		Bob Paul		S.E.		Mike Barnesky	
Louis Koloski		Wm. Finch		Hugh Ross	1899	N.E.	
Harry Verbowski		Wendell Cleland		J. McFeetors		Metro Hubinski	
Martin Vertz Jr.		N.E.		John Malaniuk		Wm. Koloski	
N.E.		Hudson's Bay Co.		Mike Bart		Charlie Koloski	
Man. and N.W. Railway		John Plant		Michael Tanasychuk		Mike Tanasychuk	
John Maxwell		Lorne Plante		Section 29		S.W.	
T. Bowcott		Georgina Plant		N.W.		Nick Barnesky	1901
David Maxwell		Laverne Plant		Jos. Huston	1916	Alex Barnesky	

Raymond Barnesky		R. Craig		G. Sinclair		Section 36	
S.E.		Carl Schaworski		G. Fardell		N.W.	
John Tanasychuk	1903	Alex Barnesky		Wm. Craig		John Plant	1886
Mike Tanasychuk				Alex Barnesky		Lorne Plant	
		Section 34				Ron Kstesky	
Section 33		N.W.		Section 35		N.E.	
N.W.		Thomas York	1892	N.W.		Henry Sleigh	1882
Wpg. Western Land Co.		Duncan Grant		Cesson York	1901	Gladys Sleigh	
Wm. Kolosky		John Koteski		John York		John Karmazenuk	
Steve Kolosky		Michael Kotesky		Jerry Barnesky		Alexander Andrew	
J. Tanasychuk		Ron Kotesky				John McKietiuik	
Mike Tanasychuk						John Deck	
N.E.		N.E.		N.E.		Lawrence Reles	
Wpg. Western Land Co.		Duncan Grant	1892	Chester Merritt	1908	S.W.	
J. Seminiuk		Thos. York		C. S. York		George Grant	1886
Nick Mankir		John Koteski		Adolph Kotesky		J. D. Grant	
Andrew Tanasychuk		Michael Kotesky		Bob Kotesky		Angus Grant	
Mike Tanasychuk		Bob Kotesky and		Ron Kotesky		Steve Koloski	
		Ron Kotesky				Alex Oryniak	
S.W.		S.W.		S.W.		Frank Oryniak	
Wpg. Western Land Co.		James Dennison	1891	Wm. Craig	1908	S.E.	
G. Sinclair		Wicket		Alex Barnesky		Henry Sleigh	1891
Wm. Kolosky		J. McFeetors				Gladys Sleigh	
Steve Kolosky		Fardell		S.E.		J. Karmazenuk	
Mike Tanasychuk				Angus Grant	1908	S. Karmazenuk	
		Carl Schaworski		Steve Shust		A. Andrews	
S.E.		Wm. Craig		John Koloski		John McKietiuik	
Wpg. Western Land Co.		Alex Barnesky		Steve Koloski		J. Deck	
W. Craig		S.E.		Andy Kambeitz		Lawrence Reles	
J. G. Craig		Charles Dumais	1884	Bob Kotesky			

Township 21 Range 24

Section 1		Chas. Derlago	1944	Mike Livetsky	1956	S.W.	
N.W.		E½ of W½		S.E.		James McBride	1899
Wasył Shmyr	1910	Dmytro Trakalo	1909	John Ternovetsky	1903	Wilson Parmalee	
John Shmyr	1931	Sam Trakalo		Matt Kalyniuk		Bill Maxwell	
Ted Shmyr	1970	Mervin Trakalo		Andrew Kalyniuk		Tom Dychakowsky	
Walter Didych	1974	Gordon Trakalo		Murray Kalyniuk		Mike Livetsky	
N.E.		Section 3		Ivan Ternovetsky		S.E.	
Mike Wonitoway	1911	N.W.		Section 5		Jim McBride	1899
Mike Gensiorek		Paul Kalyniuk	1909	N.W.		Wilson Parmalee	
John Shmyr		Mike Busko		Crown		Bill Maxwell	
Alex Shmyr		Paul Busko	1943	N.E.		Tom Dychakowsky	
Ted Shmyr		Mike Pawluk	1953-1976	Crown		Mike Livetsky	
Ephraïne Sacharko		Harold Pawluk	1980	Todosiw Ternovetsky	1900		
S.W.		N.E.		Crown		Section 7	
Fred Didych	1934	John Topolniski Sr.	1909	S.W.		N.W.	
Pete Didych		John Topolniski Jr.		Crown		Bill Cochrane	1901
Barry Didych		John Danyliuk	1956	S.E.		Earl Cochrane	
S.E.		S.W.		John R. Steele	1921	John Olynick	
John Fiel	1936	Crown		Bill Brown		Andrew Barnesky	
Mike Fiel	1942	S.E.		William Kalyniuk	1936	Lorne Deydey	1980
Joe Fiel		Chas. Derlago	1950	Mrs. Wm. Kalyniuk		N.E.	
Darcy Fiel		Vernon Derlago	1969	Lawrence Kuzenko		Tom Bradshaw	1900
Section 2				Richard Kalyniuk		Fred Hlagy	1913
N.E.		Section 4				Mike Sotas	1946
Harasym Wonitoway	1907	N.W.		Section 6		Murray Kalyniuk	1974
Alex Wonitoway		Todosiw Ternovetsky	1901	N.W.		S.W.	
John Shmyr		Darcy Karmazeniuk		Tom Buchanan	1884	Bill Cochrane	1901
Ted Shmyr		Nick Mankir		Bob Wilson		Leonard Plante	
Gordon Trakalo		Willis Livetsky	1957	Henry Miller		Fred Strilesky	
S.E.		N.E.		Wm. Checkowsky		Peter Strilesky	
Joe Bartkiw	1904	Stefan Ternovetsky	1902-1955	Mervin Checkowsky		S.E.	
Sam Trakalo		Alex Ternovetsky	1955	N.E.		Robert Yarmey	1901
Mervin Trakalo		S.W.		Thomas Buchanan	1884	Daisy Mamalego	1910
Gordon Trakalo		John Berzanski	1901	Bob Wilson		Harry Mamalego	
George McMaster		Matt Kalyniuk		Henry Miller		Fred Strileski	
W½ of W½		Wasył Berzanski		Wm. Checkowsky		Peter Strileski	
George Danyleyko	1909	Nick Mankir		Mervin Checkowsky			

Section 8		S.E.		Fred Robinson and	Mike Sotas
N.W.		Crown		Gordon Fewings	Glen Maxwell
Wasył Karmazeniuk	1900	Alex Sokolan (T)	1946	N.E.	S.E.
Fred Cochrane	1921	Crown		Matt Semaniuk	Harry Avery 1884
Gordon Plante	1939-44	Section 12		Crown	George Finch 1890
John Kostaskey	1952	N.W.		S.W.	Isabella Finch 1899
Peter Kostaskey		John Lepischak		J. Mahara	Wm. Crookshanks
N.E.		Sam Sokolan		Crown	Bill Brown
Arthur Brown Sr.	1921-29	Alex Sokolan		S.E.	John Copeland
Mike Malaniuk	1932	N.E.		Crown	Matt Olynyk
Pete Kostaskey		Kornelo Chopp	1907	Section 16	Alex Cleland
S.W.		Malick Peikoff		N.W.	Section 19
Bill Cochrane	1918	Mike Bartkiw		William McIntosh	N.W.
Fred Cochrane		Lloyd Bartkiw		William Butler	Thos. Naish
Wasył Karmazenuk	1921	S.W.		Frank and Freda Butler	Leonard Plante
Mrs. Wasył Karmazenuk		Philip Dutkewich	1906	N.E.	George Hlagy 1948
John Barnesky		Mike Dutkewich		William Butler	John Hlagy
Andrew Barnesky		John Shmyr		Frank and Freda Butler	Michael Deydey
Douglas Judiesch		Ted Shmyr		S.W.	N.E.
S.E.		Walter Didych		Edmund Butler	Alex Wyness 1899
Arthur Brown Sr.	1921-29	Walter Mazur		Frank Butler	Matt Zubiak
John Kostaskey		S.E.		Frank and Freda Butler	Alex Cleland 1948
Steve Baydak	1945	Roman Bartkiw	1904	S.E.	S.W.
Section 9		Mike Bartkiw		W½ Sam Sawerchuk	Sam Martin 1902
N.W.		Lloyd Bartkiw		E½ Metro Oryniak	Thos. Naish 1906
Crown		Section 13		W½ Mary Sawerchuk	Leonard Plante
N.E.		N.W.		E½ Alex Oryniak Jr.	George Hlagy
Stephan Kitlar	1911	Crown		E½ Leslie Oryniak	John Hlagy
Matt Bidochka		N.E.		E½ Mike Levitsky	Michael Deydey
S.W.		Hnat Bonchuk		W½ R.M. of Rossburn	S.E.
Wm. Abramchuk		John Checkowsky	1935	Section 17	Sam Liscum 1907
Crown		Mike Sacharko	1940	N½	Bill Maxwell 1939
S.E.		Ephraime Sacharko		Edmund Butler	Glen Maxwell 1972
Victor Tomchuk (T)		S.W.		Arthur Brown Sr.	Section 20
Steve Ternovetsky		Steve Kucher		Alex Cleland	N.W.
Wm. Ternovetsky	1949	Crown		S.W.	Robert Hiscock 1903
Alexander Ternovetsky		S.E.		D. Schwalm	Albert Hiscock 1928-1964
Section 10		Harry Baydak		Archie Bradshaw	Glen Maxwell 1964
N.W.		Steve Baydak		Fred Malaniuk	John Kawka 1965
John Bidochka	1904	Crown		Harry Malaniuk	N.E.
Andrew Bidochka		Section 14		Matt Malaniuk	Wm. Schilds 1902
N.E.		N.W.		Murray Kalyniuk	John Oryniak Sr.
Dmytro Kitlar	1903	Nick Sacharko	1904	Dennis Deydey	Sam Oryniak
Mike Kitlar		Tom Kachan		S.E.	Alex Oryniak Sr.
Henry Kitlar		Harry Bidochka		D. Schwalm	Joe Oryniak 1940
Mike Bartkiw	1962	Ulrich Franitza		Fred Malaniuk	Emily Walker 1940-61
Wayne Bartkiw		N.E.		Matt Malaniuk	Lynn and Ryan Fowler 1962
S.W.		John Livetsky	1906	Murray Kalyniuk	S.W.
Nickola Bidochka	1903	Peter Checkowsky		Dennis Deydey	Sam Liscum 1899
Bill Checkowsky		Mike Checkowsky		Section 18	Leonard Plante
Joe Dowhan		Rodney Checkowsky		N.W.	John Maxwell
Mervin Checkowsky		S.W.		John W. Martin	Bill Maxwell 1939
Andrew Bidochka		John Sabeski	1906	Sam Martin	S.E.
S.E.		Metro Kitlar		Bill Martin	George Plant 1903
Fred Bidochka	1903	Henry Kitlar		Sam Liscum	Bert Palmer
Pete Bidochka		Mike Bartkiw		Bill Maxwell	John Copeland
Bill Checkowsky		Wayne Bartkiw		George Hlagy	Pete Sawchuk 1940
Mervin Checkowsky		S.E.		John Hlagy	Alex Sawchuk 1942
Rodney Checkowsky		Pete Checkowsky	1905	Mike Sotas	Matt Sawchuk 1944
Section 11		Mike Checkowsky		Glen Maxwell	Bill Maxwell 1954
N.W.		Rodney Checkowsky		N.E.	Glen Maxwell 1972
Crown		Section 15		Albert Martin	Section 21
N.E.		N.W.		Sam Martin	N.W.
Crown		Alex Bidochka	1907	Albert Hiscock	Sam Saley 1910
S.W.		Matt Semaniuk	1938	Mike Sotas	Roman Saley 1940
Alex Wonitoway		George Semaniuk	1944	S.W.	Alex Sawchuk 1959
Sam Sokolan	1945	Max Caldwell		Wm. Plant	Dora Sawchuk 1963
Alex Sokolan	1946	Glen Maxwell	1969-81	George Hlagy	Weldon McIntosh 1964
Crown				John Hlagy	Phillip and
					Isabella Armbruster 1976

N.E.		N.E.		Sam Saley		S.E.	
Andrew Hryciuk	1909	Wasył Bonchuk	1907	Mike Saley		Lorne Tanasychuk	
Nick Kozun	1944	Louis Maydaniuk		S.E.		Section 32	
Bill Kozun		Dave Matus		John Barnesky	1908	N.W.	
Phillip Armbruster		Garth Rezac		William H. Butler	1934	Mykyta Kawka	1906
A		S.W.		Mike Saley	1947	Nick Deydey	
S.W.		John Kostiuk	1907	Section 28		John Bereza	
Thomas Naish	1908	Harry Baydock		N.W.		Mary Bereza	
Alex Oryniak Sr.		Steve Baydock		Steve Verbowski	1905	Frank Bereza	
Sam Oryniak		S.E.		Wasył Kawka		Carl Bereza	
John Oryniak		Panko Ozarow	1908	John Kawka		Chas. Pawluk	
Mary (Mrs. John) Oryniak		W½ Joe Ozarow		N.E.		Calvin Pawluk	
Mike Oryniak		E½ Walter Ozarow		Maki Hasiuk	1903-38	N.E.	
Alex Oryniak Jr.		W½ John Danyliuk		Roy Hasiuk	1938-47	Theodore Protasiewicz	
Bill Kozun		E½ Mike Sacharko		Walter Pawluk	1947	Fred Chupa	
Eugene Kozun		E½ Ephraime Sacharko		S.W.		John Bereza	
Phillip and Ray		W½ Steve Baydak		Fred Malaniuk	1906	Mary Bereza	
Armbruster	1976	Section 25		Walter Hasiuk		Frank Bereza	
S.E.		N.W.		Roy Hasiuk		Carl Bereza	
Peter Brusseau		Karl Maydaniuk		Walter Pawluk	1946	Charles Pawluk	
Mrs. Joe Merritt		Louis Maydaniuk	1940	S.E.		S.W.	
John Barneski		Dave Matus	1970	Thomas Bradshaw	1902	Anton Pawluk	1906
Wm. Butler		Garth Rezac	1977	Pete Sawchuk	1921	N½ Wasył Derlago	1918
Mike Derkach		N.E.		Frank Maydaniuk		S½ Alex Kohuch	1918
Walter Butler		Crown		John Kawka		S½ Peter Kohuch	1951
Mike Saley	1947	S.W.		Section 29		S½ Mrs. Alex Kohuch	1955
Fred Saley		Wasył Bonchuk	1911	N.W.		S½ Don Kohuch	1965
Section 22		Louis Maydaniuk		Steve Verbowski		N½ Mrs. Mary Derlago	1955
N.W.		Dave Matus		Crown		N½ Carl Bereza	
Nick Trynchuk	1905	Garth Rezac		N.E.		N½ Clement Derlago Adm.	
Metro Livetsky	1905	S.E.		Crown		S.E.	
George Trynchuk		Crown		S.W.		Dominic Kominski	1904
Wm. Kozun		Section 26		Crown		Steve Pawluk	
Ray Armbruster	1976	N.W.		S.E.		Charles Pawluk	
N.E.		John Maydaniuk		Crown		Section 33	
Wasył Spilchak	1907-45	Walter Maydaniuk		S.E.		N.W.	
John Spilchak	1945-62	Jacob Friesen	1971	Crown		Wasył Kawka	
Stanley Maydaniuk	1966	John Flegel		Section 30		Roy Kohuch	
Harold Ross	1972	N.E.		N.W.		Don Kohuch	
S.W.		Pete Cherwoniak	1910	Clement Derlago	1908	Frank Maydaniuk	
Nykola Semaniuk	1910	Sam Stashinec		Bill Kuzenko		N.E.	
Mike Struminski (T)		Mrs. Sam Stashinec		Lawrence Kuzenko		S½ Woytko Maydaniuk	1911
George Semaniuk	1959	Walter Maydaniuk	1950-71	Sam Halipchuk	1906	N½ John Dzybinski	1911
Evelyn Bennett	1972	Jacob Friesen		Bill Werbovetski		S½ Walter Maydaniuk	
S.E.		John Flegel		Alex Cleland		Tony Maydaniuk	1945
Paraska Karmienski	1903	S.W.		Michael Kuzenko Sr.	1909	Frank Maydaniuk	
Maxim Checkowsky	1910	Angus Derlago		Michael Kuzenko Jr.		S.W.	
John and Paul Checkowsky		Sam Silewich		Bill Kuzenko		Alex Kalechin	
Roman Yanick (T)		Bill Kozun		Lawrence Kuzenko		Stan Maydaniuk	1950
Mike Checkowsky		Phillip Armbruster		S.E.		S.E.	
Section 23		S.E.		Wasył Belbas	1908	John Oryniak Sr.	1911
N.W.		Philip Shewchuk		Mike Belbas		Pete Kaban	
Crown		Bill Shewchuk		Mary Trynchuk		Stanley Maydaniuk	
N.E.		Section 27		Alex Cleland		Section 34	
Crown		N.W.		Section 31		N.W.	
S.W.		Stefan Baydock	1908	N.W.		Fred Kozun	1905
Crown		N½ Mike Baydock		Paul Yacunyk		Mrs. Roman Dychakowsky	
S.E.		S½ Daisy Baydock		Lawrence Kuzenko		Tom Dychakowsky	
Crown		N½ Michael Baydock		N.E.		Joe Maydaniuk	
Section 24		S½ Alex Kalyniuk		Alex Holob		Edward Maydaniuk	
N.W.		N.E.		Pete Kuzenko		N.E.	
Domna Cychy	1906	Robert S. Wilson	1908	Mike Kuzenko		Alex Oryniak Jr.	1906
Alex Boreskewich	1906	Norman Locke		John Davies and		Matt Dychakowsky	
Wasył Bonchuk		Angus Derlago		Vern Proedahl		Nick Kozun	
John Bonchuk		Sophia Kozun		Roland Henuset and		Harry Komhyr	
Dave Matus		Ray Armbruster		Leo Gabrielle		Joseph and Sonia Borowski	
Garth Rezac		S.W.		S.W.		S.W.	
		George Karmazeniuk	1908-18	Lawrence Kuzenko		Roman Dychakowsky	1904
		Nick Saley	1918			Tom Dychakowsky	

Alex Pawluk		Mike Saley		Charles Derlago		Don Kohuch	
Mike Pawluk		Dr. Judiesch		Dave Matus		Helen Pankiw	
Charles Pawluk		N.E.		George Bentley		S.W.	
Walter Pawluk		R. Simpson		Section 36		Carl Maydaniuk	1903
S.E.		Carl Maydaniuk		N.W.		Joe Maydaniuk	
Alex Oryniak Sr.	1904	Joe Maydaniuk		Maxim Skocylas	1905	Don Maydaniuk	
Sam Oryniak		Dr. Judiesch		Pete Skocylas		Fred Judiesch	
Mike Siliwich		S.W.		Clement Derlago		5-9-1927 Holdings Ltd.	
Alex Pawluk		Joe Dunitz		Pauline Derlago		S.E.	
Alex Saley		Harry Komhyr		Joe Derlago		N½ Fred Siliwich	1907
Ray and Philip		Roy Komhyr		Mike Kozun		S½ Mike Siliwich	
Armbruster		Charles Komhyr		John Kozun		N½ Joe Siliwich	1941
Section 35		Mike Saley		Don Kohuch		Mike Kozun	1955
N.W.		Fred Judiesch		Helen Pankiw		John Kozun	
Harry Komhyr		S.E.		N.E.		Don Kohuch	
Roy Komhyr		R. Simpson		John Kozun	1909	S½ Steve Maydaniuk	
Charlie Komhyr	1955	Clement Derlago		Mike Kozun		Helen Pankiw	
		Joe Derlago	1941	John Kozun			

Township 21 Range 25

Section 1		Fred Ewanchuk	1916	S.W.		Walter Gensiorek	
N.W.		Nick Ewanchuk		John Reinhart	1903	N.E.	
Wpg. Western Land Co.		N.E.		M. Bobbiechuk		John Ross	
W. Ben Martin	1901	Wpg. Western Land Co.		James Hogg		James Hogg	
Roy K. Plant		Thorpe Brightwell	1906	Louis Penonzek		John Werbovetski	
Peter Strilesky		Alex Barnesky		Wm. Chuckrey		Mike and Andrew Sokolski	
N.E.		S.W.		S.E.		Harry Werbovetski	
John A. Smith	1903	Wpg. Western Land Co.		John Reinhart	1903	Wm. Mazur	
Allan Smith		John Ewanchuk	1917	M. Bobbiechuk		Mary Mazur	
Andrew Kalyniuk		Wally Peleshok		James Hogg		Charlie Melnyk	
Murray Kalyniuk		S.E.		Louis Penonzek		Edward Jack Melnyk	
S.W.		Wpg. Western Land Co.		Bert Penonzek		S.W.	
Wpg. Western Land Co.		Thorpe Brightwell	1906	Wm. Chuckrey		James Hogg	1906
Henry Sleigh	1901	C. S. York				John Gensiorek	
Allan Smith		Daniel Bart		Section 6		Leo Gensiorek	
Edward York				N.W.		Ken Gensiorek	
Margaret Palmer		Section 4		University of Manitoba		S.E.	
Ronald Kotesky		N.W.		Joseph Drosdowski	1913	James Hogg	1906
S.E.		University of Man.	1898	Chas. Siwak		John Gensiorek	
John A. Smith	1903			John Mazur		Anton Gensiorek	
Allan Smith		Anthony Penonzek		N.E.		John Gensiorek	
Andrew Kalyniuk		Russell Tanasychuk		University of Manitoba		Section 8	
Murray Kalyniuk		N.E.		Alex Mazur Sr.		N.W.	
Section 2		University of Man.	1898	Alex Mazur Jr. N½	1907	Hudson's Bay Co.	
N.W.		Joseph Merritt	1898	John Mazur S½		Dan Penonzek	
John Karmazenuk	1902	Chester Merritt		John L. Mazur		A. Penonzek	
Nicholas Karmazenuk		Alex Barnesky		S.W.		Anton Gensiorek	
Peter Kuzenko		S.W.		University of Manitoba		John Gensiorek	
Myron Kuzenko		University of Man.	1898	Nick Kozakowski	1909	N.E.	
N.E.		John Kowalchuk	1903	John Kozakowski		Hudson's Bay Co.	
Alvah G. Wakefield	1894	Steve Kowalchuk		John Drosdowski		Wm. Hyra	
William Dunn		Michael Tanasychuk		Joseph Drosdowski		Eugene Hyra	
Peter Kuzenko		S.E.		Peter Drosdowski		S.W.	
Myron Kuzenko		University of Man.	1898	John Mazur		Hudson's Bay Co.	
S.W.		Joseph Merritt	1898	Alec Juba		Sankey Karpuik	
Joseph Merritt	1889	Chester Merritt		S.E.		Dan Penonzek	
Mrs. C. S. York		Alex Barnesky		University of Manitoba		Andrew and Mike Sokolski	
Chester Merritt		Section 5		Michael Hubinski	1913	Wm. Mazur	
Adolph Kotesky		N.W.		Nick Hubinski		Mary Mazur	
Ronald Kotesky		John Reinhart	1903	Joe Juce		S.E.	
S.E.		Tom Chuckrey		Alex Mazur		Mrs. M. Bereza	
Alvah G. Wakefield	1882	Wm. Chuckrey		Mike Juce		Wm. Hyra	
William Dunn		Peter Chuckrey		John and Raymond Mazur		Eugene Hyra	
Peter Kuzenko		N.E.		Section 7		Section 9	
Myron Kuzenko		John Reinhart	1903	N.W.		N.W.	
Section 3		Tom Chuckrey		Steve Ukrainetz		Jacob Mayowski	1909
N.W.		Wm. Chuckrey		Anton Gensiorek		Anthony Penonzek	
Wpg. Western Land Co.		Peter Chuckrey					

Joseph Ushey		Earl Cochrane		Wm. F. Belbas		M. Ukrainetz	
Lorne Melnyk		Mike Piasta E½		S.W.		Alec Mazur	
Mary Olga Hyra		Rick Kalyniuk E½		John Reinhart	1903	John Mazur	
N.E.		Edward Kaban W½		Joe Wladyka N½		N.E.	
Joseph Penonzek	1909	S.W.		Mike Wladyka N½		Fred Sokolski	1902
Daniel Penonzek		W. Ben Martin	1896	Wm. Wladyka S½		Andrew Sokolski E½	
Harry Golitz		Roy K. Plant		John Reinhart S½		Mike Sokolski W½	
John and Mike Golitz		Peter Strilesky		Jim Irwin		Wm. Mazur	
Elmer Sawchuk		S.E.		Wm. F. Belbas		Mary Mazur	
S.W.		Wm. Cochrane	1883	S.E.		S.W.	
J. C. Dudley	1902	Florence Plant		John Reinhart	1903	Nichola Ukrainetz	1902
Anthony Penonzek		Mike Piasta		Anthony Wladyka		Steve Ukrainetz	
Joseph Ushey		Rick Kalyniuk		Wm. Wladyka		Alec Mazur	
Lorne Melnyk				Joseph Nychuk		John Mazur	
Mary Olga Hyra		Section 13		Wm. F. Belbas		S.E.	
S.E.		N½				John Werbovetski	1901
Steve Barneski	1910	Donald Cameron	1899	Section 16		Dan Penonzek	
Melvin Barneski		Bert Penonzek		N.W.		Charles Melnyk	
Section 10		Wm. and Nick Brykaliuk		Wasył Nahirniak	1901	Edward Melnyk	
N.W.		Stanley Brykaliuk		John Nahirniak		Section 19	
Andrew Barnesky Sr.	1901	S.W.		Wm. Kozak		N.W.	
Mrs. A. Barnesky		Joseph Elliott	1899	Alexander Hyra E½		Harry Wushka	1908
Steven Barnesky		William Plant		Eugene Hyra W½		Nick Melnyk	
Melvin Barnesky		Harry Sotas		N.E.		Nicholas Gensiorek	
N.E.		Michael Sotas		Bynada Laskowski	1901	Adolph Melnyk	
Michael Ewanchuk	1903	Andy Kambeitz		Mike Laskowski		N.E.	
Ewanchuk Estate		Stanley Brykaliuk		Walter Laskowski		Walter Kaminski	1909
M.A.C.C.		S.E.		Matt Melnyk		Frank Siwak	
Melvin Barnesky		William Plant	1904	S.W.		Michael Sawchuk	
S.W.		George Hlagy		Michael Bereza	1902	S.W.	
John Schwalm	1899	John Hlagy		Mrs. M. Bereza		Joe Gensiorek	1909
Mrs. A. Barnesky		Mike Piasta		Joe Bereza		Nick Melnyk	
Steven Barnesky		Rick Kalyniuk		Wm. Kozak		Nicholas Gensiorek	
Melvin Barnesky				Alexander Hyra		Adolph Melnyk	
S.E.		Section 14		S.E.		S.E.	
Wasył Semeniuk	1901	N.W.		Joe Penonzek	1901	Anthony Magnowski	1908
John Semeniuk		Andrew Crookshanks	1894	Bert Penonzek		Matt Sawchuk	
Mike Sotas		Anthony Walko		Dan Penonzek		Anthony Konyk	
Anselm Kambeitz		Cedrick Crookshanks		Harry Golitz		Bill Mushey	
Dr. John F. Judiesch		Jack Stitt		John Golitz		Charles Melnyk	
Section 11		Matt Olynyk		Elmer Sawchuk		Ed Melnyk	
N.W.		Stanley Brykaliuk		Section 17		Section 20	
John A. Plante	1916	N.E.		N.W.		N.W.	
Wasył Walko		Andrew Crookshanks	1882	Henry Arbury	1906	Nicola Juce	1901
Mike Sotas		Anthony Walko		Wasył Nahirniak		Wm. Mushey N½	
Dennis Deydey		Cedrick Crookshanks		Max Nahirniak		Ed Gensiorek N½	
N.E.		Jack Stitt		Andrew Nahirniak		Sokolaski Bros. S½	
Gordon Plant	1907	Matt Olynyk		N.E.		Arnold Miller N½	
John A. Plant		William Olynyk		Wasył Nahirniak	1916	Michael Derkach S½	
Edward Kaban		S.W.		John Nahirniak		Walter Mrak N½	
S.W.		George Walko		Charles Melnyk		Maurice Lapierre N½	
John Semeniuk	1937	Wasył Walko		Lorne Melnyk		N.E.	
Mike Sotas		Mike Sotas		Mary Hyra and		John Gensiorek	1901
Andy Kambeitz		Dennis Deydey		Wally, Wanda, Jacqueline		Paul Gensiorek	
John F. Judiesch		S.E.		and Joel Melnyk		Elmer Sawchuk	
S.E.		John Huston	1887	S.W.		S.W.	
John Karmazenuk	1907	Joseph Elliott		George Fardell	1906	John Dunits	
Nick Karmazenuk		Harry Sotas		Mike Gensiorek		Max Nahirniak	
Peter Kuzenko		Michael Sotas		Wm. Hyra		Andrew and Mervin Nahirniak	
Myron Kuzenko		Andy Kambeitz		Alexander Hyra		S.E.	
Section 12		Section 15		S.E.		John Dunits	
N.W.		N.W.		Michael Horitchie	1906	Joe Dunits	
Gordon Plante	1891	John Reinhart	1903	Peter Gluch	1906	Michael Horitchie	
John A. Plant		Joseph Wladyka W½		Horitchie Bros.		Anton Magnowski	
Edward Kaban		Anton Wladyka E½		Mrs. John Olynyk		Horitchie Bros.	
N.E.		Mike Wladyka		Paul Horitchie		Paul Horitchie	
Wm. Cochrane	1894	N.E.		Section 18		Section 21	
Florence Plant		John Reinhart	1903	N.W.		N.W.	
John A. Plant W½		Joseph Gensiorek		Yasko Javra	1902	Joe Laird	1901
		Fred Belbas					

Douglas Laird		Mike Sotas		Mike Bilawka		John Melnyk	
Paul Gensiorek		Andy Kambeitz		Matt Bilawka		Lawrence Melnyk	
Elmer Sawchuk		John F. Judiesch		S.W.		Archie Stillar	
N.E.		N.E.		Nick Derkach	1937	F. and L. Roper	
Joe Laird	1901	Samuel Martin	1892	Joe Bilawka		S.E.	
Douglas Laird		Sam Crookshanks		Adolph Melnyk		Hryn Spirak	1901
John Derkach		Fred Deydey		S.E.		Mrs. J. Spirak	
Michael Derkach		Michael Deydey		Joe Elliot	1898	Jacob Scabar	
Matt Melnyk		S.W.		Joseph Wladyka		John Derkach	
S.W.		Sam Crookshanks	1882	Joseph Wladyka Jr.			
Joe Laird		Nick Verbowski		Matt Kaban			
Douglas Laird		Michael Deydey		Adolph Kaban			
Paul Gensiorek		S.E.		Section 28			
Elmer Sawchuk		George Finch		N.W.			
S.E.		Sam Crookshanks		Fred Pushka	1901		
Joe Laird		Nick Verbowski		John Pushka			
Douglas Laird		Michael Deydey		Mike Pushka			
Mike Laskowski		Section 25		Nestor Pushka			
Walter Laskowski		N.W.		Samuel Pushka	1901		
Matt Melnyk		Prokip Melnyk	1908	Peter Pushka			
Section 22		Harry Melnyk		John Macyshyn			
N.W.		Mike Brykaliuk		Melvin Nahirniak			
Simon Storozuk	1901	Tom Obedniak		S.W.			
Paul Storozuk		N.E.		Trophim Dutchak	1901		
Nellie Storozuk		Harry Deydey	1908	Matt Olynk S½			
Katie Hlagie		Nick Deydey		Fred Wushka N½			
N.E.		Alex Holub		Walter Pushka S½			
Sam Crookshanks	1898	Mike Brykaliuk W½		Anthony Olynk N½			
Joe Gensiorek		Peter Kuzenko E½		Melvin Nahirniak S½			
John Derkach		M. T. Kuzenko E½		Anna Olynk N½			
Michael Derkach		Harry Melnyk W½		S.E.			
Matt Melnyk		Tom Obedniak		John Derkach	1903		
S.W.		S.W.		Nick Derkach			
Joseph Wladyka	1901	Nicola Obedniak	1908	Mike Derkach			
Mike Wladyka		Andy Obedniak		Matt Melnyk			
S.E.		Thomas Obedniak					
John Deydey	1901	S.E.		Section 29			
Joe Gensiorek		Wasył Bereza	1908	N.W.			
Anthony Wladyka		Fred Deydey		Mike Mushumanski	1916		
Sokalski Bros.		Mike Deydey		Albert Mushumanski			
Wm. Mazur		Section 26		Frank Mushumanski			
W. F. Belbas		N.W.		Stan Brykaliuk			
Section 23		Hudson's Bay Co.		N.E.			
N.W.		Mikailo Kuzenko	1910	Anthony Olynk	1937		
Hnat Kostiw	1907	William Kuzenko		Mike Olynk			
Matt Kaban		Lawrence Kuzenko		Michael Sawchuk			
Eugene Kaban		N.E.		S.W.			
N.E.		Tonko Verbowski	1901	Peter Gensiorek	1916		
Oryna Kostiuk	1918	Nick Verbowski		John Gensiorek			
Matt Kaban		Mike Verbowski		S.E.			
Eugene Kaban		Joseph Bilawka		Anthony Olynk	1916		
S.W.		Lawrence Kuzenko		Mike Olynk			
Joe Elliot	1899	S.W.		Dr. Kui Lim Lu			
Anton Kostiuk		Hudson's Bay Co.		Peter Zacharios			
Fred Deydey		John McKietuk	1916	Michael Sawchuk			
Mike Deydey		Mike Deydey					
S.E.		S.E.		Section 30			
Andrew Crookshanks	1899	Hudson's Bay Co.		N.W.			
Joe Elliot		Nick Verbowski	1911	Stefan Kutzan	1901		
Paul Karmazenuk		Mike Verbowski		Vincent Gandza			
George Hlagy		Joseph Bilawka		Jerry Gandza			
John Hlagy		Lawrence Kuzenko		Elmer Sawchuk			
Dennis Deydey		Section 27		N.E.			
Section 24		N.W.		Roman Halowski	1901		
N.W.		Wasył Kaban	1905	John Halowski			
Don Cameron	1897	Michael Kaban		Roy Halowski			
Stanley Bereza		Eugene and Melvin Kaban		S.W.			
Harry Verbowski		N.E.		Petro Krysko	1901		
		Wasył Bilawka	1917	F. Mushumanski Sr.			

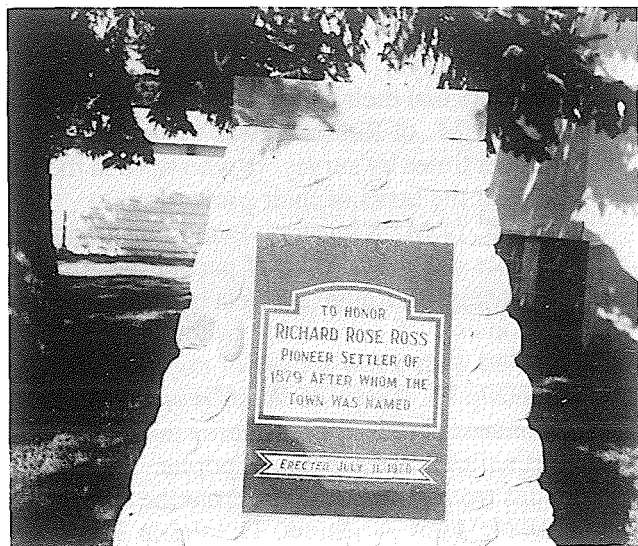
Melvin Nahirniak
Section 34
N.W.
 S. Stashinec
 John Pushka
 Mike Rogasky
 Nahirniak Bros.
N.E.
 Makey Prodan 1902
 Mike Prodan
 Tony Macyshyn
 Matt Bilawka
S.W.
 Nicola Belbas 1903
 Harry Belbas
 Wm. H. Belbas
 John Foster
 John Arthur Davies

S.E.
 Michael Babychok 1902
 Harry Belbas
 Wm. H. Belbas
 Verne Proedahl
 John Foster
 John Arthur Davies
Section 35
N.W.
 John Skomorowski 1935
 Mary Skomorowski
N.E.
 Gordon Plant 1899
 Alex Zubiak
 Fred Pushka E½
 Mike Derkach E½
 Wm. Obedniak E½
 Garth Rezac E½

Frank Christensen E½
 G. Wolski W½
 Nick Melnyk W½
 Adolph Melnyk W½
S.W.
 Mackey Prodan 1902
 John Prodan
 Wasył Bilawka
 Wm. Bilawka Jr.
S.E.
 Tom Obedniak Sr. 1910
 Wm. Brykaliuk
 John Obedniak
Section 36
N.W.
 Mackey Skomorowski 1902
 Wm. Brykaliuk
 John Obedniak

N.E.
 Stanley Korolyk 1905
 Fred Pushka W½
 Michael Stronciski E½
 John Obedniak
S.W.
 Mike Kuzenko Sr. 1902
 Stanley Korolyk
 Harry Verbowski
 Nick Melnyk
 Adolph Melnyk
S.E.
 Wasył Kuzenko Sr. 1904
 Bill Skomorowski
 John Bart
 Stanley Korolyk
 Wm. Kuzenko
 L. and E. Kuzenko

Glimpses of the Past



Cairn on S.E. corner of lawn in front of Rosssburn Town Hall. Erected in honor of Richard Rose Ross, the pioneer settler of 1879 after whom the town was named.

The Naming of Rosssburn

The memorial cairn erected on the south-east corner of the Rosssburn Town Hall, honors the pioneer settler this community was named after.

The cairn's inscription is:

To Honor
Richard Rose Ross
Pioneer Settler of
1879 after whom the
town was named.
Erected July 11, 1970

Some background information concerning Richard Rose Ross was read at the cairn's unveiling. The Rosssburn Review publication of Dr. Morley Young's address on that occasion stated: "Richard Rose Ross, a son of Hugh Ross, was born in Richmond, Ont. in 1843. He is the man we honor today. As a young man he moved to western Ontario. At Molesworth, he met and married Margaret McKee, a

young Irish girl who had come to Canada in 1850. This couple continued to live there for some years.

Eleven children were born to them in this area, five died in infancy. The six who reached adulthood came with their parents to Manitoba. They arrived in this locality in 1879 and settled on the banks of the Birdtail Valley on the north half of 35-19-25. Elizabeth, Hugh, Dick (Richard), Watson and Laura all grew up and married. John died at the age of nineteen from an acute abdominal condition, probably appendicitis. After settling in this district he spent one winter in Ontario studying to improve his own education. This was put to good use in the interests of community life. The first school in the area was held in the Ross home. A country store was also opened here and not long afterward the post office came under his care. He was Rosssburn's second postmaster and held that position from 1881 to 1896."

The address continued: "In the store and post office he maintained friendly and effective relations with the folk of Waywayseecappo. This was especially appreciated during the restless days of 1885. He was secretary-treasurer of the first council of the Rosssburn Municipality and became its Reeve in 1898.

Dr. Josef Oleskow in his history, of the coming of the Ukrainian people to the Rosssburn area mentioned the help and kindness of Reeve R. R. Ross. He was interested in the first threshing machine in those parts. It was shipped to Fort Ellice and then during the fall of 1880 worked its way to Rosssburn by way of Birtle.

Between 1900 and 1905, when the railway actually came to Rosssburn, hopes that it would . . . and fears that it would not seemed to alternate. The final charter for construction had to be altered to bring the road into Rosssburn and not some miles east. Mr. Ross and John Brodie interviewed and petitioned Premier Roblin and Mr. McKenzie of railroad fame; in this connection with happy results.

Among the names of the charter members of the



Richard Rose Ross.

first Orange Lodge in Rosssburn we find that of R. R. Ross.

Richard Rose Ross was a lay preacher of no mean ability. The religious life of all merited his attention. He taught Sunday School for many years, both adult and junior. His last act of concern for Rosssburn and its people was the conducting of a church service one Sunday evening in the early part of 1904. It was mid-winter. Following the service he apparently went to a neighboring water pump to give his team a drink. There he collapsed. Next morning family and friends learned that a devoted pioneer, a familiar friend, an outstanding citizen and a great man had finished the course and kept the faith."

Mrs. Nona Peden in an interview a number of years ago, when asked for her knowledge of this subject said: "There was a discussion on whether or not to call this place Rosssburn or Pedensville. Rosssburn won because Mr. Ross had the first store, post office and school."

In the interview Mrs. Peden gave for an earlier history project of Rosssburn Collegiate some years ago, she reminisced that "my Uncle Richard Ross came to Rosssburn in 1879. I came here in 1904 and there were only 16 buildings, barns included. The first house on Victoria Avenue was where Doug Cormack lives in now and Dr. Evans lived there then. On the other side of the street was the Williamson farm house. From there on to Jack Peden's there was nothing, not even a street, just trees.

They called Rosssburn "The Corner." It was called this because they built the church on a corner and there was nothing else in sight.

In those days the school was a mile north of Rosssburn, right across from Matt McKietruk's garage present location. The first train came into Rosssburn in 1905 in the fall. I was a teacher then and I brought my school kids out to see it.

When I came here, there was a telephone in Tom Peden's store (where the old Co-op store used to be). This was the only telephone around."

Rosssburn's pioneers were an outstanding group of citizens.

The Early Days

Surveyors had their role to play in opening up the west. The R.M. of Rosssburn was visited in the earliest pioneer times by surveyors who were in the area carrying out the tasks of their profession.

In 1875, G.M. Kingston, Dominion Land Surveyor, wrote this description of part of the area.

"Township 19, Range 24 West is worth subdividing. It consists of very rich, rolling prairie land, interspersed with a few groves of poplar.

Township 19, Range 25 West, is worth subdividing. It consists of rich, rolling prairie land, with a few scattered willows and clumps of poplar. The Birdtail Creek runs from north to south across the township."

In 1880, John A. Snow, Dominion Land Surveyor, made this report on Township 19, Range 24.

"This township lies immediately south-west of the Riding Mountain district and only within a few years (has) been reclaimed from the forest by fire which has from time to time passed over its surface. Here and there scattered over the surface of the prairies, the remains of the old forest is still visible, and in many islands or bluffs of green woods, generally in the neighborhood of lakes, ponds and marshes, which have afforded protection against the fire. A part of sections 32, 33, 34, 35, 26 and 27 are still in green poplar woods but little impaired by fire — and will prove useful to the settlement in this township for building purpose.

Sections 35 and 36 are in brule as well as part of sections 13, 24, 26 and 35. In this brule part, some green trees are still to be seen here and there but not in sufficient numbers to be worthy of notice.

The dry timber in this brule (unless destroyed by heavy fires) will furnish for years to come, the settlement with all the firewood they will require.

This township is drained by a small stream, locally known as Arrow River, a brook about six feet wide, and in summary about one foot deep flowing with a strong current, and affords excellent drainage to the contiguous locality. The soil in this township is

considered excellent, the surface gently undulating, with easy slopes.

At the time of my survey, there were eighteen actual settlers in the township."

The list of settlers as recorded by John A. Snow, D.L.S., with improvements as noted in his report: D. J. McDonald, NE 2-19-24, some ploughing done.

A. McDonald, SE 2-19-24, house built, some ploughing done.

Wm. Taylor, SE 31-19-24, house, stable and six acres under crop.

Robt. Taylor, SW 32-19-24, several acres ploughed and cultivated.

Wm. McKee, SE 32-19-24, house and several acres under crop.

Wm. McDonald, NW 29-19-24, some ploughing done.

Wm. McDonald Sr., SE 29-19-24, good house and several acres cultivated.

John McDonald, NW 28-19-24, some ploughing done.

Alex Lowe, NW 28-19-24, camp on SE ¼, four acres ploughed and cultivated partly on SW ¼ and partly on SE ¼.

. . . Tooth, SW 13-19-24, unfinished house and hay cut.

Joseph Stitt, SW 19-19-24, some ploughing done.

Robt. Moulton, SE 10-19-24, some ploughing done.

Joseph Moulton, NE 10-19-24, house and some ploughing done.

Donald Machan, NW 12-19-24, eleven acres ploughed.

Daniel Paul, NE 12-19-24, house and several acres under cultivation.

J. C. Cole, SE 14-19-24, house, stable and several acres ploughed.

. . . Maxsom, NW 14-19-24, some ploughing done.

John Brodie, E ½-16-19-24, some ploughing done.

John Anderson, W ½-16-19-24, some ploughing done.

John A. Snow's "List of Settlers in Township 19, Range 25 West at the Time of My Survey" in 1880 listed these settlers with progress to that date.

Thomas Young, SE 14-19-25, house and ten acres ploughed, fenced.

Davis Young, NE 14-19-25, house and about four acres ploughed.

Samuel Warnock, SE 23-19-25, house built. Some ploughing done.

Hugh Warnock, NE 23-19-25, house built and some ploughing done.

Mathew Whaley, 26-19-25, house built, four acres cultivated.

William Peden, SE 35-19-25, house built, fifteen acres cultivated.

Richard R. Ross, NE 35-19-25, house, stable, twenty acres cultivated.

George Porterfield, SW 24-19-25, house, building, some breaking done.

James Stitt, NW 24-19-25, house built, six acres cultivated.

Mass Grave

In April 1899, a large group of Ukrainian settlers from the province of Galicia, which was under Austrian rule, arrived in Winnipeg. They were seeking a new life wherein they could own land, educate their children and live as free citizens in a democratic country.

On April 5, 1899 a steamer called Armenia had left Hamburg, Germany, for Canada carrying 353 adults and 194 children. A few days later the S. S. Palatia also sailed with 398 adults and 171 children. Four hundred of these were destined for Strathclair — and then to Patterson Lake, 5 miles north and ½ mile west of Oakburn. Their journey was one of hardship, beginning with an ocean voyage to Halifax and a train trip to Winnipeg where they were to rest a few days. They had a chance to buy seed potatoes and other necessities. Some bought stoves which were shared by the group when they reached their destination.

While the women and children waited in the grass alongside of the tracks for the long delayed train in Winnipeg, a raw cold wind was blowing and no doubt many children contracted colds from exposure and became ill. By the time these settlers reached Strathclair, three children died between Portage la Prairie and Minnedosa. They were buried by the track. Another three died in Strathclair. A resident clergyman officiated and the little ones were buried. Four children were affected and the families realized it was an epidemic. Fear and despair tore at the hearts of the parents who had come with high hopes of providing new opportunities for their families. The settlers were sheltered in two unheated buildings, slept on the hay-covered floor and cooked food over an open fire outdoors. More children became ill. A heart-rending incident occurred when Mr. and Mrs. Wasyl Swistun lost their baby boy. The mother held the lifeless body in her arms until they reached their destination. They were determined to bury their little one near their homestead.

Because of many sick children, families were detained and quarantined at Strathclair, while others left for Patterson Lake. Fourteen wagons carrying

women and children, with men following on foot left Strathclair on May 10, 1899, to live in a temporary settlement until their land was surveyed. T. McNutt and John Bodrug (an interpreter), as well as surveyors and engineers accompanied the immigrants to the colony in separate wagons bringing provisions and the immigrants' worldly possessions.

They arrived on a cold rainy day. Before the tent was set up, everyone was drenched to the skin. Two stoves were placed at opposite ends of the tent. It was very difficult to start a fire as no dry kindling could be found. After the fire was started in the stoves, it provided some warmth as they changed into dry clothes. After a meagre supper they went to sleep on hay spread on the frozen ground.

The drivers of the horse driven wagons had a separate tent as did the surveyors and engineers. Another tent sheltered the men who were sent by the Department of Immigration to look after the settlers.

That night while everyone slept, a freak Canadian snowstorm dumped two inches of snow on this area. With the harsh weather and the epidemic which was identified as a particularly malignant type of Scarlet Fever, the pioneers faced a bleak future.

The snow melted the same day, but the epidemic continued with a tragic toll as forty-two children and three adults died in a two week period. Many of the deceased cannot be identified, but records show that amongst families who lost children were: Anton and Anne Kalyshen, an only son, Joseph 5 years; Nykola and Ksenia Maydaniuk, two sons — Prokip 4, and Peter 2 years; Michael and Teklia Shwaluk, two children — Anne, ?; Harry and Cassie Berehulka, two sons — Tomko, 4, and Semko, 2; Michael and Anne Holovetski — 3 daughters; Zahery and Anne Jumaga — 2 children; Andrew and Anne Woychyshen — Karl, 4 years; Harry and Teklia Glushka, two daughters — Marucia, 4 and Katerina, 8; Steven and Anne Derkach — daughter, Zocia; Wasyl and Barbara Swistun — an infant son, Nykola; Mr. and Mrs. George Chicheluk — a son Steven, 1 year; Mr. and Mrs. Michael Sitko — an infant son, Joseph; Mr. and Mrs. Anton Sitko — a daughter Maria, 2½ years; Mr. and Mrs. Kotyk — a son Karl, 6 years; Mr. and Mrs. Borody — a daughter Karolka, 8 years.

Among the adults who died in the epidemic were: Mrs. Magda Ewanyshen, wife of Wasyl; Mrs. Trach, wife of Stanley and the third was an elderly person.

Dan Topolnick, a pioneer of Oakburn recalls that he was fifteen years old when this plague struck. He and three other boys, his age, namely Hilko Kotyk, John Shwaluk and Roman Hrynkiw carried the bodies of children for burial every day for two weeks. Close to the tent was a fresh cemetery of

considerable size. There were new graves every day. The little graves were marked with wooden crosses. It was a pitiful sight to watch the weeping parents kneeling and praying by the graves of their beloved children.

Many adults contracted Scarlet Fever but were fortunate to recover. Only four small children survived the epidemic — Marion Woychyshyn and an unidentified girl, Sam Chicheluk and Matvey Woychyshyn.

Following a three week quarantine, the settlers left for their respective homesteads and began the arduous task of developing a community.

The homestead which is the historic site of the first cemetery was allotted to John Yanick. He couldn't stand the sight of that fresh cemetery as it brought back memories of the great sorrow of all those parents who buried their little ones there. He sold the farm to a Morrison and moved to Saskatchewan.

The new owner was not aware of the cemetery on his farm. His cattle grazed around the lake and on the cemetery. The little crosses were knocked down and soon there was no trace of the graves. For some unknown reason, the place became infested with snakes. The spot where so many tears were shed was neglected and forgotten.

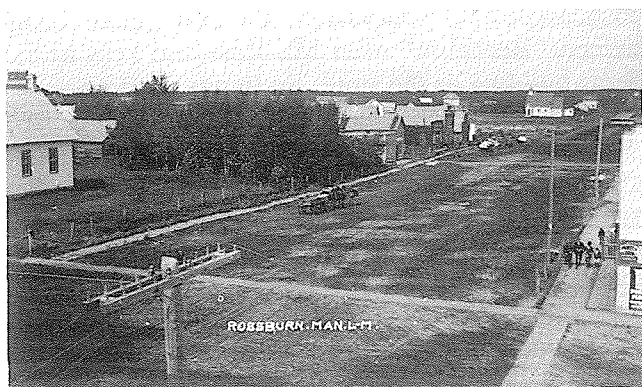
In 1915, Jacob Maydanyk bought this farm. He farmed and taught school at Olha. He did not know there was a cemetery on his farm so he cultivated the place leaving no trace of the historic site. The neighbors informed Jacob of the cemetery. He was told that the Canadian children buried there paid a high price for that Canadian homestead. He immediately fenced off this cemetery. He later sold the farm to Theodore Stebeleski. Presently Joe Sitko, owns that quarter of land. Being of a compassionate nature, Joe



Mass Grave Site — Situated at Patterson Lake, SW 22-19-23. The sign was erected by the Parkland Ukrainian Pioneer Association in 1980, while the cross is adjacent to the mound marking the Mass Grave Site. Beside the cross is a Marker erected by the Sitko family, one of those families who suffered the loss of a child in the tragedy. The Monument to the left of the sign, was unveiled in 1941, marking the fiftieth anniversary of Canadian Ukrainian settlement.

donated a portion of that land to the R.M. of Rossburn where the mass grave is situated — SW¼ 22-19-23.

A mound with a birch cross was erected on the site to bear mute testimony to the tragic beginnings in a new country. In 1941, the 50th anniversary of Ukrainian settlement in Canada was observed with the unveiling of a concrete monument and a memorial service at the Patterson Lake site. In 1967, on Canada's 100th birthday, a large crowd gathered at the site for a memorial service conducted by Reverend Slabjy and Reverend Luhowy of the Ukrainian Catholic parish; Father Rygusiak of the Roman Catholic parish and Reverend Melnyk of the Ukrainian Greek Orthodox Parish. In 1980 the Parkland Ukrainian Pioneer Association contributed to the erection of a tall white cross and laying green turf on the mound in 1982 which symbolizes the suffering and grief, the hope and perseverance of a people determined to carve a place for themselves in a new land. Their descendants looked back with pride and gratitude.



Mountain Avenue as it appeared in about 1910. At the left of the picture is a portion of the Presbyterian Church. The church to be seen in the distance was the Anglican Church.



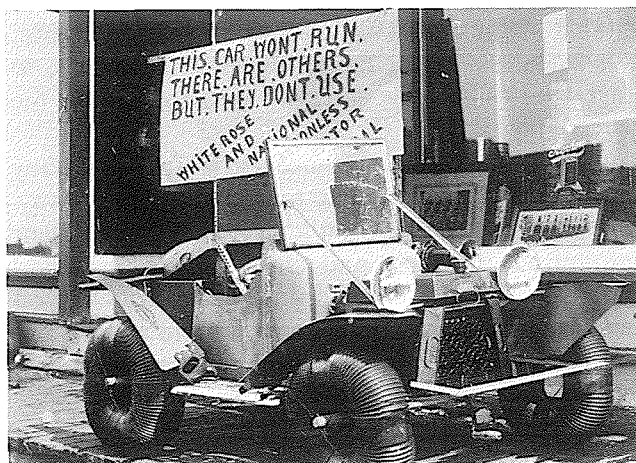
View of Rossburn, including the Railway Station, looking east.

In addition to those who lost children in the tragedy, other families who came in this group were: Nykola Wozney, Sam Topolnisky, Wolena Slon, Prokop Hrytcak, Sam Yanick, Fred Hulyk, Jacob Hulyk, Tom Woychyshyn, Wasyl Leschyshyn, Martin Woychyshyn, Hilko Maskiw, Macko Bewza, Kindrat Shwaluk, Fred Tokaryk, Mikita Ewasiuk, Anton Shurgot, Dmytro Nychek, John Bucklaschuk, Wasyl Dirbawka, John Yanick, John Kuzniak, Wasyl Luhowy, George Ewanyshyn, Anton Danyluk, Paul Bilesky, Wasyl Filas, Fred Yaworsky, Silvan Sawchuk, Dmytro Werzak, Anton Kuzniak, Woytko Dziver, Onofrey Korolyk, Macko Woychyshyn, Stephen Kokorudz, John Stadnyk, Dmytro Maksymchuk, Michael Antonation, Boychuk, Osadets, Sicinski, Mychasiw, Maduke and Onofrey Malanchuk.

This article has been compiled from material contained in the "Oakburn Echoes" and new information recently obtained.



Export Elevator located in Rossburn, in the early years.



Advertising display from the 1910-1915 era, in front of Caldwell's Hardware on Mountain Avenue (east side). Located on the site of the present Nick's Pool Room, this unique car featured items from the Hardware and Tinsmith business.



Hook's General Store. From L to R: the first two people are unidentified, then Effie Peden, Herb Shipley.

A History of Rosssburn — 1911

The Rosssburn Times published a history of Rosssburn during 1911 written by Irene A. M. Young. This article was reprinted in The Rosssburn Review in July 1952. The interesting account told this history of the community.

"When building a house we always think of the foundation first, so in order to write a history of Rosssburn village we must begin at the first and tell something of its early days and those who laid its foundation.

It was during the year 1879 that advertisements and pamphlets, telling of free homesteads and of the immense fertile lands of the Great North West and dreams of the great fortunes so soon to be made, induced a few men, down in western Ontario, to leave their old homes and seek their fortunes in the new country.

Leaving their old homes early in April they landed at St. Boniface, the terminus of the railway. After crossing the river on a ferry they loaded their belongings on carts and started their westward march. Wading sloughs, fording rivers, trudging on day by day looking for a location more rolling and not so likely to be flooded as any passed over, they continued westward until early in the spring they landed on the banks of the Birdtail Creek.

Judging from the length of time taken in traveling, the reader will be given some idea of the difficulties of locomotion; and put to shame those who complain at the C.N.R. when we say these men often

spent two or three weeks in coming from Winnipeg, when bringing in supplies.

After choosing their farms and erecting log houses on them and breaking an acre or so to plant potatoes on, they brought their families out early in the fall of that same year, 1879.

During the winter with the thermometer anywhere between forty and sixty degrees below zero, these men made several trips to Winnipeg, Portage la Prairie and Gladstone for supplies and spending many days on the trail.

Some idea of the value of letters and papers may be gained when we say Shoal Lake was the nearest post office with the mail delivered once in three weeks.

Shortly after this, a man named Mowat started a small store in part of Mr. Wm. Peden's house but he only stayed for about a year. A man by the name of A. C. McColl then started one on the farm now owned by Matthew R. Hamilton. He, too, grew faint hearted and left. Later a store was started by Crearer and Herchemer in part of Mr. R. R. Ross's house and an agitation for a post office was now started and carried to a successful conclusion, the post office being named "Rosssburn" after Mr. Ross and kept in the same building as the store. So things went on.

New settlers coming in with their families caused the older ones to think of the education of their children, so a school district was formed and a log school house built, which served as school and church for all denominations for some years; until during the ministry of Rev. Lang some thought it was time some more suitable place of worship was built.

Under the leadership and perseverance of the Rev. Lang the Presbyterian Church was built, and as it must be in a central location it was decided to build it where it now stands. Shortly after this D. McIntosh started a small blacksmith shop on the opposite corner. As the road running north and south and the one east and west crossed there it was known to many and for many years as the "Corner".

Next came a man by the name of H. B. Cooper who started a store on the farm once owned by Thos. Buchanan but he was induced to move to the corner and the post office, which had been kept by Thos. Buchanan, was moved too, still retaining the name of Rosssburn and the one that still it is called by.

After Mr. Cooper's death his business was bought by William Young and carried on by him until he sold it to John Hook during the past year.

Next came the Methodist Church on the other corner and the four were now occupied. So toiling, rejoicing, sorrowing, these pioneers spent their days and were in hopes of seeing their dreams fulfilled.

After waiting for nearly twenty five years the iron

horse came snorting in and one building after another was built, until today Rossburn boasts of the following: three general stores, owned by J. Hook, V. W. Johnston and Hough Bros. and Wickware, who also own and operate the Rossburn Creamery; two hardware stores owned by G. M. Watson and V. W. Johnston; two implement buildings belonging to V. W. Johnston and his brother H. Johnston who also owns a hall where the entertainments of the town are carried on; a furniture store and undertaking business carried on by Ross and Stewart; a lumber yard owned by McIntosh and McFeetors of Neepawa and a branch of the Bank of Toronto (the members of which intend shortly erecting a new building) under the management of Mr. Tucker; a harness shop owned by John Scott, a confectionery store owned by Mrs. G. Sinclair, formerly of Ranchvale, and a drug store owned by Mr. Rutherford. There is a skating rink where the young people spend many an enjoyable evening during the winter, two elevators, a two-roomed school, two boarding houses and a number of other private buildings.

Rossburn also has two doctors, namely Dr. J. W. Evans and Dr. S. M. Rose and a Notary Public, Mr. M. S. Lee in addition to the other businessmen already mentioned. The members of the Agricultural Society also have done their best in their line of business and intend building a hall soon, this being the second year that a fair was held in the town.

Rossburn which is situated in one of the best agricultural districts of Manitoba, should be good morally as it contains three churches, the pastors being the Rev. Forbes, the Rev. Mr. Cook and Rev. Latonnell.

Some of these early pioneers are gone — some remain, whom if questioned could still tell tales of wading sloughs, making a bannock and frying the fat bacon bought for the small sum of twenty-five cents a pound. Yet some tell us those were the days of good fellowship, when one man was as good as his neighbor and when no one ever thought of saying “nay” to a stranger seeking a night’s lodging.”

1910 to 1924

I was born on the Indian reservation in 1910. The reservation was approximately 5½ miles west of Rossburn, Manitoba. Memories of the reservation included following the cattle to where they grazed, with my dog “Blackie”. I can recall one day when I took a nap in the fields and in the meantime my family became concerned and had several Indians search for me. I was found asleep with my dog. It was from this incident that the Indians presented me with an Indian drum and made me a warrior of their tribe.

The Indian reserve comprises approximately 24,960 acres.

Recollections of my childhood were going with my Dad when the Indians were paid their treaty money by an Indian agent from Birtle, Manitoba. In turn, Dad made sure each member of their family were paid equally.

Buildings on the reservation comprised of the manse, a log church and farm. The government had given Dad a couple of driving horses, a buggy, two cows, chickens, etc. During these times, father had to convince the Indians that their children must attend school, which was located in Birtle, Manitoba, south of the reservation. Besides making sure their children attended school, Dad encouraged their parents to farm portions of the land on the reservation. Jean was born on the reservation in 1915. She was delivered by the midwife, Hattie.

It may be noted that Dr. O’Brien came to Rossburn in 1916 after his war duties. Dr. Evans had been practicing there, so there were two doctors in town. Brian, who was named after Dr. O’Brien, was born in Rossburn Hospital on June 11th, 1918.

On November 11, 1918, to commemorate the end of the war, the local people built a huge bonfire of wood and ignited it with coal oil — and burned an



Bert, Jean and Brian Bailey as seen in 1920.

effigy of the Kaiser. Later the same year, the flu epidemic struck and whole families were stricken. I recall back, my father and I, taking water and wood to the homes of the stricken, as they were bedridden. A large toll of lives were taken and Dr. O'Brien worked day and night to help the sick.

Early in 1918, Dad gave up the ministry and I attended school in Rosssburn, from 1916 to 1919. From there we moved to the farm, which would be 2½ miles north of Rosssburn. Dad rented the farm from Mr. Young — the postmaster in Rosssburn. While on the farm I attended Bruan School until 1923. In the fall 1924, I attended Rosssburn High School, until October 1924 — when we moved to Winnipeg.

My sister Jean and I attended Bruan School for three years. While still renting the farm from Mr. Young, Dad purchased a homestead farm, northeast of Rosssburn. How he got the homestead farm, I don't know. It was virgin land and had to be cleared previous to cultivation. I do remember he sure had his problem with it.

Submitted by Bert Bailey

Rosssburn In 1926

The Winnipeg Tribune published an article in the spring of 1926 describing in their words, our community as it appeared at that time. We quote from that news story:

"Situated 200 miles northwest of Winnipeg on the Neepawa — Rosssburn branch of the Canadian National Railways, Rosssburn is one of the earlier settlements of Manitoba having been founded in 1879, before the days of the railroad. The lot of the pioneers was no easy one, but the obstacles they had to combat have been swept away by modern transportation facilities, good roads, schools, churches, telephones, radio, newspapers, mail delivery . . . all the advantages of the most modern civilization are now available.

A private province blessed with the richest of soils and the commercial gateway between east and west Manitoba offers every condition for permanent, progressive prosperity. In Agriculture it has passed through many stages of development and is becoming more scientific, more stable and more intensified from year to year. Grain growing was followed almost exclusively for a time and Manitoba Wheat of No. 1 Hard and No. 1 Northern the world's highest grades has become the emblem of the country's ambition.

Not Grain Alone — It is not in the production of grain alone, however, that Manitoba farmers are destined to retain their position of prominence. The

broadening out of farming to embrace every phase of agricultural development is now in progress and the success that is being attained is as remarkable as that which favored the growing of wheat mixed farming in the Rosssburn district as elsewhere is proving an unqualified success. The sod is a heavy black loam with a good clay subsoil 75 per cent being arable and 40 per cent under cultivation. Wheat yields average about 22 bushels to the acre, oats running from 50 to 100 bushels. In 40 years of wheat production the district has never known a complete crop failure, and last year the farmers shared in the wave of prosperity that benefitted the west generally.

The raising of live stock, the prosecution of dairying, the keeping of poultry and the growing of vegetables, or briefly, the establishment of a many sided form of agriculture has resulted in a greatly enhanced prosperity. As indicative of the many channels through which success may come to the general farmers, it is interesting to learn that 12 cars of potatoes have already been shipped from Rosssburn to the United States this spring.

The roads in this section are well graded and in excellent condition, the main road through Rosssburn itself connecting with the Yellowhead Route to Winnipeg. The district extends 15 miles and is very thickly settled. Three miles from town is an Indian Reserve. Plenty of first class well water is to be found at depths varying from 13 to 30 feet, and there are numerous little lakes dotted throughout the area. Many excellent varieties of fish to be found in these bodies of water. Fish Lake situated eight miles north-east of the town providing particularly fine sport for the fishermen.

The Birdtail Creek, 4 miles and a half from Rosssburn runs through one of the loveliest valleys in Canada, a bit of gentle rolling countryside where the scattered bluffs add to the beauty of landscape. Wild fruit is to be seen in great profusion — Sask. berries, raspberries, strawberries, "pin" and choke cherries all of fine flavor. In the famous Riding Mountain, which is just north of town, big game, including moose, is plentiful. Game birds of land and water species are well represented in the district, appearing the best in the province for duck shooting.

Incorporated in 1914 — The railroad came to Rosssburn in 1905 and incorporation took place in 1914. Today there is a population of 450. Financially the town is in excellent shape and has no debenture debts. Its business men were all of the "booster" type who have an abiding faith in the future of their town and who are anxious to further the interests of the entire district. A number of them have been for many years in the spot.

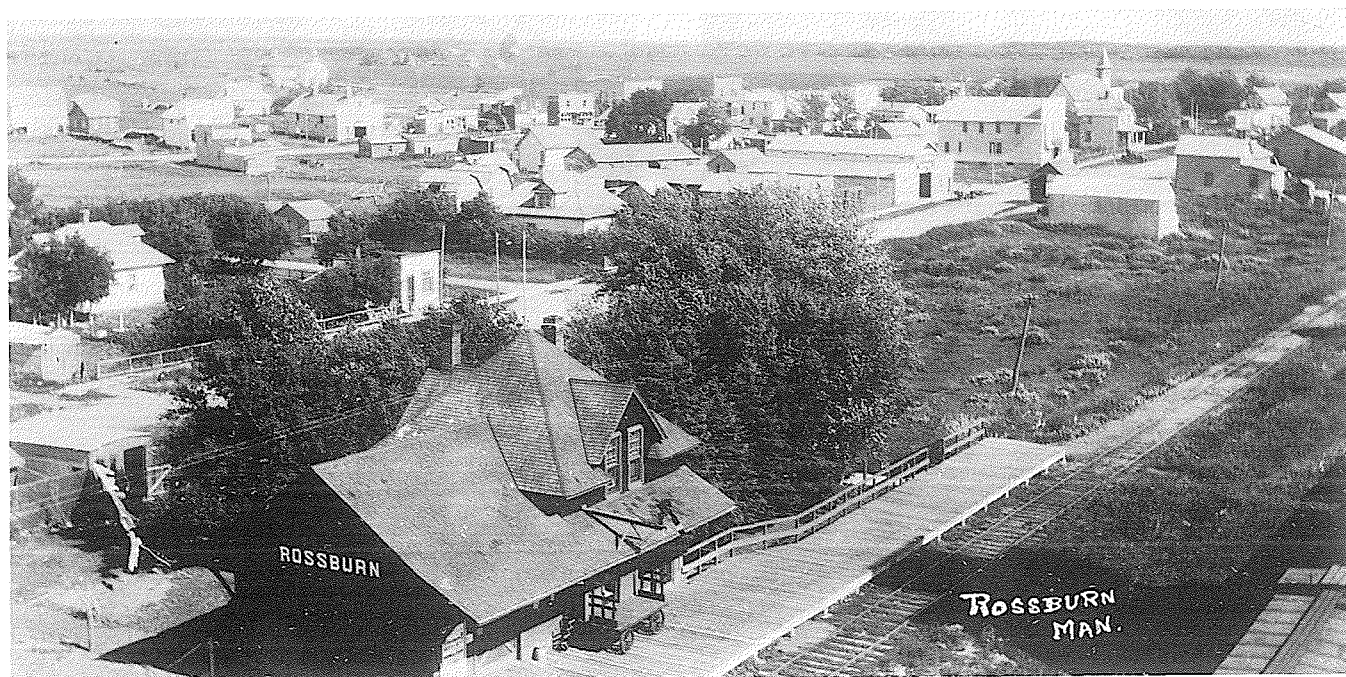
The following is a list of some of Rossburn's most prominent citizens:

Wilson & Wilson, H. P. Reed, Lawyers; Dr. S. S. Peikoff, Physician, and W. Wickett, Druggist; A. F. Gowe, Jeweller; H. Schwartz, J. G. Stitt, General Merchants; Adam Bros., Hardware Merchants; C. A. Menzies, Implements; J. J. Crowe Lumber Co., J. A. Lindsay, Manager; W. A. Clubley, Butcher; J. L. McKinnon, Garage & Repair Shop; J. F. Urbanowski, Picture Show; G. Evanson, Poolroom & Barber Shop; Mrs. A. F. Walker, Boarding House; Mr. P. Hough who is Secretary Treasurer of the Village will be glad to furnish information regarding the town and districts to all parties interested.

The eight elevators in operation throughout the district are important factors in its commercial and business life. Financial matters are handled by the Bank of Toronto.

Rossburn is a picturesque little place, practically every home being surrounded by poplar and spruce trees. A conspicuous feature of the town is a handsome war memorial which was erected at a cost of \$2,500. The base is of granite and the statue of solid marble. There is a Union Church in the town and a Mission Church; also an excellent six room school with instruction in all grades. The Great War Veterans, the L.O.L., the C.O.F. and the I.O.O.F. are all strongly organized bodies whose social and philanthropic activities are of great value to the community.

Rossburn has a first class park prettily situated and an excellent half mile track. Provision is made for gratification of all who have an inclination toward sport in the various forms. There are football grounds, a baseball diamond and two tennis courts, and the building of a new skating and curling rink is now under completion."



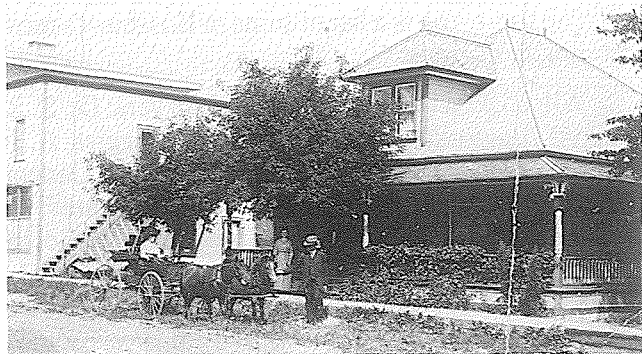
Rossburn, in earlier times, as viewed looking south-easterly from elevators along C.N.R. siding track. C.N.R. station in foreground.



Looking east from the railroad crossing, this photo depicts the south side of Victoria Avenue with J. G. Stitt's general store at the right side of the picture and the Bank of Toronto on the left. The United Church can be seen through heavy foliage of the surrounding trees. Rossburn post office was located in the addition on the west side of Stitt's General Store. The old-style gas pump, a horse tethered in front of the United Church manse property and the lack of an evergreen at the side of the bank indicates the picture is likely taken during the 1930's.



Yesterday's Doctor — The Prairie Publishing Co. Mountain Avenue South as viewed many years ago. The Bank of Toronto is at the left, with the Post Office next, then the Young residence and the Queen's Hotel at the right.



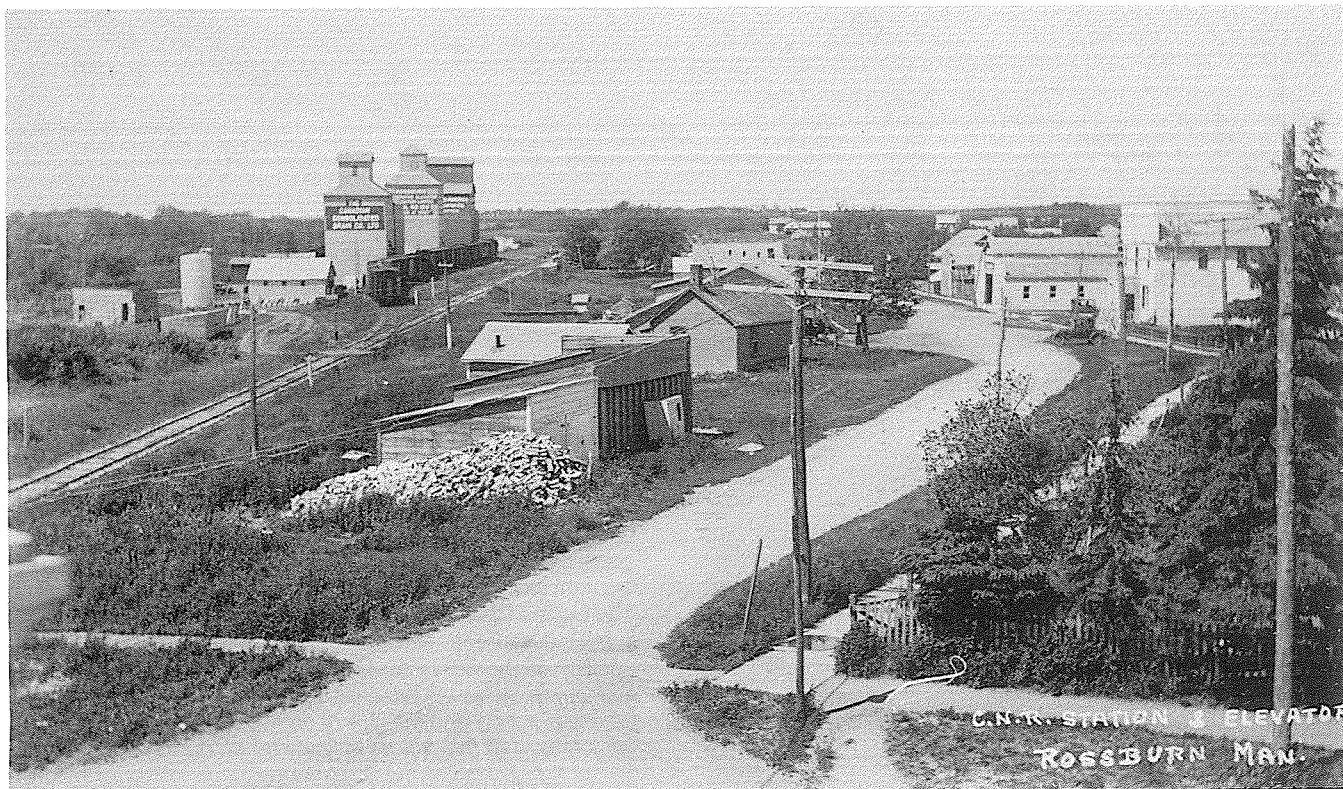
Wm. Young's residence on Mountain Avenue in Rossburn, south of Post Office and Bank of Toronto. Mr. Young was Rossburn's Postmaster from 1901-1926. Rose Kustiak's modern home is presently located on this site. It was constructed following demolition of the residence pictured above.



View of Mountain Ave. (1915)



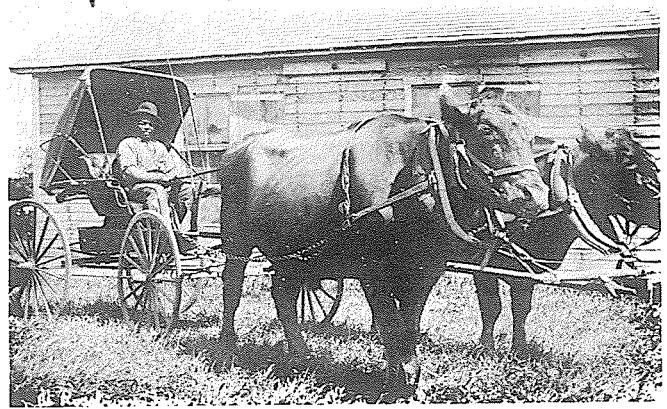
Main Street of Rossburn, 1939.



View of Rossburn depicting the elevators and railway tracks, as seen in 1939.



Victoria Avenue (west) was well treed. Titled "A Shady Walk", this picture shows to advantage the beauty of trees, in Rossburn years ago.



The above picture of Mr. Wilson (who operated a shoe repair shop in Rossburn) was taken at Rossburn Fair about 1912. His son, Herb Wilson (Snowball) was well known here and attended school in Rossburn.



Hugh Warnock driving a horse hitched to a Red River Cart. This picture was taken at a parade during the 1920s. The sign says "Westward Ho to the Great Lone Land — 1879".



A large group of Rossburn citizens view a farm machinery display featuring the Titan tractor. The picture was taken about 1917 or 1918 in front of Hough Bros. & Wickware Co. Ltd. store. Included in this group were: John Bolton, Donald MacDonald, Lawrence Warnock, Hugh Peden, John Brody, John Cormack, Bob Paul, Manuel Woods, Andy Peden, Mervin Strong, Ernie Hamilton, Emerson Strong, Mervin Crookshanks, V. W. Johnston, T. C. Peden, George Bolton, Hughie Martin, Billy Stitt, Tom Armstrong, Roland Shipley, Lauchie McKinnon, Sandy Cloud, Hazel Johnston (Caldwell) (Short), Charlie Nickel, Chris Johnson (Finch), Dolly Glavin (Wilson), Herb Taylor, Billy Shaw, Florence Johnson, Watt Peden, Josh Harlow, Jim McKinnon, Harvey Hamilton. Maybe sometime in the future an enlarged picture will be available in a Rossburn Museum with the citizens identified individually.

Memories of Rosssburn, 1930-1942

My name when I lived in Rosssburn was Jean Partridge. I went there when I was 12 years old with my father Frank who was the Station Agent, my mother Nell, my brother Harry, and my grandfather Charles Coppin. Rosssburn was the place where I grew up; the place where we were the happiest. Mother never went back even for a visit after we moved to Roblin. She couldn't bear to see the town again once she had gone.

We arrived sometime in the summer of 1930. Dad's first customer was a local farmer. He said, "I'll bet you can't guess what I'm doing today." When Dad replied that he could not, he said, "I'm burning manure." It must have been summer.

All of our furniture and household effects had been packed in a railway box car by my mother for the trip from Norquay, so on that first evening we went to the Douglas Hotel for dinner at Mr. Douglas' invitation. Mr. and Mrs. Douglas, Isabel, Willie and Lloyd were all there. Everything was well decorated and spotless. We thought we were very grand eating in the hotel dining room with the proprietors. Mrs. Douglas was a superb cook and a lovely woman. Of course the hired girl served the food that evening. We had roast turkey, cranberry sauce, mashed potatoes, turnips, cabbage salad, and apple pie. The permanent boarders were there too; Dr. Samuel Peikoff, very young and very handsome, with his nurse Brownie. He later founded the prestigious Peikoff Clinic in Winnipeg; the school teachers, the Misses Margaret Bell, Viola Rowe and Mary Coulter, and the bank teller, whose name I cannot remember, were there as well.

My memories of the Douglas Hotel and the Douglasses are very happy. Often, my mother and Mrs. Douglas would go for an evening walk and I would trail along behind them listening interestedly to what they had to say. On the way to school Harry always went by way of Mrs. Douglas' kitchen, partly to call on Lloyd (Rusty) and partly to cadge a piece of pie. Harry and Rusty played hockey, shot gophers, and delivered the Winnipeg newspapers together. They both went overseas in the Air Force. Rusty was awarded the D.F.M. for gallantry. My brother Harry did not come back. He was posthumously awarded the Permanent Path Finder badge.

In those days it was the custom to order dresses on approval from stores like D'Allaird's in Winnipeg. They were sent out on the train. If you liked them you paid for them and kept them; if not, you sent them back. There wasn't much in the way of ready-made clothing except for children's underwear, men's overalls, and women's cotton house dresses in the village stores. Often the school teachers would

order dresses on approval for they were on a salary and could afford them. Mother and I would go down to the hotel to watch them being tried on by each teacher in turn. Before I went away to Wesley College she bought me one, a red moire silk with a bias cut skirt; and silver epaulets which came down to the waist, front and back. I wore it to the Rosssburn dances before I left. It was a very significant dress in my life.

One cannot overestimate the importance of the teachers in those small towns at that period of Canada's history. As well as teachers, they were often the social, intellectual, moral and cultural arbiters of those communities, a role they shared with the minister of the church. The year we arrived, my brother went into Grade Five under Miss Rowe who later married the mayor of Rosssburn, Mr. Jack Stitt. I went into Grade Seven under Miss Bell who taught both Grade Seven and Eight. Mr. Hugo was Principal then and he taught Nine, Ten and Eleven. The white frame two-storey school just down the road from Malik Peikoff's store was still in use. What I remember most about Miss Bell's room was the tinny old portable gramophone, the only teaching aid she had. She was attempting to interest us in classical music, *Aida* being her favourite opera. I can still hear that gramophone squawking away, "Heavenly *Aida*, Beauty transcendent . . ."

I stood first in Grade Eight. That was a great triumph and must have been something of a fluke, for Jack Peden had never been beaten before. That day he carefully lettered the word "congratulations" backwards on a scrap paper and handed it down the row to me with a little mirror so that I could read it. I saved it and have it still. It was a thrilling moment.

There were many wonderful people in Rosssburn; V. W. Johnston who worked in Jack Stitt's store and hummed "After the Ball Is Over" constantly as he worked: the Brown girls, Vera, Ivy, Grace, Audrey, Ada, and Gwennie; Mrs. Bob Peden who, if time and circumstance had been different, would have been a Member of Parliament; Beulah MacDonald who was a born leader had she but known it; Ed Harris who owned the livery stable and gave the annual Armistice Day speech; Tom McDonald, a farmer of great physical grace and equability, who rode well, danced well, and loved horses. I remember going into town after supper in his old Model T, from the farm where I often stayed overnight with the family; his daughter Beth, his niece Oral Carson and his wife Ida, or Idy as all of us, young or old, called her then. We were going to deliver the milk. We would sing all the way, especially his favourite hymn "What a Friend We Have in Jesus." He wasn't a 'churchy' man but he loved that song. Many years afterward, long after I

had seen him for the last time, they sang it at his funeral.

But most of all I remember the man who came to teach school in 1932, Mr. Stanley J. Weatherley. His great accomplishment was to introduce Grade Twelve which gave us university entrance. He did it by teaching Grades Nine, Ten, and Eleven in ordinary school hours and Grade Twelve from 8 to 9 a.m. and 4 to 5:30 p.m.; all concurrently in the same classroom. For teaching Grade Twelve besides his other classes our parents paid him \$60 per student per year above his ordinary salary which was \$1,000 a year. That was in the depth of the Depression. Teachers' salaries had sunk to almost nothing everywhere by then.

He had been educated himself at the Royal Wanstead School in London, England which he had attended when it was known as The Infant Orphan Asylum. He came to Canada at age 18 and worked on a farm in Ontario for a time. Then he came west bringing only his personal effects and a gun which he had purchased in England, believing it necessary in Canada. His English was flawless, his idiosyncratic teaching methods effective, his own classical education thorough, and his mathematical skill prodigious. Those of us who attended high school under Mr. Weatherley carried the benefit of his education with us for the rest of our lives.

There is much more I'd like to write about Rossburn. It was where I really grew up. I will never forget it. As I looked through my mother's possessions after she died, I came across a scroll which was

presented to her with a gift from the Ladies' Aid when she left Rossburn. It was written by Alice Lindsay and it reads in part: "You came into our midst twelve years ago and immediately became one of us. You did not say 'Why do they not do things here, they do it in other places?' You said, 'They do it in other places. Come on we can do it here too.' Your children grew up in our town and no matter where you and Mr. Partridge may make your home, or where they may go, they still belong to us. They are numbered with our young people, and we hope this will always be home to them."

And it was signed by a list of names that is really a litany of friendship, and probably one of the most authentic records of the women who lived in Rossburn circa 1930 to 1942.

Alice Lindsay	Chris. I. Hough
May Douglas	Mildred Huston
Elsie Menzies	Eileen Stitt
Jessie D. Johnston	Kay Kendrick
Mabel Armstrong	Kay Onions
Anne Lawless	Phyllis Peden
Frances Braunstien	Irene McFadyen
Isabel W. Murray	Mrs. Anne Stitt
Juanita Dawson	Mary McFeetors
Viola Stitt	Mrs. Brothers
Agnes Taylor	Ethel Armstrong
Anne McIntosh	Mrs. Irwin
Doris Weatherley	Margaret Stitt
Anne Clubley	Mrs. Williamson, Sr.
Mrs. Parmalee	Marion Barlow
Jessie Cormack	Pollie Strong
Mrs. D. MacKenzie	Jennie Taylor
Sarah Young	Beryl Williamson
Mildred McIntosh	

— Jean Margarete Crowe



Agricultural and Homemaking School, 1940.

Agricultural and Homemaking School

Young people of Rosssburn and surrounding areas were privileged in the fall of 1940 to be part of a learning experience which at that time was rather special. Under the guidance of ag.-rep. Bonar Gorby, classes were set up from October 15 to December 20 for instruction in agriculture and homemaking. The boys' school was held in the old hall above what is now the locker plant.

Doug Andrew (one of the students) recalls that Mr. Silversides taught practical knowledge in grains and weeds. Art Kinney gave instruction in animal husbandry. Wilfred Miller taught carpentry. Students made coffee tables and learned how to cut rafters of different types. Knot tying and rope splicing was another course. Instruction given in practical veterinary work has been valuable throughout the years to those who have farmed.

Field trips were taken to — Birtle Indian School to judge dairy cattle, Shoal Lake Creamery to judge hogs and to Eddie Arnold, the well known horse breeder. The boys travelled to these events in the back of a big truck — no buses in those days.

Machinery at that time was much different than we see now. Setting a one way disc and a two furrow plow were skills the students learned. Evenings were often spent at social gatherings with the girls of the Homemaking Class so there was the odd flourishing romance which made the whole course much more interesting.

The present town hall was the location of the classes for the girls. Under the direction of Miss Dobson, students were taught — knitting, crafts, serving and general textile knowledge. Some started out not knowing even the basics of sewing and before completion of the course at least three articles were made of which the girls could be justly proud.

The foods course was taught by Miss Ritchie. "We learned to cook, can, and bake. On more than one occasion, we had to prepare a meal for different groups. There was instruction about proper serving, table setting and balanced menus," recalls one of the students in the girls' class.

This course was being taught during the second year of World War II. The ladies of the Soldiers Aid entrusted the school with several pounds of precious fruits and very scarce sugar. These ingredients were to be used to make Christmas Cakes to send to the Rosssburn boys in the forces. The kitchen equipment was a little less than adequate and the cakes were baked in ovens heated by coal oil. The finished product was a disaster by the standards of experienced cooks who would have used the wood stove in the hall. As far as we knew these cakes were mailed. There was agricultural instruction also for the girls

which covered poultry raising, beekeeping, dairying, gardening, trees, shrubs and plants.

This school also introduced students to some of the finer things of life. They learned a little of personality development, social customs, courtesies, letter writing, speech delivery and dramatics. Several of these students came from outlying areas. It was not common for young people to have their own cars so they boarded in people's homes. To bring this two-month course to a successful climax an Achievement Day and evening was held. What had been learned in public speaking and drama was made evident at this event. Several displays were set up to show what had been accomplished in both the Homemaking and Agricultural Courses. What could not be viewed was the sense of worth and self confidence which had developed in many young lives in a relatively short period. Among those who were students at the courses were:

Nellie Charney, Anne Koloski, Irene Dychakowski, Anne Oryniak, Anne Gummiemy, Phyllis Shindruk, Evelyn Hamilton, Dorothy Breakey, Margaret Black, Agnes Andrew, Doreen Ham, Emma Elvers, Eileen Elvers, Nancy Andrew, Margaret Cheguis, Margaret Morton, Anne Woycheshin, Chrissie Brown, Katie Ryshytylo.

Aubrey Stickney, Russell Currah, Mike Ryshytylo, Jim Harlow, Blair Lindsay, Glen Smith, Alex Barnesky, Walter Chisick, Matt Pokrapany, Charlie Pawluk, Bill Taylor, George Lawless, Barry Lawless, Doug Andrew, Dan Hamilton, Jim Andrew, Charlie Crookshanks.

This account has been compiled from the combined recollections of Doug Andrew, Emma Elvers and Dorothy (Breakey) Armstrong.

The Great Canoe Trip

In August 1972, an epic Canoe expedition was undertaken down the Assiniboine River from St. Lazare to Winnipeg. This expedition gained the interest and attention of many Manitoba residents beyond the boundaries of Rosssburn's community.

This account of the Rosssburn Venturers canoe trip is taken from the daily 'log' written by Rick Plaisier and published in the local community newspaper at that time. The account of that trip follows.

Day 1

Yes, a dream became a reality, for on August 18th, 1972, 10 members of the Rosssburn Scout movement got into their 5 canoes and began a trip which led them down the Assiniboine River from St. Lazare to Winnipeg. The 10 fellows were: 8 Venturers — Randy Komhyr, Delmer Heindle, Darryl Michalchuk, Vincent Kostaskey, Lyle Kiez, Tom Cottingham, Ken Ament and Bob Slon, with their advisor

Rick Plaisier and a member of the Rossburn Rover Crew, Murray Ternovetsky.

Being surprised that the canoes floated, we left from St. Lazare Highway Bridge at 9:20 a.m. It was very interesting for the first few miles. Everything proceeded well and we even found a set of still lines which some poacher had set out. Being law-abiding citizens, we proceeded to destroy this law breaker's caper by pulling the lines down only to find that the poacher had been successful. One line had a 1 lb. pickerel on it. So we took our reward for being good citizens.

We discovered that the Assiniboine River was a very challenging river, great diversity from sand bars to swift rapids. One of the canoes (Randy's and Bob's) seemed to enjoy playing leap frog over submerged logs, the only thing was that they were not leaping too well and usually ended up stuck on the log — whereas Delmer and Rick's canoe had an affinity for willows, but their steering ability soon improved.

The presence of wildlife was fantastic; Red Tailed Hawks, Blue Herons and monstrous fish, in fact one fish swam right into the side of Delmer and Rick's canoe. We hit three sets of rapids today, two of which we shot and one which was man-made and would prove to be hard on the canoes, so we pulled the canoes over it. Mid afternoon Slon's airliner dropped us a package of goodies.

The day was very long and at times I thought that the boys would give up — but with a great desire in everyone's mind, they proceeded with great satisfaction. No canoes tipped but there were many close calls. We camped on a sand bar and the evening was highlighted by a football game and some swimming, especially Delmer's and Murray's swimming trunks. Retired at 10:30 p.m.

Day 2

This morning everyone was in good spirits. Mind you, some bones were hurting. The day went well, more rapids and plenty of sand bars. We are starting to catch on as to where to go in order to avoid the sand bars. We went about 30 miles; it is difficult to measure the miles as the river really meanders in this area (n.w. of Miniota). The day was uneventful except for more poacher lines and some excellent wildlife. Should have had a movie camera as we were able to get very close to most species. We stopped and got some water from a farmer's yard and phoned Rossburn. Upon leaving one of the boys forgot to put the map holder back into my canoe. So, as a result we paddled 2-3 miles down the river to discover the mistake. After some choice words (**?—?!), Randy and I sent the the rest of the company on ahead to find a camping site while we paddled back against current

which certainly made us thankful that we were going down stream for our trip. Upon reaching the site that the maps had been forgotten, we met the farmer and his wife who had been kind enough to bring us a loaf of nice fresh bread. Fresh home-made bread is good usually, but after being away from home, it tasted all the better on our canoe journey. We left the farmer after a short talk and we went 8-9 miles down the stream to catch up to the remainder of the company who had camp set up already and supper on.

The evening proved most interesting as rain threatened. Most of the boys retired early and the rest were learning how to catch Goldeye from a very good instructor. However our attempt proved to be unsuccessful but very comical.



Delmer Heindle, Vincent Kostas and Rick Plaisier on top of the river bank catching bait. Adviser, Rick Plaisier was going to show the boys how to catch goldeye. It's hard catching grasshoppers. . . and guess what. . . the boys never did catch a goldeye!

During the night the rain came down in buckets. A couple of us got up during the night to pull the canoes up further as we thought the river might float them away. We estimated that we received 1"-1½" of rain. The strong winds accompanying the storm made sleeping difficult for one or two of us, whereas others did not realize the storm was on (ask Tom).

P.S. The day was mainly uneventful but the boys did sight a "Charolais bear" which turned out to be an ordinary Charolais cow. (The wilderness does strange things to some people, right — Vincent, Murray, Darryl and Ken!)

Day 3

We got up at 8:30 and began breaking up camp. Everything was extremely wet. We decided that we could pack everything up and stop early that day so that we could dry everything out. The morning was cool due to the cloud cover but it was excellent for

paddling. We covered about 20 or so miles and about 3:00 p.m. we passed under the Miniota Bridge. The river was still bad, lots of sand bars and some rapids. We were about ½ mile past the bridge when the rain began and it came down in buckets. We headed for the bank since we felt it was just a shower. In our attempt to gain shelter from the trees and overhanging bank, Randy discovered that the water varies in depth. Rather than climb to the front of the canoe, he felt it was shallow enough to just jump over the side, only to discover that there was 10'-12' of water at a 3 ft. distance from the shore. Needless to say he did not need to worry about getting wet from the rain. Oh yes, who says life preservers don't save lives but the only thing is, they don't keep you dry do they Randy?

We waited for some time only to see that the shower looked like a day long one.

After some discussion, Randy and Delmer walked to a nearby farm yard while the rest of us attempted to paddle upstream over some rapids to reach the bridge for shelter. It proved to be very interesting especially for Murray and myself as we were alone in our canoes and for the first time we really appreciated our partners — as it is pretty well impossible to battle against the current with only one person in a canoe. By the time we reached the bridge, the two boys were there with a farmer by the name of Terry Bryant.

Within those few minutes it seemed that the whole town of Miniota was at our disposal. A farmer by the name of Lloyd Oliver had arranged for us to be billeted out, or we had the town rink to use, or the Miniota Hotel. Mr. Oliver came to the bridge, picked us up and took us to his home where we enjoyed a delicious lunch.

I don't believe that I've ever seen so many drowned rats as when I looked at the boys and surprising enough they were all laughing and joking. From this point on I knew I had some real men with me. After a discussion we decided to go to the Miniota Hotel since they had a dryer which we could utilize. The people in charge of the hotel were very kind indeed. This restaurant was closed to the public yet they made us a delicious supper. I do believe that dryer must have been working for 12 hrs. as everything we had was WET.

For the remainder of the evening we laid around and enjoyed being dry for a change.

Day 4

We were up and had eaten breakfast by 9:00 a.m. Mr. Oliver had come to take us back to the river and by 9:30 we were back on the river. The day was nice and warm and I never heard one lad complain about the heat. The river was much deeper and the odd island appeared. The current had decreased and the

valley walls were making up the river banks as the river started to meander from side to side as the valley appeared to be narrow here. The day was going very well. We had a very difficult portage (by this I mean we had to carry our canoes) when we came upon a man-made road across the river. It was a ford which had been built up temporarily. We discovered that our canoes were quite heavy. After conquering this man-made obstacle the current increased again as more rapids occurred. All of the boys enjoyed the rapids. This was the day for our first tip as Delmer's and Rick's canoe was a victim of a swift current. As they paddled around a sharp curve, a rock edge was to their left so they stuck to the right only to find a tree had fallen into the water from the right. They had come over to the right too much which left them in the huge branches of the tree. The current was not stopped by the tree but the canoe was. The water built up on one side and before we knew it we had a canoe full of water. One good thing resulted from this in that we found out that our canoes were of good quality since ours still floated with all of our luggage and us in it plus being full of water of course. After some choice (***) words we managed to make it to shore and unload our luggage and the water. It cost us a 15 minute delay. This turned out to be the joke of the day. The day went by quickly which was really due to the singing that occurred. It happened that Delmer and Rick had talent which had been hidden for years and by the sound of the applause that they received, the rest of the company wished that it was still hidden. Wildlife was always present and we found that if we kept our mouths shut, the closer we could get to the various species. Later in the afternoon, the company discovered that we had a miracle man in our presence when Randy with his vast strength managed to break his paddle. Fortunately we had brought 5



One of the main problems. . .maintaining a good supply of fresh, clean water.

extra paddles. Around 6:30 p.m. we stopped and set up camp near a farm site which we made use of to phone Rosburn and get some fresh water. Everybody was tired and immediately after our chicken and macaroni supper, we retired early as we planned to leave early the next morning.

P.S. Some boys had bad sunburns and they were using the lotion up quickly. We decided to wear more clothing to allow our burns to peel off and then to vary the lengths of exposure which would result in better and longer-lasting sun tans.

Day 5

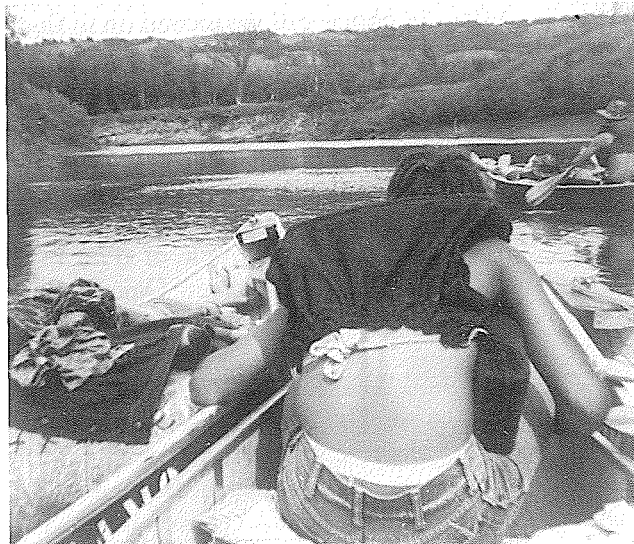
After getting up at about 5:30 a.m., Randy perceived that the fog on the river was too dense to start out in, so we waited 'til 7:00 a.m. to get everyone up. The night was a long one, the temperature had dropped very low as frost was present. The low temperature made it very uncomfortable to sleep. As a result we had 10 tired Venturers. On getting up and wanting to make as many miles as possible, we decided to have a bar for breakfast. We were on the river by 8:15. The day proved to be a very long one as our maps let us down. As a result we had to stop quite often and climb the bank of the river in order to get our bearing due to landmarks which could not be seen when one is on the river. Some of the banks varied in height 10'-40' high.



Time to check the canoe expedition's position. Very detailed maps were carried, but the river certainly did change its course in two year's time.

Wildlife is still present but with more diversity — from 2 beavers, two Raccoon families, several young ducks, deer and many muskrats. It did your heart good to see that man has not destroyed all of the wildlife in our country.

About 12:00 we came to the Virden Bridge and a few yards past it we noticed that a plane was hovering around us. We thought it was some crazy pilot. As it was, we were having a rest period. We found out later that the plane had been hired by CKX-TV, Brandon. As a result, a film was shown to all of south-western Manitoba showing us resting on the river.



Rest period. . .very beautiful area. Notice how the Assiniboine River is surrounded by high banks.

We continued to push on as Oak Lake was our destination. We stopped, had porridge for dinner. Immediately after dinner we started out again and the afternoon went well. Several of the boys were getting very tired but they stuck it out. We did not stop for supper as a meal was being prepared at Mr. and Mrs. D. Plaisier's farm at Oak Lake. We paddled and paddled until at 10:00 p.m. we reached the M. Williams farm which was our pick up point. We had paddled 11 hours and gone 50 miles. Mrs. D. Plaisier and Miss Helten picked us up and took us to the Plaisier Ponderosa where we enjoyed a huge meal. Some people were so hungry that Randy and Vincent ended up with trays for plates. After a meal which lasted over an hour, the boys relaxed and studied the map for the next day. We retired about 12:30.

Day 6

We got up at 8:00 a.m. and enjoyed a huge breakfast. We set up the tents so that they would dry out. We got packed and went to the town of Oak Lake and got a few supplies. We were back on the river by 11:00 a.m. This day proved to be a very frustrating one. We paddled extremely hard all day in very stagnant water. The water was green and smelly. Some type of pollutant must be entering the river yet we saw no sign of it, just the result of it. This type of

water soon puts a damper on your enthusiasm but it makes you angry to see the effect of man on his environment. However, after 10-15 miles of this the water started to improve to a certain extent. We reached Halls Bridge and phoned from the Harrison farm (owner being one of Rick's past teachers) to let the parents know that we would be one day later than previously expected concerning our arrival in Brandon. Many meanders and dirty water took a lot out of the boys. After the phone call we moved on to find a series of rapids which the boys enjoyed thoroughly. We camped that evening in a pasture and retired early. We made over 30 miles but it felt like 60 since the current was so slow. As to the cause of the bad sections of the Assiniboine River it is unknown to us but it certainly should be fixed up as it is a disgrace.

P.S. Just to give you an example of river miles compared to land miles — between Oak River to Griswold is 7 land miles but it is 30 river miles.

Day 7

We had a good breakfast (bacon and eggs) and left about 10:00 a.m. The further east we moved the swifter and more challenging the river became. More and more rapids were popping up in front of us and sand bars started to make their presence known. This day also turned out to be a long day. We pushed ourselves so that we could reach the point where Minnedosa River joins the Assiniboine River. We had jam sandwiches for lunch and pushed on. The day was long but the boys were determined so there was no problem in having to push them. Night started arriving when suddenly we met a familiar face — Milton Drosdoski. He had just walked down to the bank and he said he could hear us coming, so he waited. We agreed to meet him at the Brandon Trans Canada Bridge which was about four miles away. Well, I don't think I have seen the boys move so fast. The canoes almost got up and ran across the surface of the water. The river had many more sand bars. We camped under the bridge (which was a mistake) and Milton came down and took us to a nearby restaurant in the valley which was kind enough to stay open. I do believe we almost cleaned the place out as far as hamburgers were concerned. Upon completion of our meal, we went back to our campsite and prepared for a good night's rest. Well, as previously mentioned our company was composed of light sleepers and sound sleepers. The light sleepers were constantly awakened by the huge transports which travel the Trans Canada highway, whereas the sound sleepers heard nothing. Milton had CKX radio and TV covering our trip from the very beginning. We owe Milton a big thank you.

Day 8

We got up and left at about 9:00 a.m. The river

curved a great deal as we entered Brandon city limits. It seemed very long and we finally arrived at the 18th Street bridge at 11:30. From the Trans Canada bridge to the 18th Street bridge, we could see evidence of man made pollution. There were old cars pushed into the river, tires, etc. I sometimes wonder if our governments (at any level) are really trying to protect our planet so that our children will have clean air, water and land to live upon or are they just trying to keep it from the public eye. The morning was not uneventful, as the sand bars were plentiful and Rick and



Some of the rapids the canoe expedition went through. . . just past Brandon.

Delmer beached their canoe on a submerged log which was in about 10 ft. of water. Tom's and Lyle's canoe managed to pull us off of it. A few minutes after landing at the bridge the parents started to arrive and CKX-TV was on hand. After a short interview, we started to eat a huge meal prepared by the mothers. Some of the meal was contributed by the Pizza Place and Kentucky Fried Chicken. A big Thank You to the mothers. After our meal we went up town and bought a few necessities. We left Brandon at 3:00 p.m. and found that the river was still as winding. We portaged around the Brandon Dam and for the first time we realized that our canoes were quite heavy (about 300 lbs. without the occupants in them). After leaving the dam we landed into an area of garbage. It appeared that the citizens in Brandon, use or have used this beautiful river for their garbage disposal. It was just a mess. The water was shallow and resulted in Tom and Lyle beaching their canoe on a tractor tire. The river started to move faster. About 5:00 p.m. some of the boys expressed a desire to quit the trip or

at least camp in the Spruce Woods area for a week. I was shocked but after asking each boy separately I discovered that only one or two of the fellows wished to quit and they were trying to influence the rest to follow them. The subject was dropped till camp time. We hit our first real rapid, about 3 ft. drop, and after some studying of the current and location of rocks, Delmer and I tackled it and everyone followed and enjoyed every minute of it. We pushed on and set up camp around 7:00 p.m. It was the best campsite we had hit yet, fast water, and we were on a peninsula. After a meal of chicken and perogies we set out in our own ways. No one mentioned quitting that night but many of the boys were doing some thinking. A couple of us decided to set up some fishing lines. We set up a still (line) with 3 hooks on it and another with 1 hook. For bait we used frogs. Some of the boys went to bed but the rest remained and were happy they did. The fish started to bite, we pulled out two small catfish and lost plenty of them. Then about 11:00 p.m., I pulled in a 3 lb. pickerel. We retired about 12:00.

Day 9

The alarm went off at 7:00 a.m. but no one got up. Then about 7:30 a huge deer decided to run through our camp leaping within 1 foot from one of the tents. When this animal hit the bush I thought that someone was hurt and jumped out of my tent within a few seconds only to see the trees shaking. Again the light sleepers were up but those heavy sleepers still could be heard snoring. We checked our line to find that the one with a single hooked on, was broken and something had escaped with it and the three hooked one was out of position. Upon checking it we found that we had something big on it. It took two of us to land it and found that we had caught a 6 lb. Catfish.

After a good breakfast we broke up camp and left at 9:45. As we proceeded down the river, it turned out to be one of the best days of our trip. Rapids and more rapids and we shot them all. The canoes scraped on the numerous rocks. The rapids ranged from 6 inch to 4 foot drops at a time. We estimated that one stretch was over 2 miles long. Just fantastic. There were difficult rapids due to the sharpness of the turns required and the submerged rocks that would throw your canoe from one side to another. The boys handled the canoes like professionals. After the series of rapids the water got wider and shallow. Upon checking our maps we found out that we were lost. The land marks were not corresponding with our map. We kept on paddling until we reached a farm yard where the owner soon straightened us out as to where we were. Murray and Rick were eyed by a herd of angry cows. They did not hesitate in that pasture as the herd was moving their way. We moved on until the land-



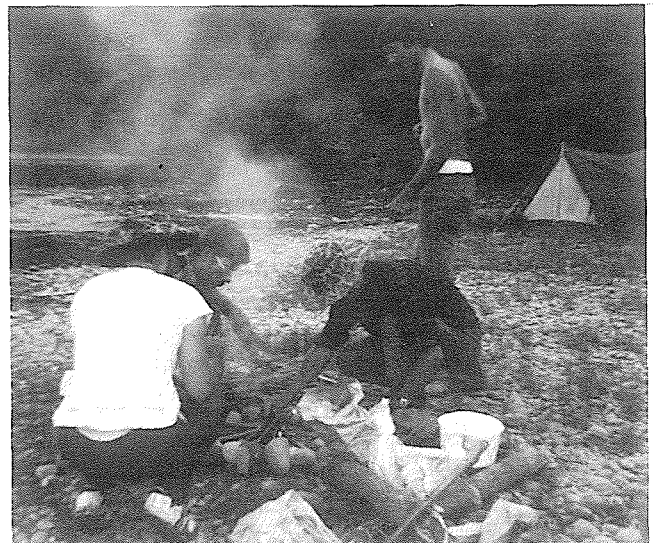
One of the dreaded jobs. . .doing dishes.

marks and the map corresponded. We phoned from another farm to let the parents know that we would be at the Treesbank ferry crossing tomorrow at 12:00. We moved up the shallow river to find more rapids. We stopped and set up camp at 7:00 p.m. Had hamburgers and spaghetti for supper and everyone retired early.

P.S. This was the campsite where Murray hurt his wrist, but we thought it would be all right in the morning. Bob and Ken decided to quit at Treesbank. Ken had had sunburns and Bob had a sore back.

Day 10

The morning seemed to arrive early. The coyotes were out in full force that night and we had visitors in camp, but no one ventured out to see what it was. As



Chow time! Tom Cottingham is making his 'dreadful' porridge.

we got up we saw 2 mink go through our camp. We had porridge for breakfast. We left the campsite at 10:00 a.m. The day proved to be a tragedy in one sense of the word. We went 12 miles to the Treesbank Ferry rather than the Stockton ferry crossing tomorrow at 12:00 and the parents arrived at 12:00. We packed up one of the canoes since Bob and Ken decided to go home. Murray's wrist was swollen up badly and we finally decided that he should go just in case it was hurt worse than it really appeared. (At the end of our trip we found out he had cracked the bone.) With three boys gone it left 7 of us in 4 canoes. I took the single canoe and as we travelled on we soon discovered that it was pretty well impossible for me to keep up and all I was really doing was holding the rest back. But the boys were determined that we were not quitting. They offered to take turns in the single canoe but we struggled on.

In fact I paddled so hard that I broke our second paddle which was a joke in camp for the next few days. We paddled over 17 miles that afternoon to reach the Stockton Ferry crossing. The boys were in excellent spirits and after some discussion I phoned my home town (Oak Lake) and my brother-in-law (Jim Procyk) said he would be out to Stockton within 2 hours. The boys' spirits rose all the more now since we would have 8 fellows for 4 canoes which meant we could move so much faster now. Jim arrived at 10:00 (he was 15 mins. late due to the fact that my mother and sister made poor back seat drivers and they got lost). Jim fitted into the gang just as if he had been with us along. (Jim has taught high school in Lynn Lake for the last 2 years, and he was very pleased to be associated with such a mannerly, well behaved group — he said that he thought that they didn't exist anymore. The students in a mining town are completely different than occurs in Rosburn.)

P.S. The scenery is improving. The banks were getting higher and higher as we cut our way through the sand hills. Of course sand hills mean more sand bars. We plan to push on as hard as we could to make up for lost time.

Day 11

The night was beautiful until the coyotes arrived. If they were not in camp, they were within 50', no one knows for sure as we were all chicken to stick our hands outside. About 5:00 a.m. the rain came. The boys got up and put everything under cover and fixed up the tents. The rain came down heavily for 15 minutes; then it really thundered for hours. I have never seen lightning and thunder like it in my life. Since everyone was tired and camp (tent supplies, etc.) was wet we didn't get up till 9:50 a.m. We had a big breakfast and took down camp and were on the river by 11:30 a.m. The scenery even improved some



Noon rest! Looking forward to their regular Klik sandwiches.

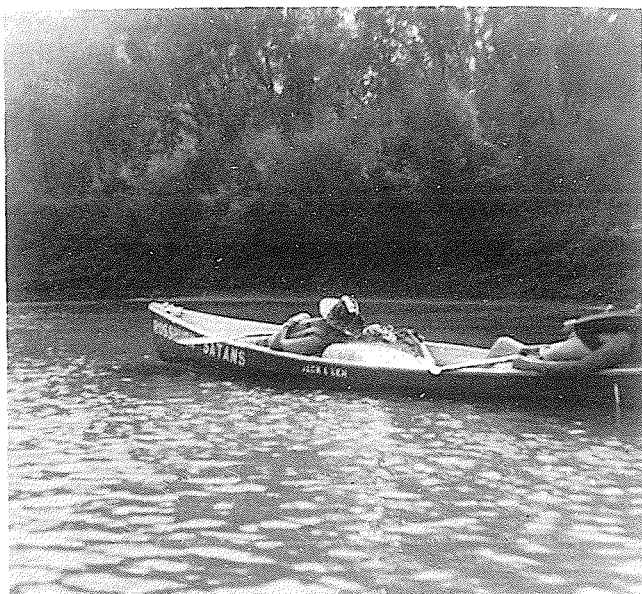
more. For the last two days we noticed that the banks of the river were getting higher up to 100 ft. with numerous streams entering the river thus causing the water to become cooler. We hit many sand bars with a few small rapids. Stones were present everywhere. Vincent hurt his ankle and it began to swell. Thank goodness he does not paddle with his ankle and that he is tough. Jim paddled so hard (with Doug's help) he managed to break our 3rd paddle. We only have 2 left so more care was taken with the paddles. We are lost again as our map did not seem to have all of the land marks which were required. We crossed under a bridge which was not marked on the map. As long as the water is still running, we will follow it and hope for the best. We made about 35 miles today. The current is strong and we can only hope that it will remain so. Lots of islands in the river now! We quit about 7:00 p.m. and set up camp on a sand bar. It was a beautiful evening. We ate a good supper and sat around the fire and gossiped for 2-3 hours. Planned to get up at 7:00 a.m. We planned a big day ahead since the Winnipeg fever is starting to get stronger. The boys are resolved to the fact we may not get there but they are determined to go as far as they possibly can. The spirit is excellent and I cross my fingers and hope it remains so. The boys are super!

Day 12

We got up at 7:00 a.m. and had porridge and toast for breakfast. We broke up camp and on the river by 9:15 a.m. We proceeded until we came to a farmer's yard. Jim and I went to ask where we were only to find the building abandoned. We went one mile down the river and we went to investigate another farm yard to find it was abandoned also. However, a farmer by the name of Mr. Penner drove up and took us to his farm (5-6 miles away) and we phoned. He gave us our location and we had our bearing again. We were using the islands as land marks but I guess they change from year to year. The day was hot and up to

97 in Winnipeg so I ventured a guess that it was close to 100 or over down in the valley since no wind was present on the river. We travelled quite a few miles and I could see that the boys were getting very tired. Randy felt ill and several of the rest of us were close to feeling the same.

The river is widening out and islands that are marked on the river are hard to find since the water is so low that they do not appear as islands. If my calculations are correct we should be hitting civilization again tomorrow. The sand bars are getting worse and we pulled the canoes for miles. We put in many miles but until we can see more land marks we could not tell where we were. Everyone is very tired! We set up camp at 7:00 p.m., had a quick supper, some of us went to bed while others stayed up till 10:30 playing cards. Vincent and Daryl's canoe sprang a leak so we repaired it and can only hope it lasts for 1 or 2 days.



One of the "river breaks" after paddling over ten straight miles.

Day 13

Got up at 7:10 a.m. and the boys began making breakfast only to discover that we were short of supplies. We found that we would need to ration our supplies. The camp was broken up by 8:55 and we were off and away. We moved on only to find that my patching job failed so Vincent and Daryl put some gum in the hole and it worked. The rest of us were laughing at them until Delmer and Rick's canoe started to leak and I mean LEAK. We paddled 4 strokes bailed 2. This went on for 4 hours. We came upon a deer with her fawn only to scare her across the river while the fawn was forced to remain on the opposite bank. The river was wide and shallow. We

progressed very slow and everyone was tired. We decided to stop early and repair our canoes. We went to a farm yard and got our position verified. We stopped at 5:00 p.m. and the boys set up camp while Darryl and I started to repair the canoes. The hole in our canoe was 5" long and upon emptying all of the canoes, in order to check if any others were requiring bandages we found that they were all in very bad shape. Most of them were yet to allow water in, but were very close. We patched all of the canoes. We could only hope that they would last since our repair kit was almost empty. After supper we all went for a swim. A dust storm came up and the boys played cards while Jim, Lyle and I went to bed. The boys retired at 11:00 p.m. The night was uneventful except for the very strong winds. The day was a very warm one and the night was extremely cold. Our location was 2 miles east of Treherne.

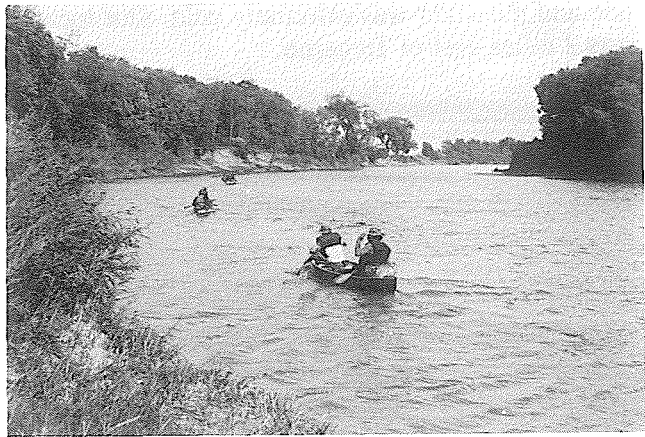


Bailing out water, cleaning up a canoe. It's hard paddling when your canoe is one-quarter full of water. Canoes were damaged on rocks as a result of low water levels.

Day 14

It was 8:00 a.m. (we got up late). I started the fire and Randy, Jim and I made the breakfast. Getting the rest up was difficult until I managed to persuade them with the aid of a club. It's amazing how soon people can get up with a little bit of persuasion. We left camp at 9:40 a.m. The river was moving at a good clip and we moved along quite swiftly. The day was much cooler than the previous day and we had a strong N.E. wind. The wind proved to be beneficial at times but if we had a strip of river going N.W., it proved to be very difficult paddling. We were fighting fast high waves which is a very difficult task in a 14 ft. canoe.

We paddled hard all day — 40 miles or so. More rocks were appearing with even more sand bars. We wanted to get close to Portage la Prairie. We were about 25-30 miles away when a storm threatened us. I do think we must have broken the world's record for setting up camp. After we rushed around, the storm just blew over, not dropping any rain. Supper consisted of beans, peas and corn. Was it ever delicious! One thing which really amazed me, was the boys were eating foods which they would never eat at home and not only that, there were no real complaints as to what was on the menu. Of course the alternative helped — you eat what we cook or you do without. Quite simple! The boys played cards and we retired at 10:00 p.m.



Canoes spread out until head canoe. . . Rick Plaisier and Delmer Heindle with whistle to warn of danger.

Day 15

We were off and away by 9:00 a.m. the next morning. The wind factor had not improved. The wind remained in a very bad direction which resulted in us pushing very hard. We were fighting 1½' waves. The day turned out to be a long one. The lads were getting very tired and down hearted. The river was moving slowly due to the back water behind the Portage la Prairie dam. The river appeared ugly in that the banks disappeared, and rotten decaying trees were present. After seeing this kind of result from man's great engineering ability I really wonder if we would not be better off with just letting nature handle the route of waterworks, etc. This area was just repulsive. The river got wider and wider, sometimes over half mile in width. Well those 1½' waves soon had room to turn into 2½' waves. The canoeing was very difficult. The canoe was just rocking. It gives you a funny feeling when the front of the canoe dips into the oncoming wave while you are at the back of the canoe, which is 2' higher than the front. The person in the front of the canoe feels even worse as he

is not sure if the waves are going under the canoe or over. One thing is for sure, no one was dry as the waves do come into the lap of the front individual and the spray from the paddles as they try to reach the water, soak the back person. This has to be the worst section of river we have hit yet, fighting strong head-wind in the man made lake. After this frustrating section the boys were willing to do anything, even shoot the Portage la Prairie dam. Fortunately for us with the aid of Tom's uncle we discovered it was over 20 ft. high. We unloaded the canoes and carried them about one-third of a mile. We loaded them up and went on for two more hours. We camped near the R.C.A.F. bridge which is 4 miles from the city of Portage la Prairie.

Well, we all washed up and walked into Portage la Prairie and enjoyed a good restaurant meal. We toured the town and bought some supplies. The people of the city were very friendly. We got a taxi to drive the eight of us back to our camp and we retired about 10:30 p.m. Upon reaching Portage la Prairie I phoned the R.C.M.P. detachment and asked that they patrol the area in which we had camped since it was so close to the highway. Staff Sergeant Ed Webdale, of Winnipeg, had advised me to do so earlier. After we had got back to camp and settled down for the night, I noticed some flashlights outside our camp area and immediately thought that someone was in our camp. As I was getting ready to investigate I heard a man ask one of our tent's occupants for me and it turned out to be one of the constables who Ed had radioed. He wanted me to phone him so naturally the boys in Portage were fulfilling their orders but I can't express the thought that went through my mind having a constable come to pick me up. As it was, Ed only wanted to know how many of us there were, our destination for the next day, etc.

Day 16

We got up later than usual, had bacon and eggs for breakfast. The wind was calmer so our progress increased. We stopped at the Trans Canada Bridge for dinner and after some hours which were rather uneventful, we arrived at a Hutterite Colony which raised thousands of ducks and geese and the colony were using the river for these species' enclosure. We had to paddle right through these gigantic flocks and, as boys will be boys the temptation was just too much as they felt that it was unfair for a colony to have so much. So after going through the enclosure, we noticed a flock of ducks, so we attempted to catch a few for our supper. Well, the event was a very comical one as the flock out-smarted many of the boys. But Tom and Vincent managed to catch two plump ducks. Well, they noticed that I did not take part so they presumed that I disapproved. They let the two



Vincent Kostas chasing that elusive duck. Entire crew helped out. Adviser, Jim Procyk was blamed as he had so many chances to catch the duck.

ducks go (much to my amazement — but I was proud of them).

We paddled 1 or 2 miles further down the river only to discover a flock of 9 lonely ducks. Well, it is one thing to have temptation cross your path once, but twice was just too much. Besides that, it was us or the coyotes as far as the ducks were concerned. So the 4 canoes in a united effort proceeded to try to catch a couple of these lovely plump birds. It was not as easy as it appeared. We must have chased these birds for 3 to 4 miles. Both the ducks and boys were getting tired. Through the great hunting abilities of Vincent and Rick we managed to catch 2 of these birds. After catching the birds, our conscience started to bother us. So after 9 more miles of river we decided to let the birds loose on another farmer's yard. Our Robin Hood attitude prevailed as we took



Vincent Kostas got hungry and was very tired of the menu. So, with the help of the entire group finally got a duck which had eluded them for over five miles.

from the plenty and gave to the poor and needy. It was getting late and we were still a number of miles from our destination. After two hours of paddling in the dark (which is an experience in itself) we finally reached the St. Paul's Bridge — 8 miles west of Elie. After a couple of hours of stumbling around in the dark, we managed to set up camp and prepare a good meal. We retired about 12:00.

Day 17

During the night, the rain came down and completely drenched the campsite. We finally got up at 8:00 a.m. We were off and away by 9:30. The wind was back again and really making its presence known. The boys could not be stopped. In an attempt to let the party in Winnipeg know where we were, Randy and Rick were almost devoured by a farmer's dog. Getting closer to Winnipeg caused us to paddle more rapidly. We were fighting 1½' waves again which soon tuckered us out. It is very frustrating to paddle with all of your might for ½ hour and then glance toward the shore to see that you have only moved about 10-20 ft. The boys never gave up and conquered one bad stretch after another. We met Jerry Alexander and Ed Webdale who assured us that we could reach Winnipeg by night fall. After leaving these fellows, we met head on with even stronger winds. Our efforts were jolted again and again. We realized that we would not reach Winnipeg and a very nasty storm assured us of the fact. We phoned Jerry's home in Winnipeg from Beaudry to inform him that we were going to camp before the storm caught us. Jerry and Ed insisted that they were coming out to get us. We tied up the canoes and secured all of our baggage. Within ½ hour, two cars arrived and took us into Winnipeg. Upon reaching Jerry's home, we were treated like kings. We ate steaks and chicken until we could eat no more. The boys really appreciated the hospitality that was extended to us. We sacked out about 1:00 a.m. that evening.



Loaded canoes are heavy. . . no shore line. Canoes had to be hauled up for the night. It sure brought about unity!

Day 18

We were awakened by the aroma of home-cooked bacon and eggs and coffee. Jerry and Ed drove us back to Beaudry by 8:30 a.m. The weather was great — no wind. The current was a little swifter. We arrived in Winnipeg at 11:45 that same morning (about 20 miles). On the last stretch we had a few more rapids to conquer and a few more stones to bounce off. A couple of canoes sprang more leaks but we were travelling at such a good clip that the river water had no time to enter the canoes. There were lots of people to greet us at the Assiniboine Park. We were then taken to Jerry's home again. We enjoyed more food and refreshments which all of the boys certainly deserved. Parents were present and after some time of talking and fooling around, we loaded up all of our equipment. We then left Winnipeg to head home (Rossburn). Upon arriving in our home town, we certainly were glad to see it again.

The trip on the whole was an experience that we will never forget. It wasn't all pleasure nor was it all problems. It was a trip which revealed that the youth



The canoe expedition arrives in Winnipeg. Celebrating their accomplishment, the boys decided to throw their adviser, Rick Plaisier, up in the air!

of Rossburn are some of the best in the world — stubborn, determined and talented, etc. Everyone put his best foot forward and they worked as a team.

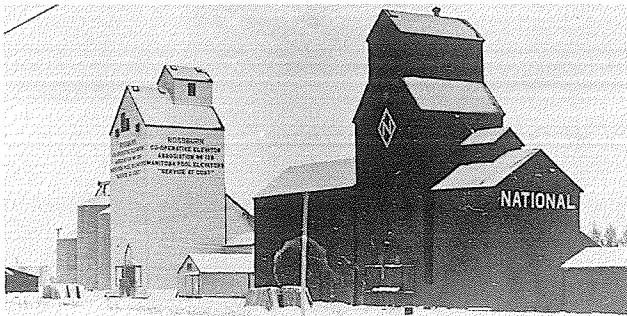


An aerial view of Rossburn from the north in the early 1960s.

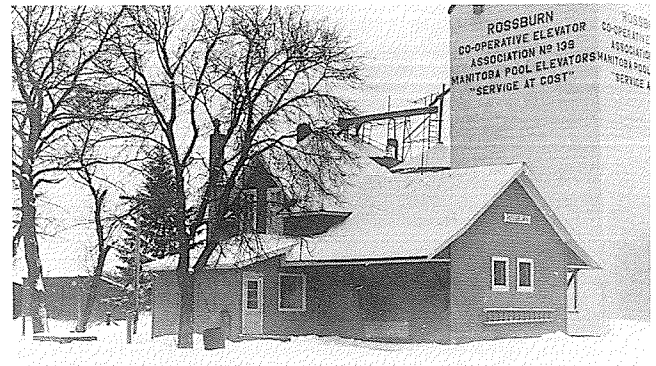


Aerial view of Rossburn in the mid 1950's.

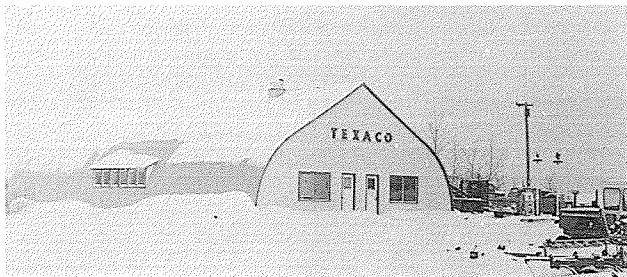
Rossburn in the Early 1970's



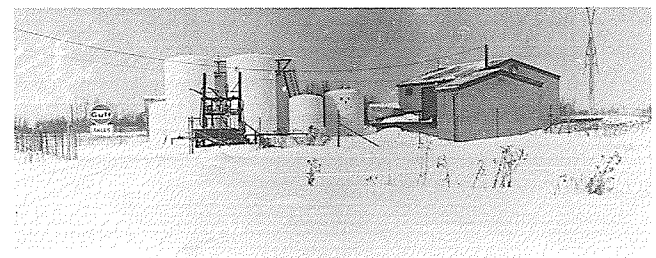
Rossburn Pool Elevator Assoc. and National Grain Co. Elevators.



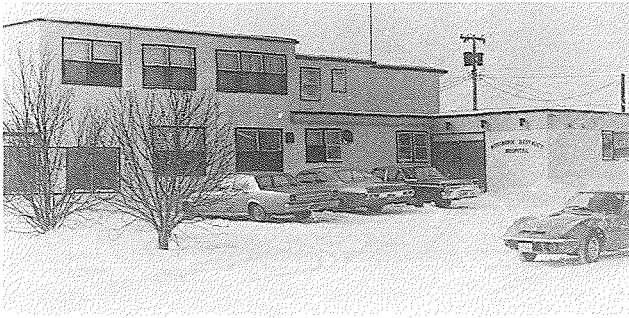
CNR Station * Rossburn Pool Elevator.



Matt McKietiu's Garage.



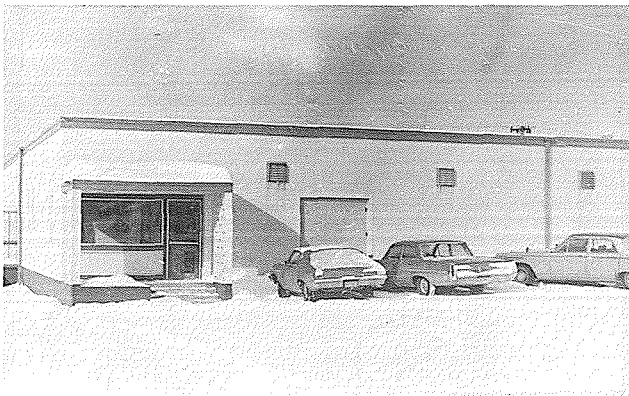
Gulf Oil Co. Ltd.



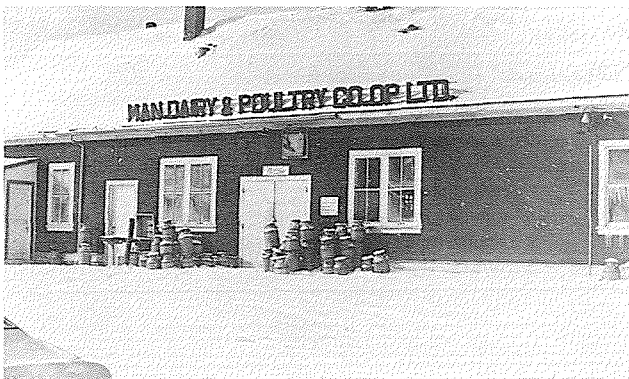
Rossburn District Hospital.



Beaver Lumber Co.



Manco Cheese Factory.



Rossburn Creamery.



Imperial Esso Bulk Facilities.



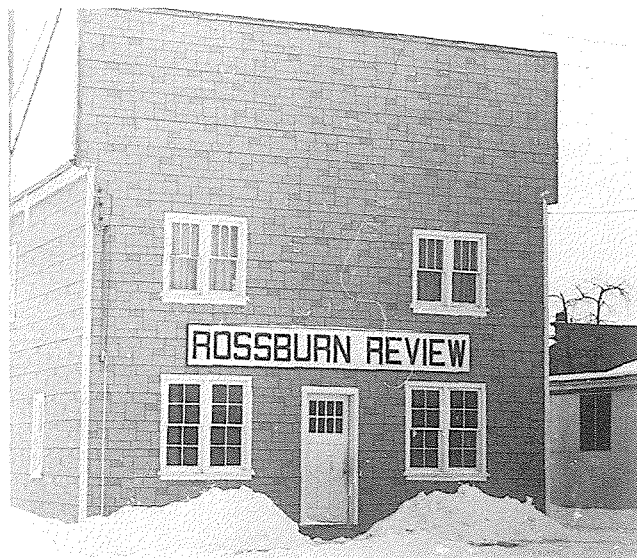
RCMP Detachment Headquarters.



McKietruk Freighters Ltd.



People's Store.



Rossburn Review.



Kachan-Kostecki Ltd. Garage.



Elite Cafe.



Jack Ewashko's Tinshop.



Harry's Pool Hall.



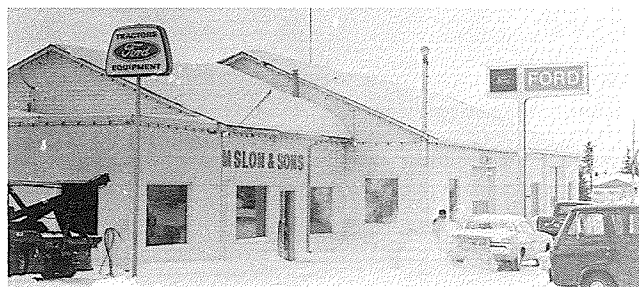
Verbowski Bros. I.H.C. Shop.



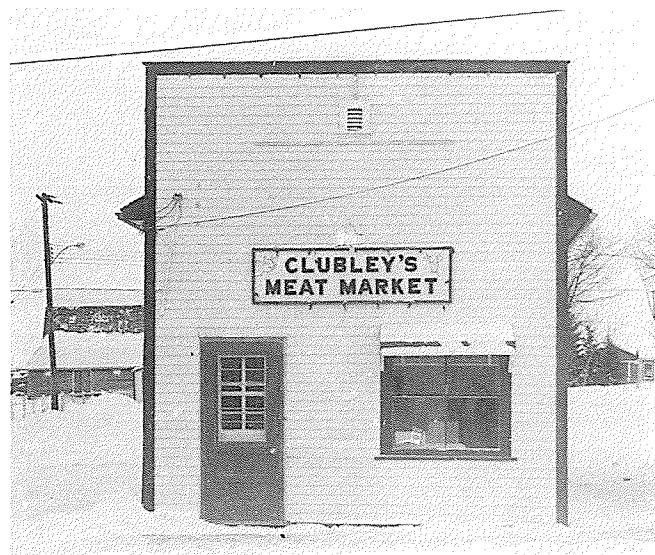
Scarrow's Hardware.



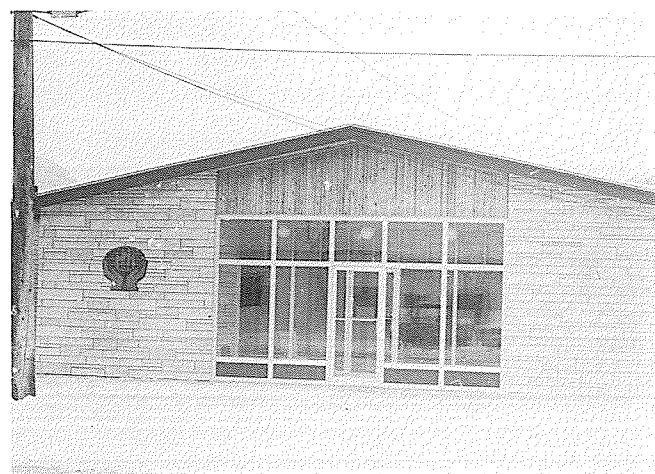
Bidochka's M/M Food Market.



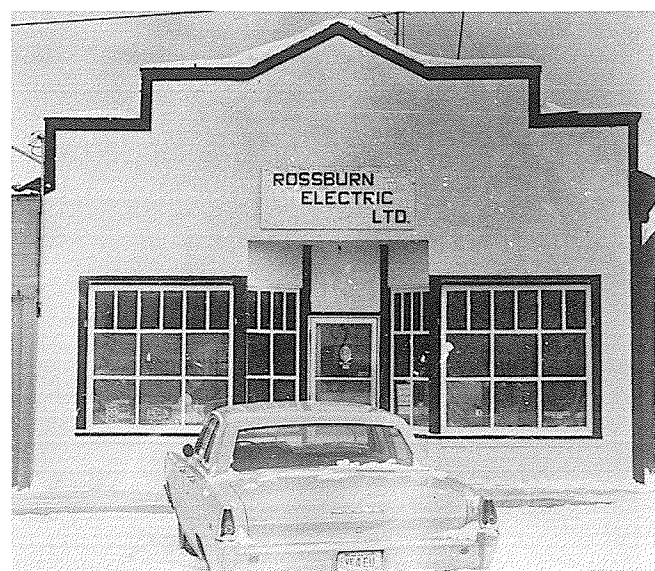
M. Slon & Sons Ltd. Garage.



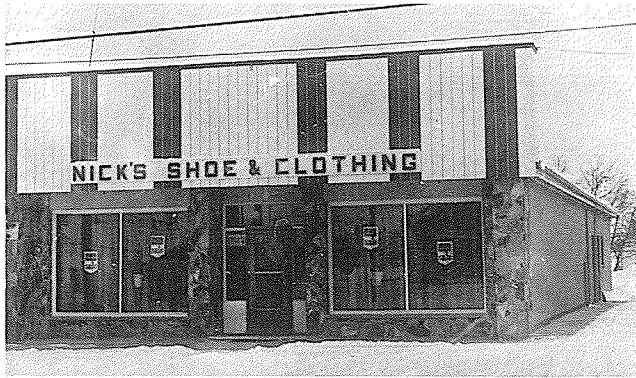
Clubley's Meat Market.



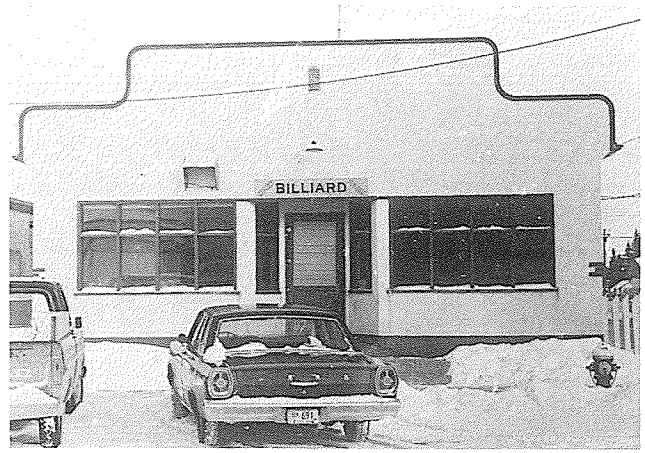
Rossburn Credit Union Ltd.



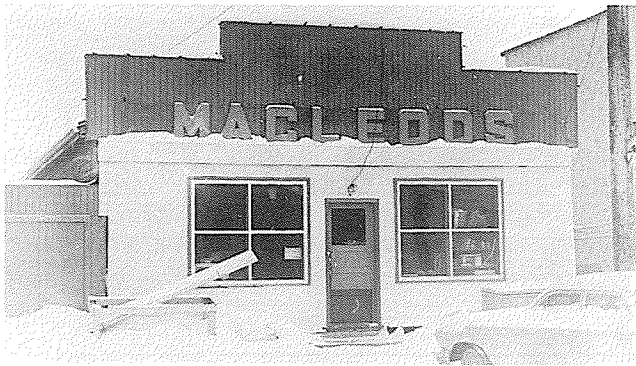
Rossburn Electric Ltd.



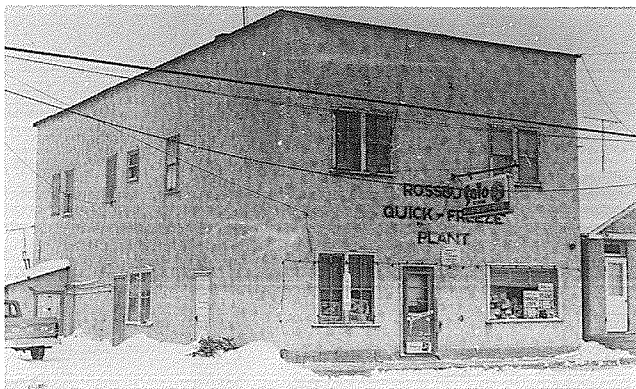
Nick's Shoe & Clothing Store.



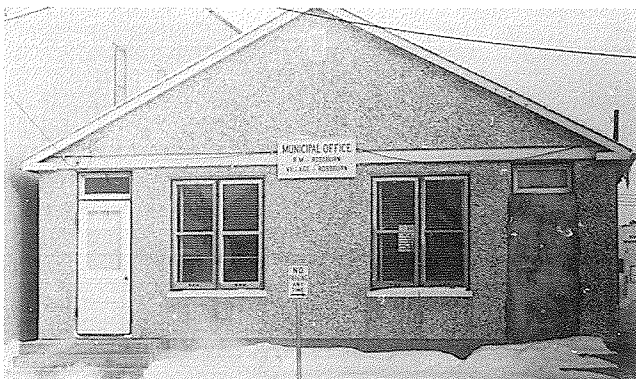
Nick's Pool Hall.



Macleods Store.



Rossburn Solo Store.



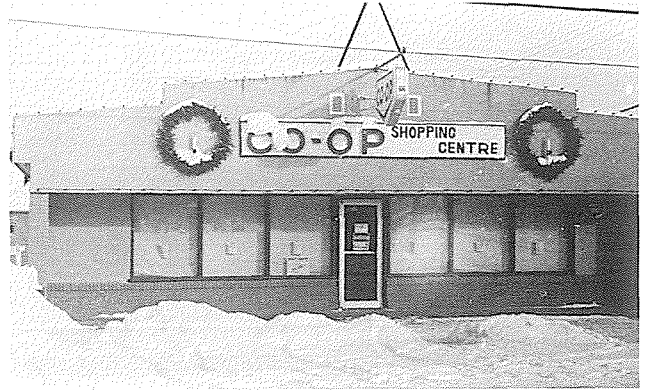
Rossburn Municipal Office.



Dew Drop Inn.



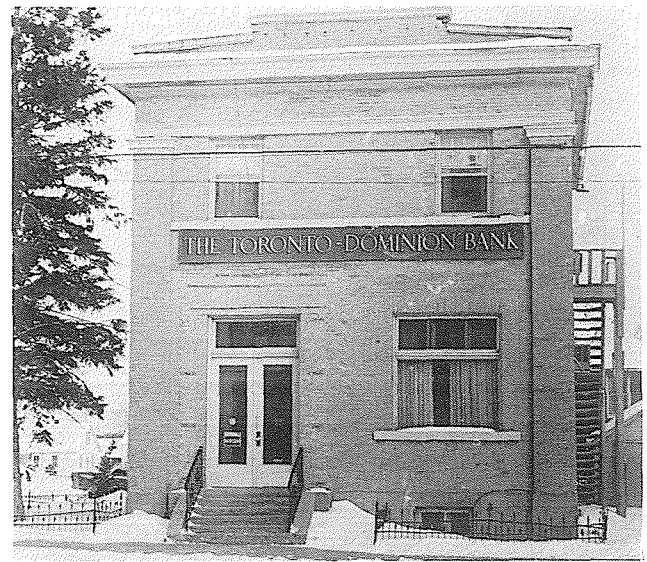
Gurnick's Radio & TV.



Parkway Co-op Store.



Herchak's Store.

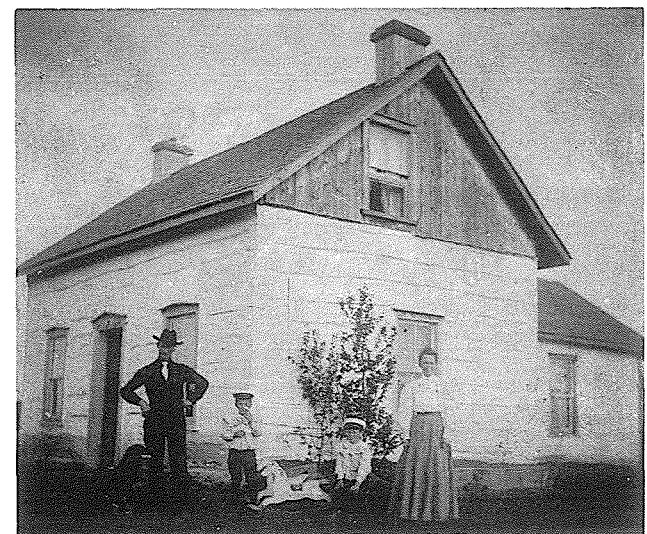


Toronto-Dominion Bank.

Homes in the Early Days



A stone house on the SE 1/4 12-20-25, built in 1892.



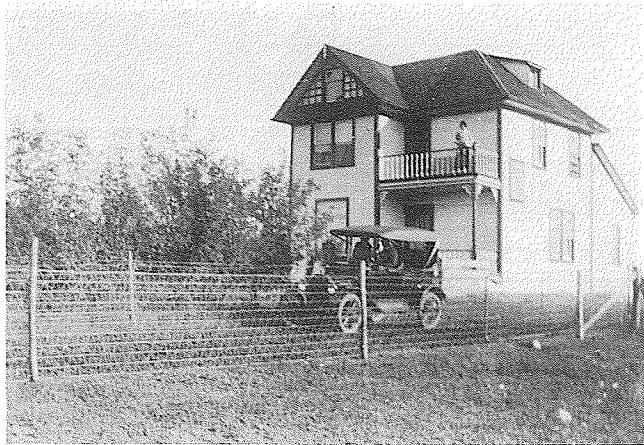
George Williamson's log house built in 1892. Mr. and Mrs. Williamson, Wesley and Everett standing in front of home.



The Lone Tree Farm House located south of Rosssburn, 1903.



Williamson house built in 1906 and located on Victoria Avenue west. Destroyed by fire, this property later became the site for the McTavish homes.



John Sinclair's home at Rosssburn in 1914.



The homestead of Nastia and Dmytro Danyleyko, 1917. The two people by the house are Marion (Danyleyko) Steele and Annie (Danyleyko) Skavinski.

More Buildings From an Early Era



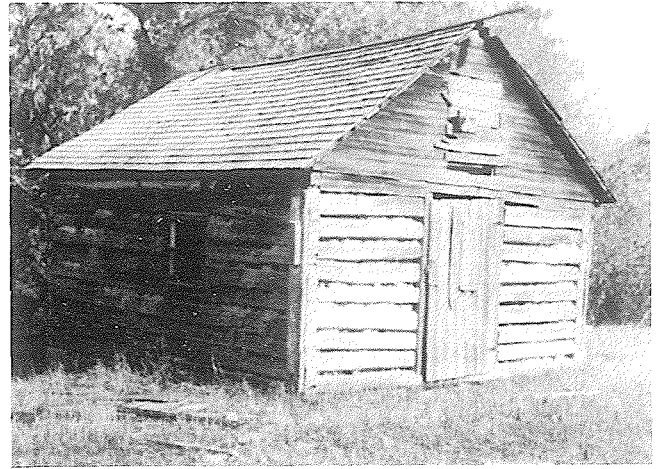
George Hyra's farm home on the SE¼ 12-21-26.



Fred and Teenie Kurchaba's first home, on NW 16-19-23, built after they were married Feb. 27, 1913. The building is still standing. In this photo, Anne Shust (Kurchaba) is standing — in front of house. The Kurchaba's oldest son Mike was born there.



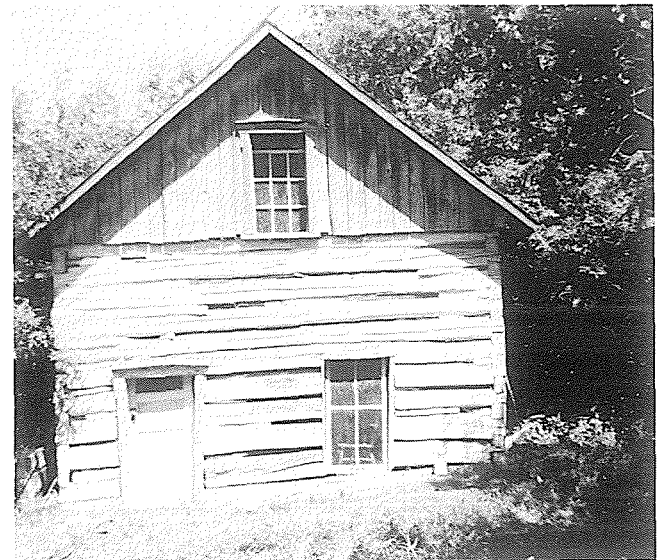
Yesterday's Doctor — The Prairie Publishing Co. A thatch-roofed barn near Rosburn built about the year 1910. Photo taken 1962. (Manitoba Archives photo).



The first building erected by Alex Andrew, 1910.



The Gandza homestead which was built in 1915.



Bill Peden home on SE¼ 33-19-24. Built approx. 1900.

Transportation Years Ago



Grey Dort, owned by Wm. McKenzie, about 1921 or 1922. Billy McKenzie (at wheel) is taking John MacPhail for a ride. Alex MacPhail is standing beside car.



Alex Brown, Alex Sinclair, Tom Sinclair and Robert (Bert) Bailey stop for a friendly chat back in 1923. The Sinclairs and Alex Brown were neighbors of the Baileys.



Jennie Maxwell standing in front of a Model T Ford (1919 vintage).



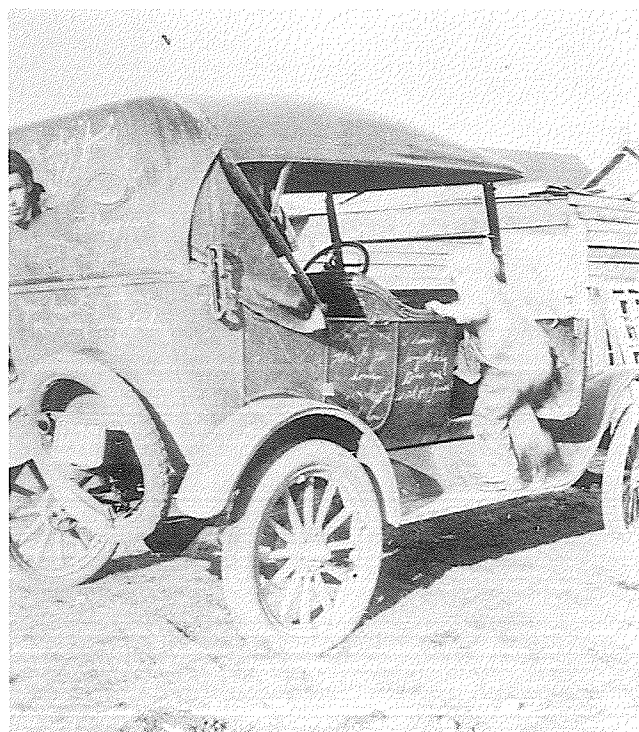
Gordon and Agnes Taylor's first car.



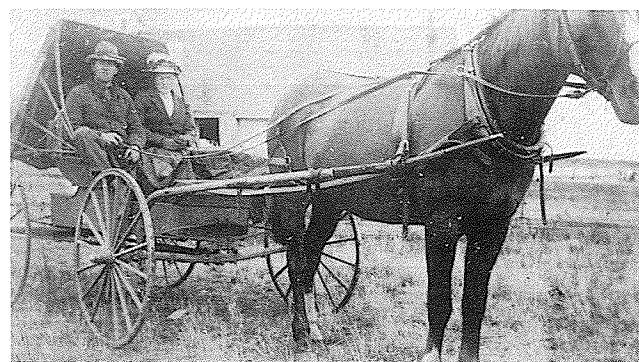
Walter Hachkowski's van.



Stan Leschasin's first car — 1917 Studebaker. This was taken in 1946.



Bert Bailey has his head stuck out of the back of the car's canvas top. The occasion was a visit with Wm. Staples, postmaster at Angusville in 1928.



Roy and Margaret Plant in their first buggy. This photo of the Plants with their horse and buggy was taken in 1915 at Glen Elmo.



Horses and sleigh. Anton Lepischak with Margaret Raginski and her two daughters.



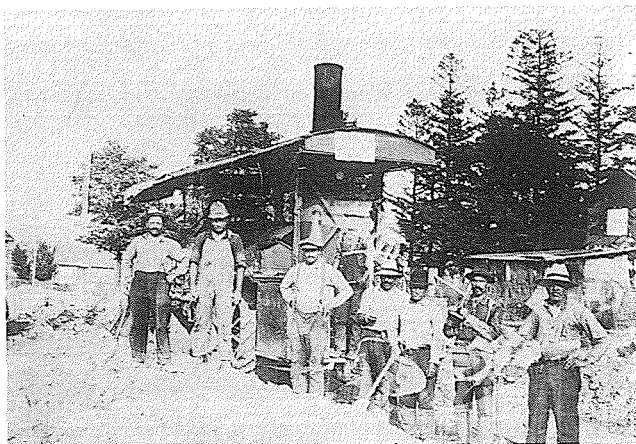
Matt and Alex Leschasin are seated in the buggy in this 1928 photo.



Those Winters Back Then Were Something! Geo. Finch and 2-horse team pulling cutter bogged down in snowdrift. (1903)



No need for snowplowing roads in winter if you had one of these units — Alex Cleland's snowplane.



An under-mounted Avery on the job site in 1917.



Roy and Margaret Plant's first log house they built in 1918 on their farm in the valley (Glen Elmo P.O.)



Front of Peikoff's Store on Victoria Avenue, Lou Peikoff is riding the Shetland.



Alex Cleland, Rowat Veitch and Dave Cleland — bagging a bull elk.



The old days were happy days. This photo taken around 1910 depicts a group of people who were gathered at the McIntosh farm for a picnic.



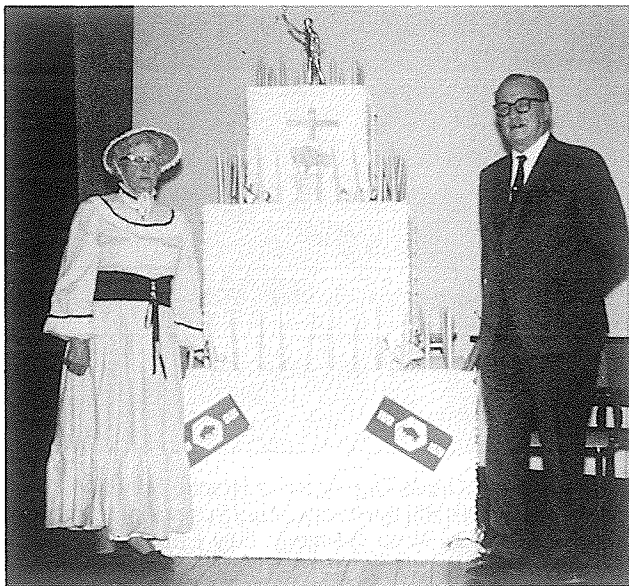
They Just Don't Make 'Em Like They Used To! Georgina Cleland and Grace Barkley on a pony pointed westward (1917).



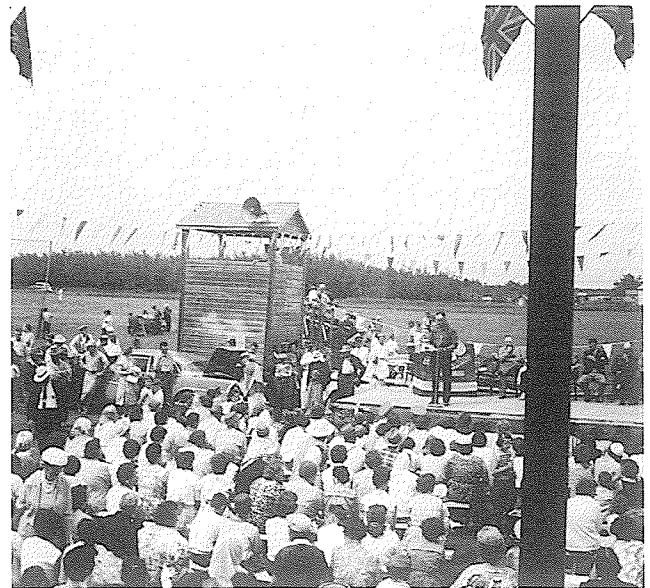
Dressed in oldtime style for a home-coming event. L to R: Vivian, Margaret and Elaine Cleland.



The Official Opening of Rossburn's Waterworks was the occasion for this photo of stage activities at the Rossburn Fair Grounds. L to R: Lorraine Yaskiw, Mrs. Noreen Taylor, Mrs. Avis Stitt, Mrs. Mary Hamilton, Wendell Cleland, Mrs. Olive Veitch, Mrs. Gertrude Stewart, John Cormack, Jean Armstrong, Mrs. Jessie Cormack (behind Jean Armstrong), Mrs. Agnes Snider, Mrs. Mabel Armstrong, Mrs. Lillian McKnight, Mrs. Anne McIntosh. The item being presented was a Fashion Show.



The 1970 Manitoba Centennial was celebrated with a gathering in Rossburn Town Hall. This photo depicts Mrs. Anne McIntosh and Dr. Sam Peikoff on the stage during the centennial program.



A portion of the large crowd attending the 50th anniversary Rossburn Fair July 14, 1959. The picture was taken from the grandstand.

More School Days Nostalgia



Miss Darnley (right) and her class of Rossburn School students are pictured in this photo from the 1910 era.



Rossburn School Soccer team about 1910.



Beginners and Grade One Class of Hranko School, 1937-
Front Row: L to R: Phillip Hrycak, Mary Schaworski, Ann Klym, Helen Dutkywich, Peter Gumieny, Billy Ewanyshyn, Murray Ewanyshyn. Back Row: L to R: Alex Borowski, Walter Dowhan, Matt Antoniwi, Mervin Maryniuk, Stanley Bidochka. Teacher: Nell Dunits.



Hranko School Class of 1939-40 —
Front Row: L to R: Helen Dutkywich, Mary Schaworski, Eileen Dutkywich, Lassie Hrankowski, Stanley Ewanyshyn, Billy Ewanyshyn. Second Row: L to R: Marie Chuhai, Jean Wozney, Ann Klym, Kay Chapman, Pearl Borowski, Nettie Klym, Helen Wozney. Third Row: L to R: Steffie Hrankowski, Nellie Komhyr, Elsie Klym, Phillip Hrycak, Murray Ewanyshyn, Alex Borowski. Back Row, L to R: Taras Sheremeta, Joe Borowski, Rose Borowski, Walter Dowhan, Elizabeth Bidochka, Stanley Bidochka.



Mohyla School Class of 1928-29 —

Front Row: L to R: Jennie Toploniski, , Olive Wonitoway, Emily Danyleyko, Ann Baydak, Jean Checkowski. Second Row: L to R: Fred Bidochka, Helen Checkowski, Stella Kitlar, Billy Semaniuk, Mabel Semaniuk, Mary Semaniuk, Katie Bidochka, Mary Bidochka, Mabel Ozarow, Muriel Wonitoway, Mary Didych. Third Row, L to R: Peter Didych, Matt Bonchuk, Leonard Wonitoway, Henry Kitlar, Harry Kachan, Jennie Kucher, Nellie Ozarow, Nellie Sokolan, Teenie Kitlar. Fourth Row: L to R: Zelma Bidochka, Mike Bidochka, Jessie Bidochka, Rose Sokolan, Dora Oryniak, Katie Kucher, Mabel Kitlar, Helen Didych. Fifth Row: L to R: Mike Ternovetsky, Nellie Bonchuk, Maggie Shewchuk, Helen Fiel, Nick Maryniuk. Back Row, L to R: John Checkowski, Andrew Lasiuta, Andrew Toploniski, Miss Anderson (Teacher).



Ruska Rawa Students 1928. Teacher — Stan Humeny.

Front Row: L to R: Mike Herchak, Sophie Lazaruk, Mary Raginski, Johnny Chegus, Ann Charney, Ann Lazaruk, Ann Ternowski, Helen Bobinski, Ann Bobinski, Paul Zimmerman, Bill Lazaruk, Anton Lepischak. Second Row: L to R: Matt Kachan, Mike Ewanyshyn, Joe Zimmerman, Tom Zimmerman, Ann Trakalo, Alice Kachan, Alice Lazaruk, Jessie Zimmerman, Rose Bobinski, Tena Prosyk, Harry Kalynich, Johnny Tesarski, Pete Chegus, Paul Chegus, Paul Herchak, Frank Budz. Third Row: L to R: Carrie Choptiuk, Lena Charney, Helen Hachkowski, Jennie Choptiuk, Martha Lazaruk, Dora Chegus, Ann Ewanyshyn. Back Row: L to R: Elizabeth Prosyk, Michalena Prosyk, Nellie Trakalo, Stan Lazaruk, Bill Kachan, John Lazaruk, George Lazaruk, Peter Lepischak, Peter Kalynich, Walter Hachkowski, Joe Ozarow, Carrie Zimmerman, Nellie Ozarow.



Sixty walkers are ready to leave Rossburn on a walk to Oakburn and return — a distance of 26 miles. The event sponsored by Rossburn Student Council took place on Oct. 21, 1967. The oldest walker was Laird Duncanson (84 years old) and the youngest, Laurie Aylwin (8 years old). Winner was Walter Zaugg, of Russell, with Milton Tanner, a close second. Winning time was 5 hrs. and 10 minutes. \$900 was raised in pledges on this occasion.



The Europe 83 Group from Rossburn Collegiate are pictured here:
 Back Row: L to R: Joyce Smycniuk, Doris Caldwell, Don Jackson, Lori Nychuk, Denise Caldwell, Wendy Taylor, Dana Hunter, Dione Lysyshin, Val Tanasychuk, Karen Shwaluk, Irene Tanasychuk, Shirley Kalyniuk. Front Row: L to R: Tracey Caldwell, Bev Peleshok, Denise Luhowy, Dennis Kaskiw, Nicky Morris, Cathy Stitt, Karen Kalyniuk. Missing: Kim Smycniuk, Suzanne Salyn.



Grade Twelve Class of Rossburn Collegiate 1983-84. Back Row: Daryl Leganchuk, Greg Joiner, Audrey Pickering, Denise Caldwell, Val Tanasychuk, Wendy Taylor, Doug Bergeson, Sierp Kaastra. Front Row: Terry Konyk, Eugenia Wasilka, Betty Hryciuk, Kim Antoniwi, Heather Lamb, Francine Slon, Gloria Maryniuk, Barry Buternowsky.



King George School students in 1946. The group includes (starting from left side): Walter Kowal, Ernest Kurchaba, Mike Pohanayko, Lawrence Stebeleski, Ernest Antonation, Harry Peech, Mary Kowal, Rose Bucklaschuk, Alex Kotyk, Johnny Peech, Lassie Kowal, Joyce Sitko, Billy Peech, Zane Matiation, Ernest Maduke, Jean Bewza, Frank Bewza, Roxy Yarish, Walter Matiation, Joe Skavinski, Jean Maduke, Myrtle Wowk, Annie Matiation, Lydia Stebeleski, Annie Peech, Elsie Yarish, Phyllis Kowal, Elsie Matiation, Joyce Ziemianski, Ruth Dutchak, Nellie Wasilka, Stella Kondrat, Annie Kondrat, Mary Peech, Elsie Maduke, Jeanette Ziemianski, Hope Wasilka.

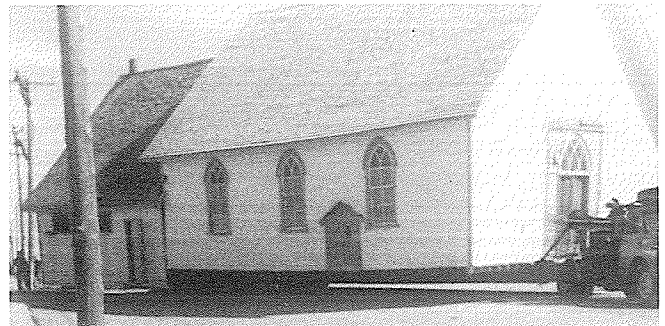
Area Churches, Past And Present



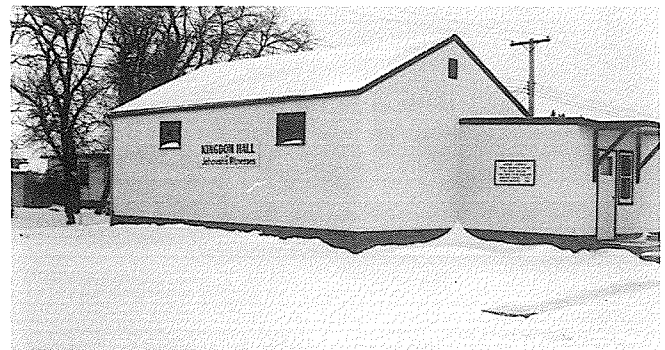
Original Lizard Point Presbyterian Church built in 1901. This building was torn down following construction of the present Presbyterian Church located across the road from the previous church.



Presbyterian Church and manse at Lizard Point in the early 1950s.



The former Rossburn United Church building was moved from its location on the southwest corner of Rossburn's main intersection on Monday, July 15, 1974 by Vic Minty and his crew of building movers. Construction of the new church building commenced shortly after.



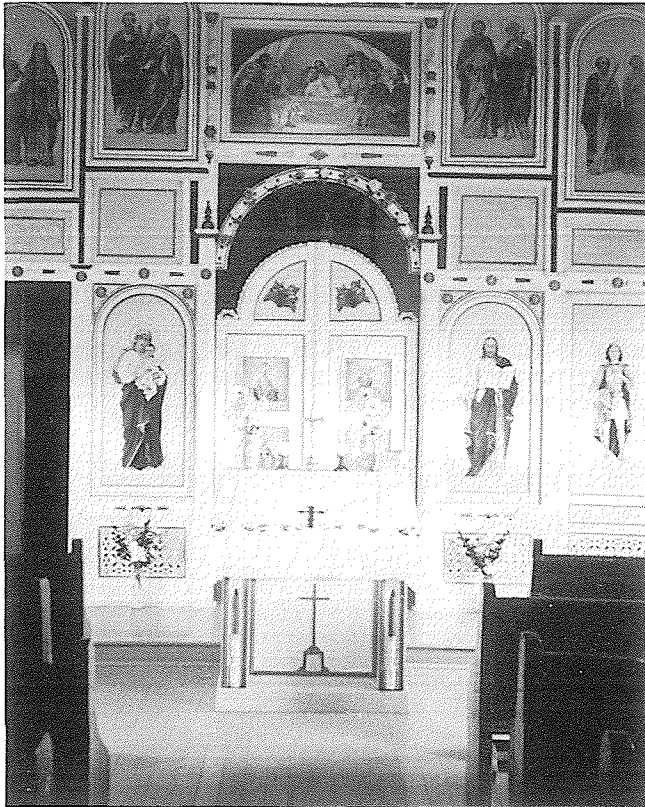
Jehovah's Witnesses Kingdom Hall.



Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Glen Elmo, pictured in the 1950s.



Sts. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church, before restoration.



Interior of Sts. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church.



Church of England built in 1906. This later became the location for the Pentecostal Church.



Funeral Procession to Christ the King Roman Catholic Church, 1927.



Funeral Procession from Christ the King Roman Catholic Church to the Cemetery.



Sacred Heart Ukrainian Catholic Church (Rossburn) Catechism and Bible Study Class June, 1958. Front Row: L to R: Frank Bonchuk, Harvey Komhyr, Linda Sidlar, Eddie Silewich, Lesia Herchak, Betty Anne Slon, Johnny Silewich, Linda Ternowski, Diane Shust, Colleen Lazaruk, Ryan Shust. Second Row, L to R: Don Hrubeniuk, Donald Charney, Lawrence Silewich, Myron Glushka, Elaine Kreshewski, Elaine Malaniuk, Judy Kreshewski, Lillian Wladyka, Linda Kuzenko, Jerry Yaskiw, John Ryshytylo, Matt Didych, Robert Stupnisky, Donald Luhowy, Arnold Ternowski. Third Row: L to R: Julian Silewich, Jean Tomchuk, Alice Antoniuk, Elizabeth Glushka, Sylvia Baubie, Shirley Kreshewski, Lucille Baubie, Elaine Maryniuk, Alice Silewich, Jerry Stupnisky, Helen Kozun, Clarence Lazaruk, Natalie Hrubeniuk, Nelson Luhowy, Sam Hrycak, Michael Kreshewski, Michael Wolanyk, Ernest Bonchuk. Back Row: L to R: Father A. Pekar, , Sonia Glushka, Adele Trakalo, Irene Smycnuik, Verna Hrycak, Hazel Kreshewski, Theresa Glushka, Myrna Smycnuik, Lillian Boychuk, Phyllis Malaniuk, Eunice Wolanyk, Ron Yaskiw, Ernie Baydak, Ron Maryniuk, Wayne Drosdoski, Irwin Yaskiw, Father John Lehky.



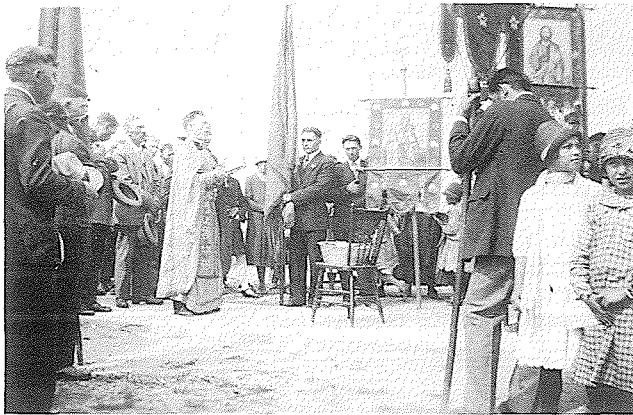
A picnic-style luncheon was the setting for this photo taken about 1914 or 1915, by the Ukrainian Greek Orthodox Independent Church on the Stefan Panas farm near Rossmar Lake. The gathering followed a Memorial Service for the late Irene Antonichuk, John and Oksana Antonichuk's baby daughter. Left to right: Harry Yarmey, Wasyl Antonichuk, the next three people are unidentified, John Hrankowski, Mike Dowhan, unidentified, Mrs. Mike Dowhan, Miss M. Hrankowski, Mrs. Wasyl Antonichuk, Mrs. John Antonichuk, Mrs. John Hrankowski, Mrs. Stefan Panas, (possibly) Kay Panas, John Antonichuk, unidentified.



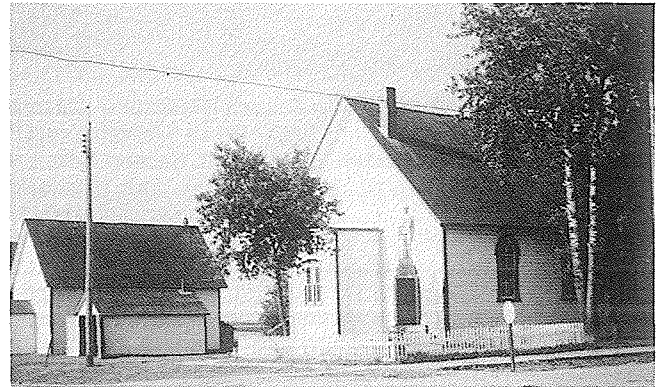
Cars lined up at St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church, Olha in 1930.



Church service at Mohyla Church in 1939 was a well attended event.



Rev. Fr. Zaporaniuk is blessing the water at the Ukrainian Greek Orthodox Church, Glen Elmo, in 1924. Holding the banner is Nick Karmazenuk.



The Southwest corner of the main intersection in Rossburn as it used to appear. Rossburn United Church with the adjacent cenotaph, and the club room to the south is seen in the spring of 1954.



This picture of a gathering following church service at St. John's Ukrainian United Church (Pete's Lake) was taken in 1941.

Reminiscing



Mears and Area Youth Choir and Drama Club about 1931. Front: holding violin — Instructor John Maydaniuk. Front Row: L to R: Mary Dychakowsky, Sophie Komhyr, Emily Maydaniuk, Mary Silewich. Second Row: L to R: Dora Oryniak, Ann Silewich, Ann Maydaniuk, Ann Oryniak, Nellie Silewich. Third Row: L to R: John Bonchuk, Bill Oryniak, John Kulcheski, Walter Maydaniuk (Karl's). Back Row: L to R: Walter Maydaniuk (Woytko's), Martin Maydaniuk, Stanley Maydaniuk, Steve Maydaniuk, Bill Kozun.



Baldy Lake Ranger Station (north of Marco) as seen in 1955.



Selma Miller, Mrs. T. Miller, Clara Miller, and Wilfred Miller.

Wedding Anniversary Recollections



Steve and Irene Nycek, 50th Wedding Anniversary.



Roy and Margaret Plant on their 50th Wedding Anniversary, Rosburn, Man. 1964.



Howard and Anne McIntosh 50th Wedding Anniversary. L to R: Bill, Keith, Weldon, Howard, Anne, Blanche, Dorothy, Adell, Leona, Carol.



Zacharko and Marcella Yarish, 65th Wedding Anniversary.

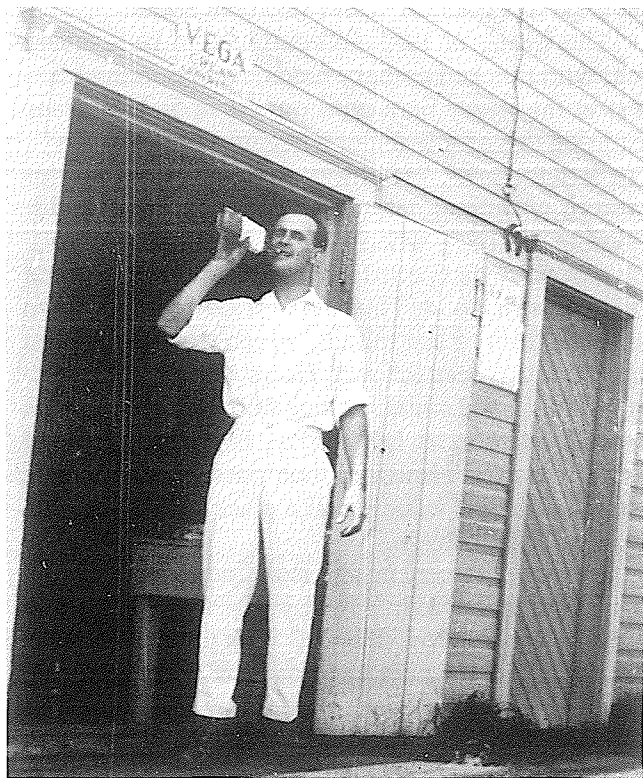


Mr. and Mrs. Wasyl Strank, Golden Wedding Anniversary.

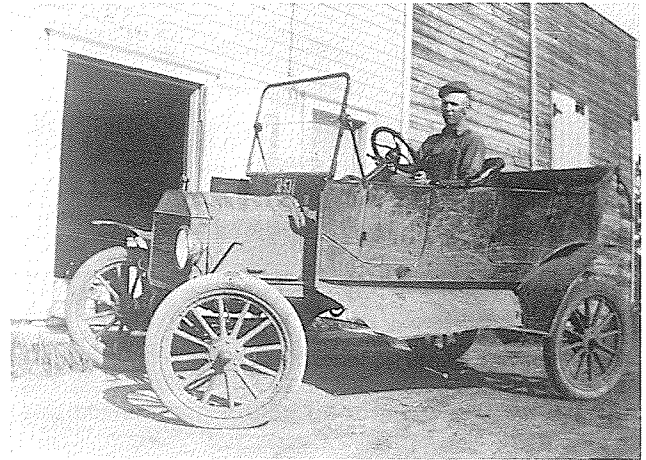
The Dairy Industry



Roy Irwin, who worked for George Kelso in D. Hough's Creamery is bringing in ice from the ice house.



George Kelso, manager Rossburn Creamery, and also butter-maker, is standing in the creamery doorway in this 1922 photo.



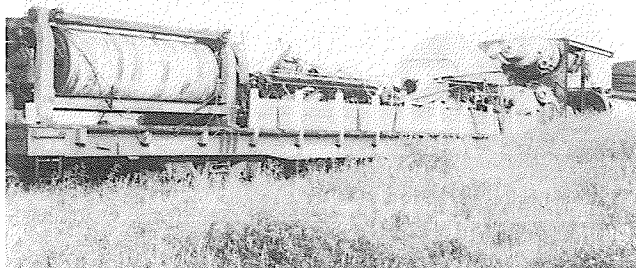
Wes Williamson is parked in front of the Rossburn Creamery in 1922. George Kelso recalled Wes had just delivered a can of cream.



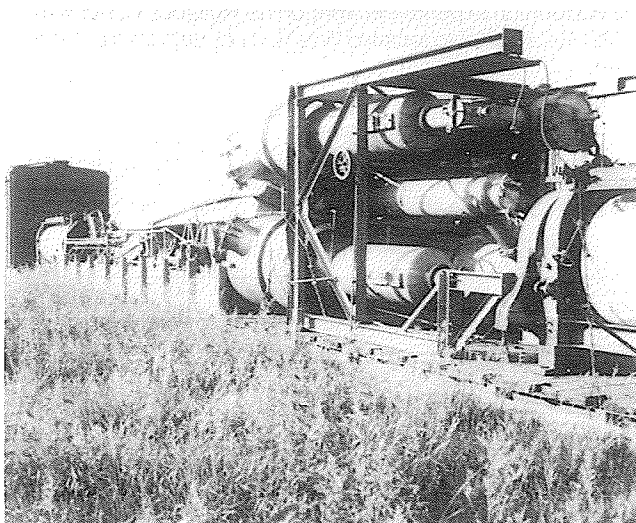
A cloudy, cool afternoon in the spring of 1969 was the occasion on which a sod-turning ceremony was held at the Manitoba Dairy & Poultry Co-op property adjacent to the creamery at the north end of Rossburn. Ron Hale, president Man. Dairy & Poultry Co-op, is shown as he participates in the sod-turning ceremony for the Manco Cheese Factory which was opened late in 1969.



Manco Cheese Factory and former creamery building in which whey-drying equipment was set up.



Whey-drying equipment for installation at the Manco plant in Rosssburn arrived on flat cars in 1980 via the C.N.R. The equipment, previously used by a plant in eastern Canada, was reassembled locally.



Weather Variations

An Old-Time Winter

1955-56 will long be remembered as the winter of the old time storms. It is recalled that during that winter, country roads already were in bad shape and practically impassable continuously by mid-December.

The Livery Barn business had one last revival that winter as the farm population pressed teams and vans into service. In fact, Ed. Harris's livery barn was one of the busiest business establishments in town all winter as horse and van transportation made the great come-back.

The first clipping of interest referring to that winter's heavy snowfalls appeared in the Rosssburn Review on Dec. 15, 1955. The heading was "First Old-Time Winter". The article stated: "This is the first old-time winter — especially for some of the young generation. One pre-school youngster, viewing the variety of vans coming to town for the first time in his short life-time exclaimed 'Look at all



Snow clogged Rosssburn streets following the big March blizzard in 1956. This photo depicts the large amount of snow piled up after bulldozers cleared the streets partially, although approximately another foot of snow had to be plowed off to get down to the street surface.

those toilets coming into town behind the horses — and there's stoves in them too'." The next item stated further "Turkey Trail Blocked. All week, since Sunday, the Turkey Trail has been blocked to car travel owing to extremely heavy snow and drifting. The mail-truck driver certainly merits commendation for getting the mail through even when the bus didn't make it." Needless to say when the Turkey Trail was blocked to car travel, the condition of side roads was hopeless as far as car travel was concerned.

The winter of 1955-56 continued to be a severe one, with blocked country roads, and booming business at the livery barn until our April 5, 1956 issue recorded this article under a heading "It's History". The article stated: "Highway isolation ended for this western Manitoba centre at 11:45 a.m. Wednesday morning (April 4) when a Royal Mail truck reached town over roads opened by bulldozers from Russell junction with No. 4. Thus the first mail reached town since the 26th of last month, which was also the last date a bus was seen in town. However the C.N.R. can well sit back and smile, as they were bringing service to town as soon as last Friday, five days ahead of highway traffic. However, their passenger service is not of sufficient value to take place of the bus that could not get through."

Further comment on the isolation of Rosssburn in that storm is quoted: "To say that the village was perturbed by the turn of events is an understatement. The delay in opening the road until the sun had caused the snow to pack (originally the snow was very powdery) had the village and surrounding area practically up in arms. Although they (roads) were open a day or so sooner, Angusville, Vista and to a certain extent Oakburn (residents) were not too

happy about the neglect shown. Someone definitely slipped in the allocation of snowplows. It is thus that Easter 1956, in part as it effects the re-uniting of families for a few days, was a disappointment to hundreds of families in this area. The area was completely isolated except for one lone passenger train that came in Friday loaded with holidayers and returned as scheduled Saturday. Many had come part way by bus, then taking the train in complete belief that the government road equipment would open the highway, and then they could return by bus Sunday. The fact that mail was not received on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Monday, Tuesday, magnified the problem."

This has been the story of the last of the old-time winters. Will this type of winter ever return?

Frost Damaged Crops

The 1982 crop season will be remembered as one of much frustration and disappointment throughout Rossburn area as the August frost brought a sudden end to gardens and created havoc amongst crops that were immature! This type of frustration was not uncommon in the days of the pioneers, although they were plagued by an additional danger in the way of prairie fires.

Historical accounts indicate that in the 80s and 90s of the last century, frosts — early enough to cause crop damage, were not uncommon. By carefully researching the original manuscript of "Reminiscences of the Rossburn Pioneers", the family stories indeed record a lot of history from which information can be obtained about agriculture in this area.

One of the pioneer stories contained in that interesting historical account tells us that in 1884 the wheat was all frozen on a farm near the present Rossburn townsite. The pioneer recalled that it was "one of the drawbacks he had hoped to avoid in leaving the valley". In 1888, the crop was so badly frozen on August 8th that some "pioneer farmers did not even cut it." Other comments of that year termed it the year of the "crop failure" and "we had to burn our wheat". Another pioneer family recalled that "in 1888 the wheat was too badly frozen to use for seed, but south of Shoal Lake, although it was frozen, it would, and did grow". Another pioneer recalled that in 1890 his crop was frozen and fit only for feed — also in 1891 and 1892.

Yet, amidst these discouraging accounts which concerned the length of the growing season in the 1880s and early 1890s, there was always optimism. "Although we often had our crops frozen, we never did have a crop failure", stated another pioneer.

Another pioneer commented in "Reminiscences of the Rossburn Pioneers" that "I found, as did many

of the others, that to rely on crops alone was out of the question so I turned to many other things". He also recalled that his first crop, in 1883, was frozen badly. This undoubtedly influenced the importance placed on livestock as means of diversifying income in early days. This importance placed on livestock even in the days of settlement, also accounts for the long history of local interest and involvement in creameries and cheese plants.

Hail Storms

One of the most dreaded sights on a hot, summer day, is the towering cumulo-nimbus cloud that foretells the possibility of impending disaster in the form of hail and wind. That disaster, which can be the scourge of a farmer's work and investment for the growing season, is, of course the threat of a hail storm. Through the past century, numerous hail storms have struck portions of the district, bringing bitter disappointment to farmers whose crops were in the storm's path. These storms have occasionally vented their destructive forces on the village itself.

In July 1939, one of these severe summer hail storms struck Rossburn and smashed all the storefront windows in town. All the windows in the Rossburn Flour Mill were amongst those smashed. Even the roof of the Flour Mill was pulverized. A new metal roof had to be installed by the village blacksmith following the ferocious storm.

Numerous other storms have been damaging in their fury . . . however, the storm of July 1939 was still sufficiently vivid in the memory of a former Rossburnite, to merit being recorded in this account of Rossburn's history.

In more recent years, Vista district was the target of one of the fierce summer storms that cause considerable damage. At 6:30 a.m., Wednesday, August 27, 1969, the area south of Vista was struck by a severe storm. One eye-witness report to the Rossburn Review at that time told the following report: "Lightning struck a granary of Jim Lillie's burning the granary and contents. Further east the winds lifted a metal bin over a farm home. Melvin Woychyshyn had two grain bins destroyed, the garage smashed and car damaged. Trees were knocked down and many uprooted. Crops received damage and gardens were destroyed, Mrs. G. M. Halliday's garden being one of the unfortunate ones. Hay was lifted out of bales on the Tom Halliday farm and blown around, while at the Bill Shwaluk farm a garage was lifted — ending up in the field while two vehicles standing in the building were left standing as they were. It would appear the winds were of the tornado type." At the time this storm was thought to be the most severe storm to strike for many years.

Other Oddities

The U.F.O. Case

One of the most intriguing, yet still unexplained phenomenon to ever occur in this area, was an occurrence that fitted into the U.F.O. category. The event occurred some time during the first week-end of September 1977. Newspaper accounts published at that time, included in some detail, all information that could be compiled regarding the occurrence.

The Rossburn Review account was headlined "Was It U.F.O.'s or Vandalism? Mysterious Events Occur In Area". The article stated further:

"Considerable crop damage has been caused on Mike Pomehichuk's farm 4 miles south-west of Rossburn by a series of unexplained circular landing (?) marks in his wheat fields.

Vandalism cannot be ruled out, but if the 15 foot circular marks in the fields were made by anything from this world, the pranksters would have to be of an intelligence beyond that of anyone here without a great imagination!

The thing or things unknown, possibly even a

UFO, left 15 ft. circles when the standing grain was crushed to the ground in a circular swirling pattern. The inside 6 feet of the doughnut shaped circle was untouched — the whole pattern being that of an inverted saucer coming down from above the crop.

What made these markings in the crop — what metallic object or objects moved or walked between the circles — why was one circle some distance away larger than all the rest?

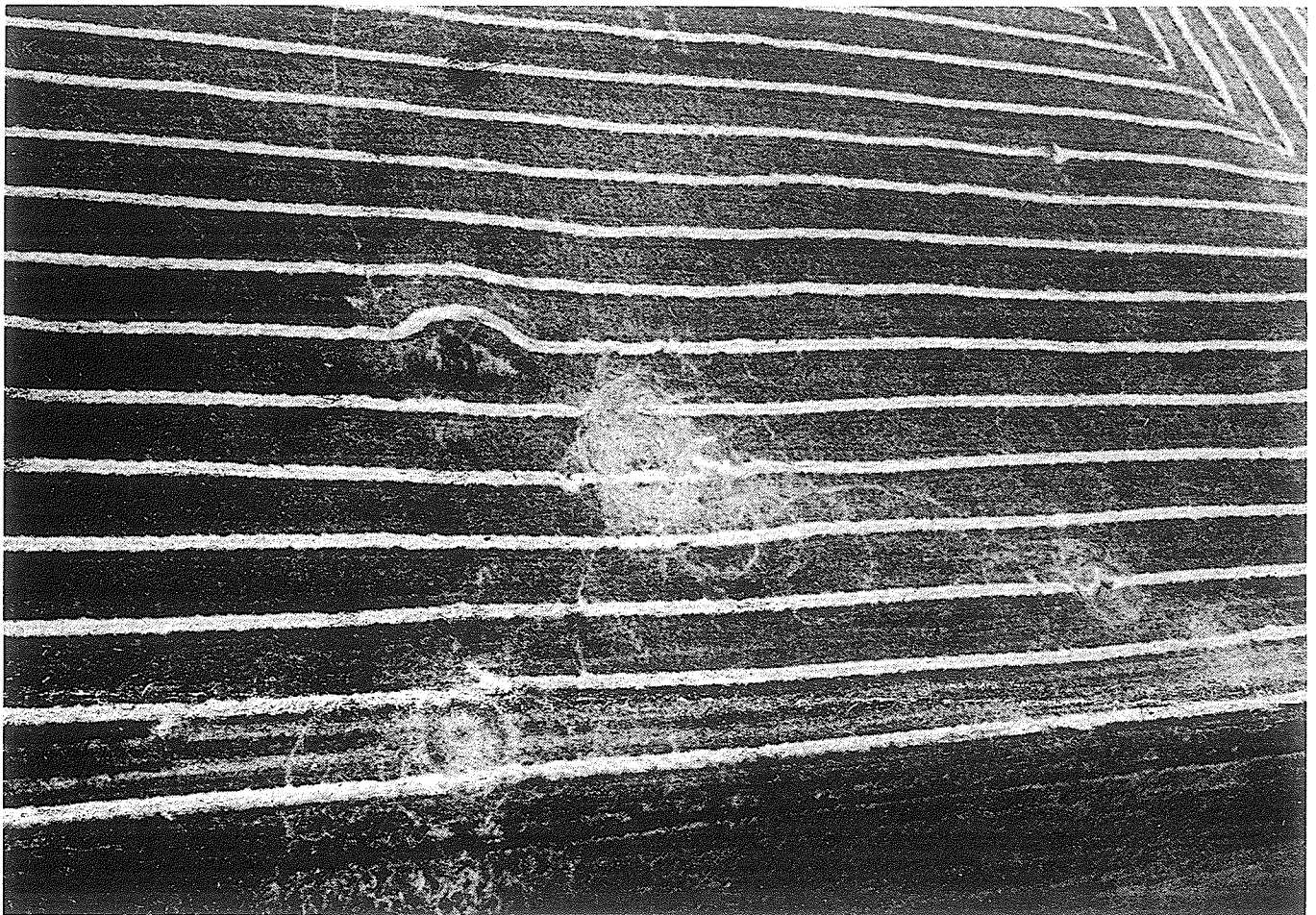
The answer may never be known for sure, but those interested in UFO phenomena are extremely interested, as are those who just can't figure it out.

In a call to the Review, the Manitoba Centre for UFO Studies at the Manitoba Planetarium, 190 Rupert Ave., Winnipeg, Man., R3B 0N2. Ph. 956-2830, would appreciate information about this or any other unexplained sightings from our readers.

The markings were first noticed during swathing operations on Sunday afternoon."

The next issue of the local weekly newspaper contained the following item under the heading "No Solutions To Mystery Markings".

"Something hit a grain field from above, east of



(Photo courtesy Brandon Sun.)

Oakburn. Some things lit in a grain field south-west of Rosssburn. Were these two incidents related or was the incident east of Oakburn just a falling meteorite and the Rosssburn sighting a completely unrelated event. In any event some mysterious and unexplainable events occurred and after nearly two weeks, it appears as if the events will remain unexplained.

On Saturday, your editor accompanied Chris Rutkowski, of the Manitoba UFO Organization, Winnipeg, and two fellow observers investigating the sighting. They are at a loss as to the explanation of the markings in Mike Pomehichuk's wheat field. However, they took soil and grain samples from the circular markings. The resemblance to the markings at a Langenburg, Sask., site several years ago was noted, except for signs of heat or scorching of the grain in the circles. It is expected to be some time before results of their investigations are known."

The UFO Case at Rosssburn remained unexplained, although this report following an investigation of the case, was obtained from the investigating group, Ufology Research of Manitoba.

"Rosssburn Manitoba Case 770904.1 Followup.

In July, 1978, results were received of tests conducted on soil and grain samples taken from the Rosssburn site. The tests indicated that no heat whatsoever played any part in the formation of the rings, as could be detected. This is interesting in that most trace cases associated with UFO's contain some evidence of scorching or searing. However, the famous Langenburg trace case had no scorching of the grain as well. This strengthens the tie between the two cases to some extent. Similarly, neither the Langenburg nor the Rosssburn grain were dead, but both were flattened, perceptibly and definitely.

A peculiar feature of the Rosssburn rings was the fact that the flattened grain was a definite darker color and hue than grain which was swathed and compared with after the finding of the site. This blackening was attributed to some sort of burning of the grain by whatever had caused the rings. The tests performed on the grain showed that the darkening was due to the presence of fungi. The grain, since it had been flattened and laying on the soil for many days, had acquired the fungi while it was on the ground. To dispel any such notions, however, it must be stated that the fungus responsible was not the fairy ring mushroom, a favorite culprit in explanations proposed for ring traces investigated by the National Research Council. (as an aside, the NRC's Dr. Mac-Namara has concluded that the Langenburg rings were caused by the fairy ring mushroom.)

What, then, could have caused the formation of the rings? A professor at the University of Wyoming, who prefers to remain anonymous, and acts as an

occasional consultant for MCUFOS, proposed that the rings could have been caused by either weak tornadoes or strong dust devils. The former would require that the area had experienced severe weather in the period of time previous to the discovery of the Rosssburn rings. As this would include all of August, the possibility of severe weather having occurred in that time is high, since that month is prone to such weather. The area residents do in fact recall some days of foul weather in that month. The question is, of course, whether a tornado did cause the rings or not. No one reported seeing a tornado in the area during the suspect period. This does not mean, though, that none had occurred. Could a tornado have produced the rings (eleven or more in number) without being seen by residents of the area? The suggestion, in strictest scientific objectivity, is not beyond the realm of possibility.

On the other hand, a strong dust devil could have been responsible. This would not require foul weather, but merely the opposite. Heat would cause, under certain conditions, a rising of air similar to a low pressure system. The updraft would possibly form a dust devil, essentially a thin spiral of air, especially in the area near a plowed field. Again, in August, this could have easily have been the case at Rosssburn. But was one responsible? It is hard to say.

A supposed snag in the tornado/dust devil theory could be the fact that some of the rings were situated underneath low-hanging telephone lines. It was suggested that any strong and irregular movement of air would have disrupted the lines. However, once again, probability rules that might not have occurred.

The major factor, it seems, is whether natural or unnatural phenomena created the rings. As stated in the initial Rosssburn report, no UFO sighting was associated with the incident. This means that the case is not a CE2, but only an EV, with a suggestion of UFO cause. However, since the rings bear such a strong resemblance to the Langenburg traces, and also that Rosssburn is only about 40 air miles from Langenburg, it seems that the two are related incidents. Other similar rings have been reported in the area, some with associated UFO reports, and others not. Such sites are at Oakburn, Miniota and Basswood, all in Manitoba. For the rings with no associated UFO report, they cannot be said to have been caused by UFO's since no UFO's were seen. But alternatively, they cannot be said to have been caused by tornadoes or dust devils, using the same reasoning.

Using Occam's Razor (the simplest theory is probably correct) is actually invalid, since the tornado theory is as complex as the UFO theory. It is the writer's opinion that if the Rosssburn rings can be

explained in conventional terms, then even the Langenburg rings must be examined in a new light.

Recently, in the first week of August, 1978, four circular rings were discovered in a field on the perimeter of Winnipeg, and the writer was called in to give his opinion. Three of the rings were well-formed, two being 15 meters in diameter and the other 20 meters, exactly and with negligible eccentricity. The former had a ring width of 275 centimeters, and the latter approximately 200 cm.

Two rings were touching with a common tangent, with one ring having the grass swirled counterclockwise, and the other clockwise. This fact was curious in that this is reported in many UFO ring cases.

Investigators were almost ready to admit defeat when a more thorough examination of the rings was undertaken, and area residents were questioned in depth. Finally a resident was located who observed a four-wheel-drive vehicle creating the rings one day in July. In addition, tire marks were located leading out of one ring.

Additional evidence was soon located that this indeed was the cause. The striking thing was that the rings bore a strong resemblance to the Rossburn traces, barring the size.

A truck or similar such vehicle did not create the Rossburn rings. Not only were no tire tracks in the field, but when a truck did enter the field to investigate, it got stuck and had to be pulled out.

It is definitely too premature to make any judgement on the nature of the Rossburn rings. They remain a mystery, and the case remains open in the MUFOS files.

Further information on this intriguing phenomenon was received when Chris Rutkowski, of Uforom — Ufology Research of Manitoba, added his personal report on the rings.

"First of all, since no actual UFO was seen in connection with the rings, the case was **not** a UFO case, but what is termed an "Evidence" case, abbreviated as EV. If there had been UFO activity associated with the incident (e.g. if it was seen to land, producing the rings), the case would be a UFO case called a "Close Encounter of the Second Kind", abbreviated as CE2. (CE3, as you well know, is a movie, involving the "next" kind of UFO case.) However, the rings were so similar to previously-reported rings from CE2 cases elsewhere (like at Langenburg in 1974), that it seemed that the rings could indicate a UFO landing.

I inspected eleven rings, which varied in size from eight to twenty feet, and were strikingly symmetric. No scorch marks were visible, though grain which was "inside" the rings was noticeably darker than grain "outside" the rings. This was examined

and found to be more than likely caused by rain washing dirt over the grain, though, since the darkening of the rings was seen as soon as the rings were discovered, and other tests seem to bear this out. However, "just in case", the grain samples have been sent to a laboratory in the United States for a fuller analysis, and I am waiting for the results.

Neither soil nor grain samples were found to be radioactive, though what radioactivity there might have been may have been washed away or decayed before the samples were taken.

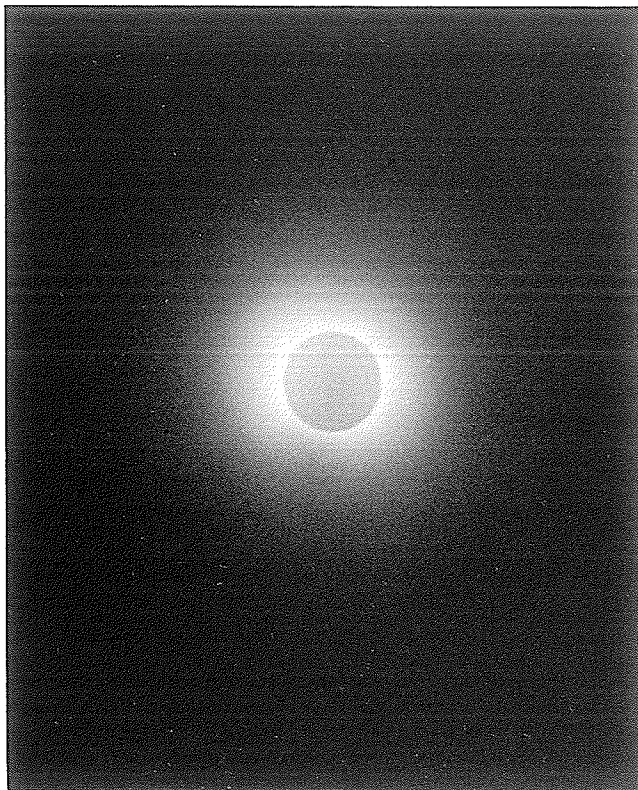
The true nature of the "paths" and "footprints" noted near the rings could not be determined, in the light of the damage done by curious individuals who accidentally ruined some of the markings. But examination of the aerial photograph taken by the Brandon Sun shows a definite spiralling pattern to some of the paths. This spiralling pattern suggested to a Professor in the Department of Atmospheric Sciences at the University of Wyoming that the rings could have been caused by a strong "dust devil" or a small tornado.

Aerial photographs of tornado-caused spiralling patterns were compared and found to be similar to the patterns at Rossburn. But the actual rings in the grain were only minimally comparable to each other, at least from the photographs used for comparison. Various other meteorologists were consulted, and they were split on the possibility or impossibility of the tornado theory. While the theory is certainly a possible explanation for the rings, it has its problems, as do other explanations, including the UFO landing theory. Being totally objective, as science must be, our conclusions are that there is insufficient evidence to flatly state that a UFO landed on Mr. Pomehychuk's farm. However, there is **also** insufficient evidence to state that a tornado (or dust devil) created the rings, the same applying to the vandalism theory (i.e. that pranksters were responsible). That the rings are unusual cannot be denied.

But there is **circumstantial** evidence to indicate that the rings may have been caused by UFO activity. Near Langenburg, Saskatchewan, in 1974, nearly identical rings were found in connection with observed UFO's on the ground. That in itself is curious. In addition, in November of 1975, a person travelling near Strathclair saw an "orange, glowing object", resembling "an inverted cup", slowly moving at a low altitude near the town. The inverted cup-shape is entirely consistent with the Langenburg UFO's as well as what would be required for the shape of a UFO deemed responsible for the Rossburn rings. And, at McAuley in 1967, five swirled rings were found in grain, consisting each of a large ring in one

direction, and a concentric ring inside, swirled in the other direction.

Taking all of the incidents into consideration, I would indeed hesitate to come to a conclusion one way or another. But a cautious way of putting it (and this is **not** a “cop-out”) would be to say that the cause of the rings is still unknown. However, future sightings of UFO’s in the area (i.e. the Ryshytylo sightings, and other incidents which may occur) will definitely contribute to a better understanding of the phenomenon. In addition, if more sighting reports are investigated and brought to attention, the skeptical group of the scientific community will eventually realize that there is more to the UFO phenomenon than first meets the eye. It is obviously not “a lot of nonsense”, like many believe. Many people, not just in Manitoba, but all around the world, are seeing unconventional objects, and science can no longer afford to ignore them or “pooh-pooh” them. I for one am sincerely interested in receiving UFO reports from Manitoba. I know they exist. The witnesses know they exist. But science demands essentially that one lands on the White House lawn before it has the proof that it needs. So it goes.”



The eclipse as photographed by George Radford at the Bar C Ranch in the Birdtail Valley, west of Rosburn, on Feb. 26, 1979. While there was a light overcast at the time, George Radford's photograph of this unusual phenomenon, shows the rare complete eclipse of the sun — thus preserving a permanent record of the event.

Viewing The Past



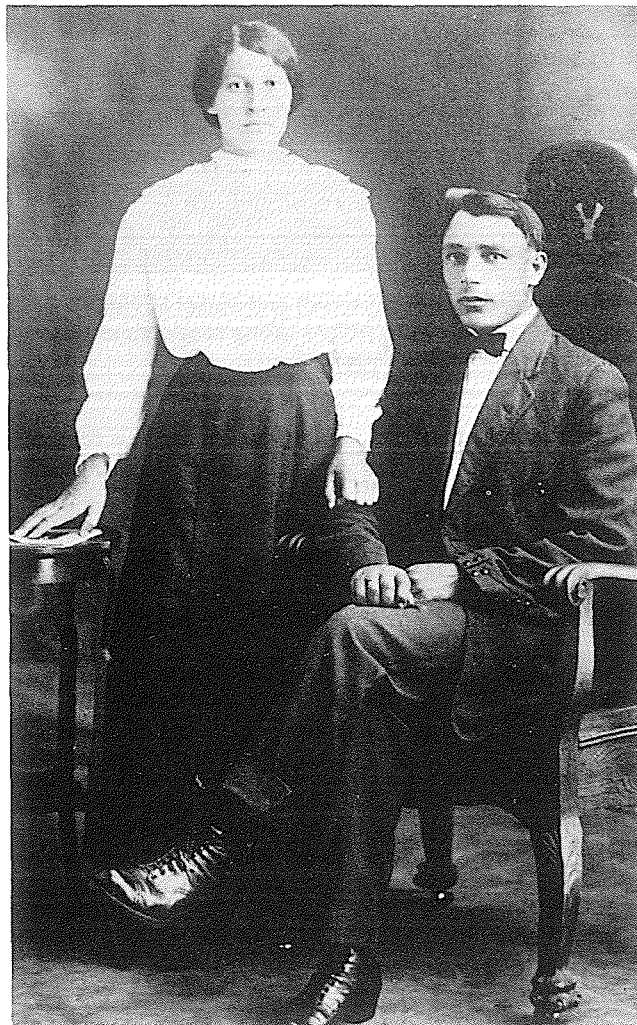
Liz Irwin (left), Gert Irwin (seated) and Mabel McKee (right) were all dressed up for this picture-taking session back in the good old days of the 1910 era.



The event can no longer be recalled when this photo was taken — but it could have been a fashion show! Left to Right: Mabel McKee, Pearl Strong, Liz Irwin, Gertie Warnock, Gertie Irwin, unidentified, Bertha Taylor.



Otto and Emma Elvers are standing beside Andrew's Radio Service vehicle back in 1938.



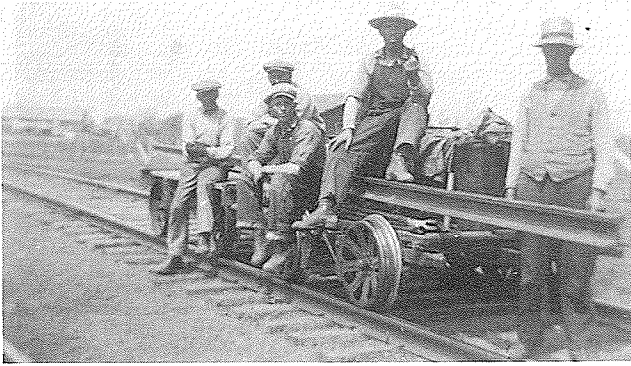
Fred and Teenie Kurchaba's Wedding Picture.



Dr. S. S. (Sam) Peikoff sits on the fender of his 400 Nash with Dave Hough.



Dr. S. S. (Sam) Peikoff playing pool at his father's pool room. In those days, pool was only 5¢ a game.



The section gang kept the CNR track in shape. Rossburn used to have one of these crews stationed here. — In fact just about every community along this branch line used to have their local section gang.



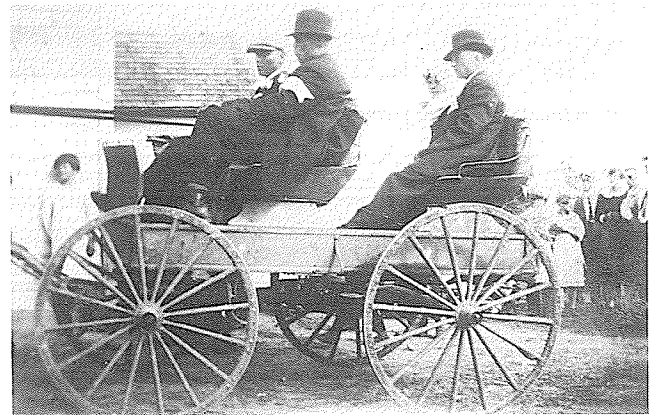
Rossburn Lions Club Santa Claus Parade in 1962 featured Santa in his sleigh with his reindeer. This event was one of the most popular efforts of the Rossburn Lions Club.



John Klym's first car, a Model A Ford.



Erected in 1970, this cairn stands in memory of William and Hannah McIntosh, pioneers.



Going to church for wedding. Front: Mike and Peter Maryniuk. Back: Peter Fiel and Mary Lazaruk.



George Saley's wood cutting pit at Mears. L to R: John Spilchuk, John Oryniak, Sam Semaniuk, Sam Sawerchuk, unidentified, Wasyl Spilchuk.



Albert Hiscock carrying pails on yoke.

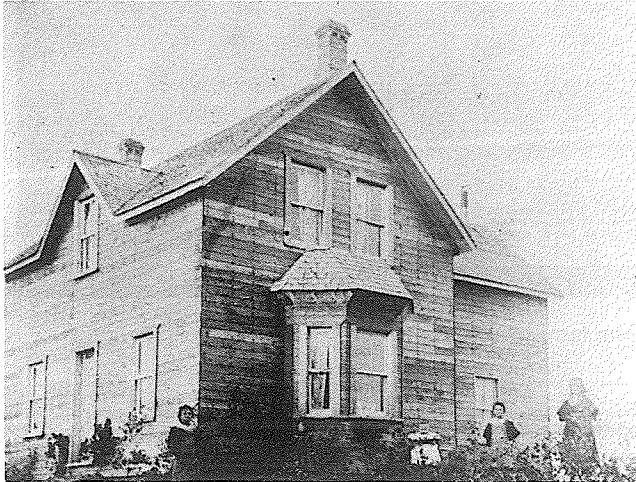


Bill Maxwell at Sawing Outfit, 1941.

Farming In Days Gone By



Four horse team hooked to a two furrow walking plow in 1921 with Alex Leschasin behind team.



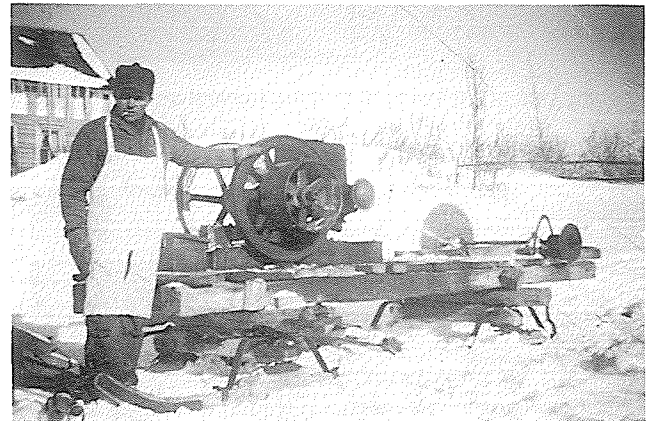
Alexander MacDonald's house built in 1898. (birthplace of his daughter, Mrs. Flora Forde, author of Vista Community History)



Mrs. Flora Forde.



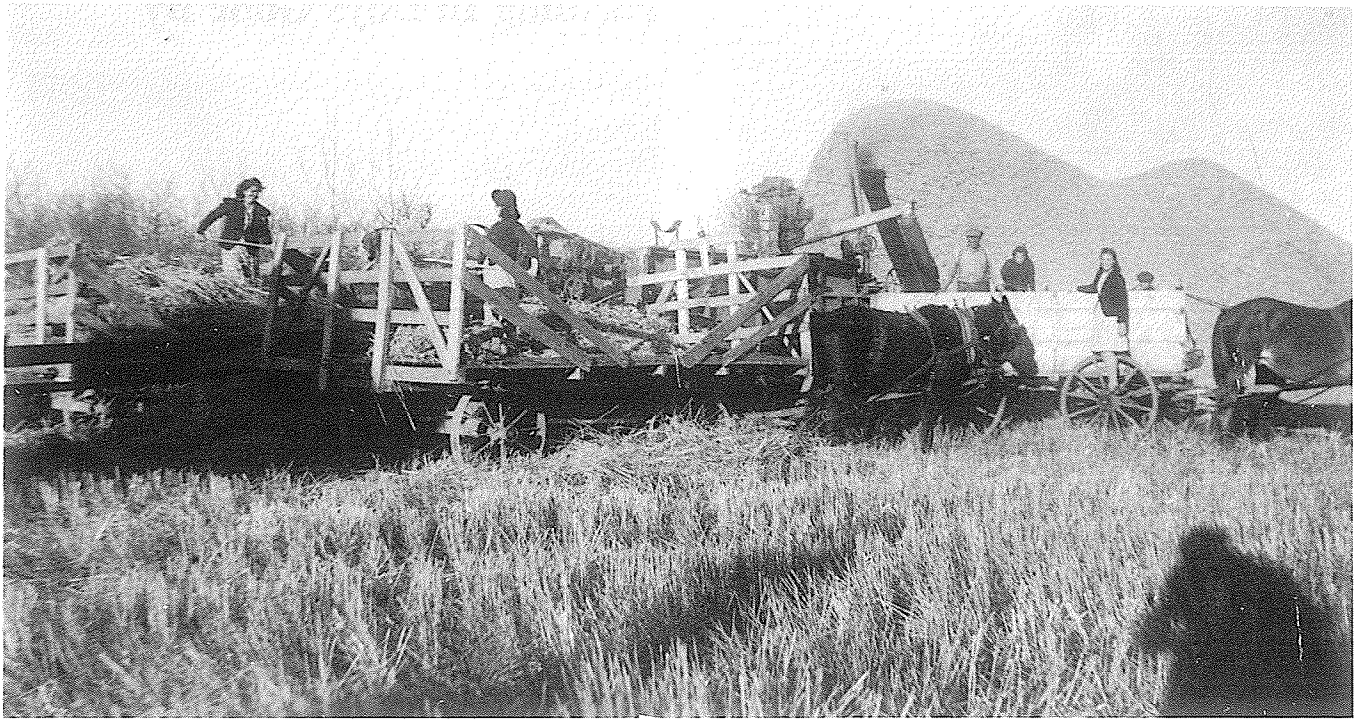
Horse power was the reliable means of transportation in the good old days.



John Gumieny with his distillate-powered stationery wood cutting engine in the 1940s.



Mixing clay Plaster (a mixture of clay and straw) for walls of Steve and Elsie Trakalo's home (1938). Front Row: L to R: Teenie Trakalo, Elmer Trakalo, Ann Shmyr, Ernest Trakalo. Back Row: L to R: John Shmyr, Mary Glushka, Pete Leschasin, Willie Antonichuk, Sam Trakalo, Pete Skoncylas, Nellie Shmyr, Ann Womitoway, Steve Trakalo, Thelma Leschasin.



Threshing was in full swing during the harvest season of 1942 on the Klym farm.

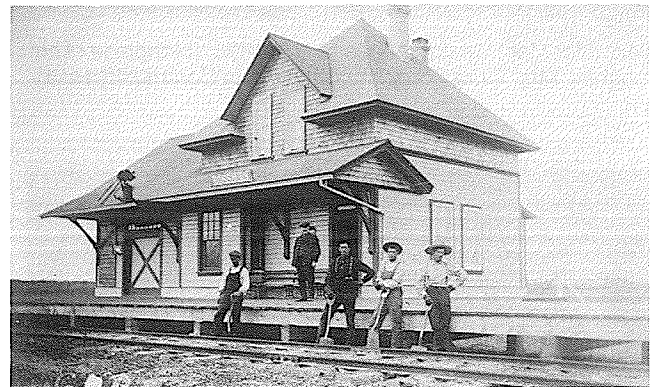


Making hay in the Forest Reserve (now Riding Mountain National Park). Shelter in background (budha) was the sleeping quarters. This 1931 photo shows L to R: Stan, John, Mike and Alex Leschasin (back to camera).

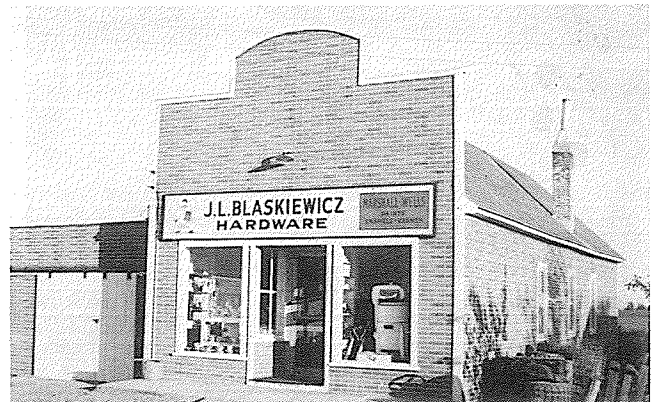


A picture from the pages of the past.

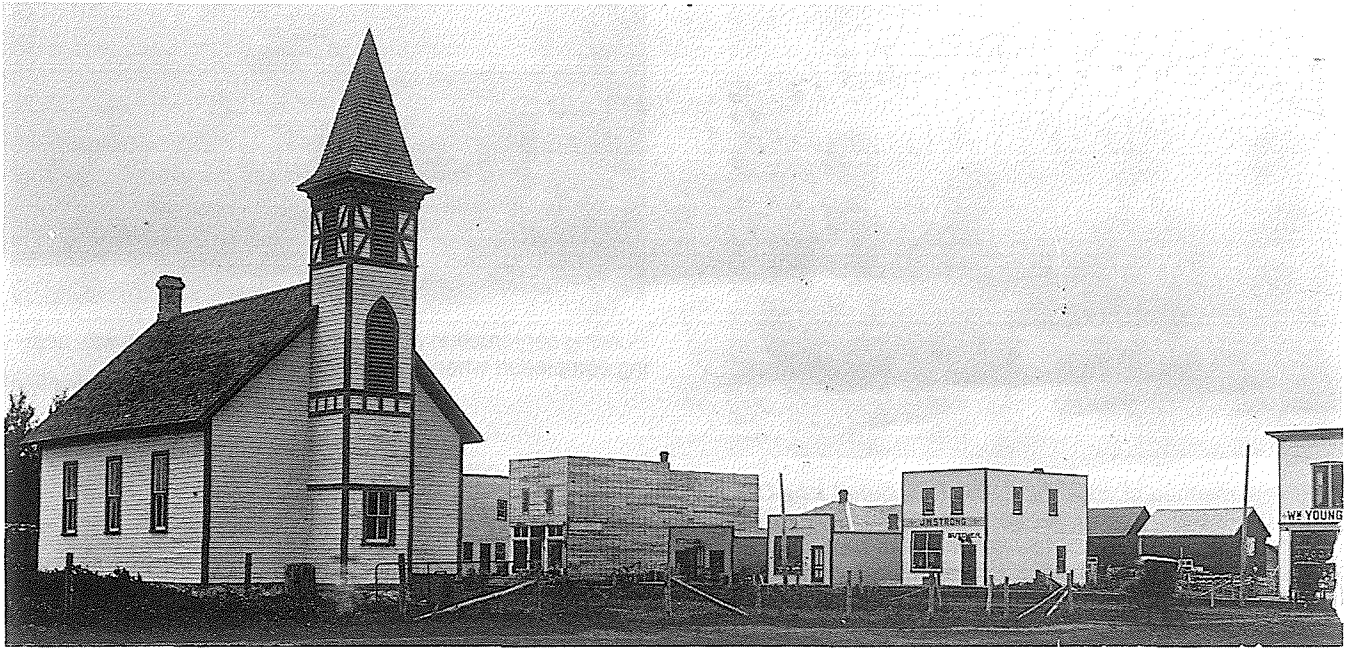
Rossburn Through The Years



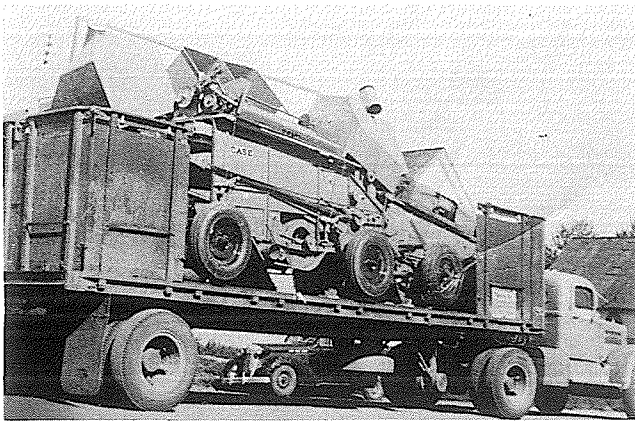
C.N.R. Station as it appeared in 1906.



J. L. Blaskiewicz Hardware Store located on the south side of Victoria Avenue East during the late 1940s and 1950s. The building was demolished after Joe Blaskiewicz's retirement.



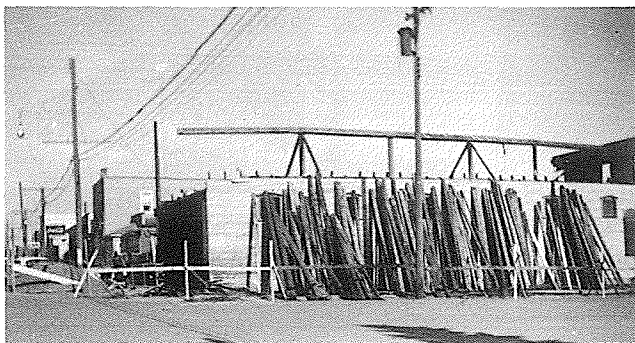
This picture was taken about 1915. From left to right: Presbyterian Church, a portion of the Massey Harris building (built by Harry Johnston with hall on the second floor, later the hospital, then the locker plant), V. W. Johnston's second store, Mrs. James' Cafe (who was later Mrs. Sam Fox), the Drug Store built by Mr. Rutherford, Jas. Irwin's butcher shop, stables at rear. Last building — corner of Wm. Young's store.



Truck transportation brought farm machinery to Rossburn back in the early 1950s.



Construction of the present Parkway Co-op Store in 1961, is seen in this picture. The building was built by Mike Kawa, who later sold the business to the Charchuks. They in turn disposed of their general store business to Rossburn Consumers Co-op Ltd.



In the above photo, demolition of the general store building built by Wm. Young, is seen as it took place in 1961. The last owner was Mike Kawa who had purchased the business from Dave Cleland.



Rossburn 1970 Centennial Parade. The old steamer was an important item in that parade.



At the final meeting of June 1978, the Rossburn Lions Club approved a donation of \$10,000 from the community services funds to purchase and provide serviced land for the new Rossburn Health Care Unit and Personal Care Home. The cheque was turned over to Rossburn District Hospital officials shortly after approval of the expenditure.

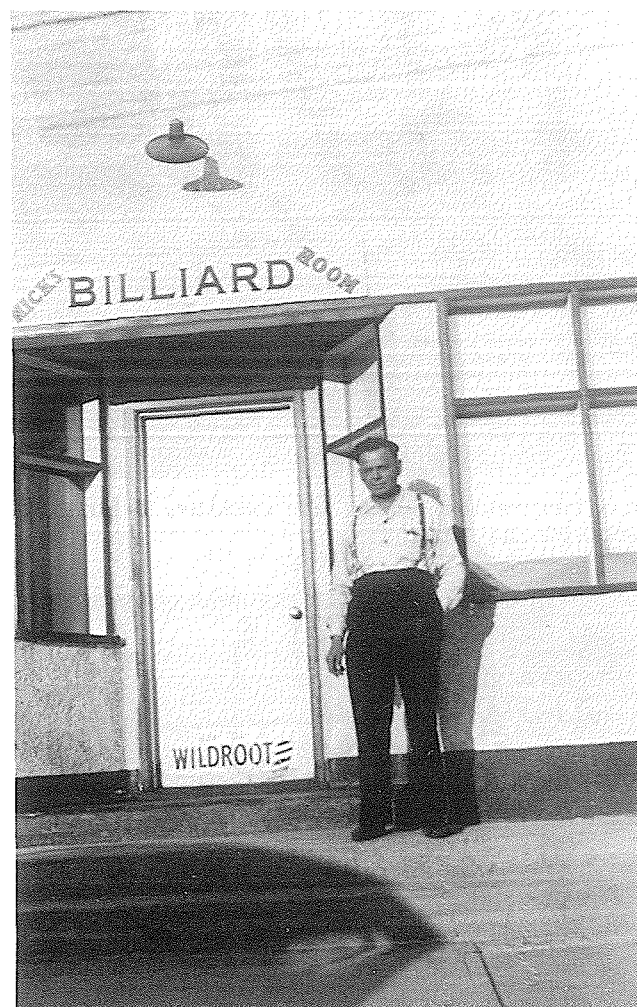
Alex Cleland, chairman of the Rossburn District Hospital Board, is pictured as he accepted the cheque from Rossburn Lions Club president at that time, Lion Miron Swintak. Also in attendance for this important event were: Mrs. Avis Stitt (left), Rossburn Hospital administrator, and Lion Rick Plaisier (right), mayor of Rossburn and Lions Club Zone Chairman.



The ribbon cutting ceremony at the Rossburn R.C.M.P. detachment offices was the occasion for this group photo of members of the force in attendance at the May 16, 1978 event. Front row, left to right, Sgt. Art Peck, Cst. Bob Rachel, Supt. J. R. Corley, Cst. Ron Lamabe. Back Row, left to right: Cst. Fred Nicks, Cst. Del Schumack, Cst. Pat O'Reilly. Supt. J. R. Corley is from Brandon, while all other personnel are members of the Rossburn detachment. Cst. Lamabe was in civies due to an ankle operation.



Building construction at Monarch Building Supplies was nearing completion when this picture was taken in 1978.



Nick Chopp standing in front of his poolroom.

The following is list of Councillors elected
in the school house at Rossburn on Sunday
the 2nd 1884 no others being nominated

Thomas Young, Reeve.

Alexander Cumming and Robt. Carson
for Ward No 1

R. R. Peden and S. S. Warnock for
Ward No 2

James Young and Thom. Buchanan
for Ward No 3 of the Municipality of
Rossburn

I hereby certify that the above named
Reeve and Councillors was duly and
lawfully elected for the Municipality of
Rossburn for the year 1884

R R Ross Returning Officer

Council Elect Nov 1884

Reeve Thomas Young

Council

Ward No 1 R Carson & A Cumming

" No 2 R Peden & S S Warnock

" No 3 T Buchanan James Young

Members of the first council of the Rural Municipality of Rossburn.

The Council of the Municipality of Rossburn held their first meeting on the 8th of January 1884 in accordance with clause 110 of the Municipality Act all the members being present After the declaration of office had been administered Council proceeded to business when communications were read from Alex Mackenzie Geo. Munro and R.R. Ross for the office of Clerk & Treasurer from J. F. Stitt for the assessors of the Municipality

By-Laws
No 1

By-Laws No 1 was read a first second and third time and passed

Clerk & Treas
one office

Moved by Jas Young and seconded by R.R. Peden that the office of Clerk and Treasurer be filled by one man Carried

Clerk & Treas

Moved James Young and seconded by R.R. Peden that R.R. Ross be appointed Secretary Treasurer for the Municipality Carried

Assessor

Moved by R.R. Peden and seconded by R. Munro that Joseph F. Stitt be appointed assessor for the Municipality for this year

Assessor
Appointment

Moved as an amendment by J. J. Warnock and seconded by Alex Cunningham that Donald Sinclair be assessor for the Municipality for this year Carried

Sec & Treas
Salary

Moved by J. J. Warnock and seconded by R.R. Peden that the salary of the Secretary Treasurer for all duties in connection with the council be \$140⁰⁰ one hundred and forty Dollars Carried



Assessor
Salary

By-law No 2

Ward,

Constable
Appointment

Treasurer
to purchase books

Seal
Design

By-law No 2

Moved by J. S. Warnock and seconded by Robt Carson that the assessor be paid a salary of \$35.00 thirty five Dollars Carried
By-law No 2 was read a first second and third time and passed

Moved by Alex Cumming and seconded by Thomas Buchanan that Alex McDona be found keeper for ward No 1
That John Broadfoot be found keeper for ward No 2

That Robert Taylor be found keeper for ward No 2 Carried

Moved by Jas young and seconded by J. S. Warnock that Geo Sinclair be Constable for the Municipality of Rossburn for the year 1886 Carried

Moved by Robt Carson and seconded by R R Baden that the Secretary Treasurer be authorized to purchase such stationery as is necessary and also seal for the Municipality Carried

Moved by J. S. Warnock and seconded by James Young that the design on the seal be the Wood Deer Head Carried

By-law No 3 was read a first second & third time and passed

Council adjourned until the fourth of February ^{to meet} in the house of R R Baden
Jas Young Secy

Minutes of a public meeting of the rate payers of the Protestant School District of Perth No. 575 in the Province of Manitoba held on the 24th day of May 1889. in pursuance of a notice given as required by The Manitoba School Act and called for the purpose of considering and advising with the trustees of said district in respect to the question of raising or borrowing a sum of money for the purpose of erecting a school house.

The meeting having been organized by the appointment of Mr Robert Carson as Chairman and Mr Thomas Young as Secretary the following proceedings were held.

It was moved by Mr James Armstrong seconded by Mr Duncan McArthur that the trustees of this school district be authorized to borrow the sum of Six Hundred Dollars by an issue of debentures for the purpose of erecting a school house.

This motion was declared carried all the rate payers voting as follows.

For the motion. H. H. Armstrong. John McKeena D. McArthur. Jas Armstrong. Jos Stillb. Robt Carson Ed Simpson. Walter Armstrong. Tho Young

The number of freeholders whose names are entered on the assessment roll for land included within the school district is nineteen

Robert Carson
Chairman
Thomas Young Sec.

Minute, No 1. May 23rd 1913

The Council^{elect} of the Village of Rossburn met in Johnson's Hall. Signed the Declaration of Office. Took their Seats. and proceeded with the appointment of Officers.

Johnston King that a by-law be drawn up for the appointment of Officers

^{Can}
~~King Pedew~~ that R. Carson be Secretary Treas

^{Can}
Pedew Shields that W. F. Manson be Scribe for 1913

^{Can}
King: Johnston that D. Brown be Health Officer for 1913

^{Can}
Johnston Pedew. that Wm Strong be Sanitary Constable for the Village for 1913

^{Can}
Johnston King that Wm Strong be pound keeper for 1913

^{Can}
King Pedew that R. R. Hamilton be Inspector of Streets for the Village of Rossburn

^{Can}
King Shields that By-law No. 1 be read a first second and third time and passed. ^{Can}

Pedew Shields that Council do not ~~appear~~ to meet again at the ~~6th~~ ^{May} ~~the~~ ^{Can}

R. Carson Sec

Riding Mountain National Parks Committee

Resolution Passed Unanimously at a Conference of Representatives of various Municipalities, Towns and Cities, of Southern, Central, Western and Northern Manitoba, held at Neepawa, Manitoba, on October 6th, 1927; moved by F. E. Simpson, K.C., Dauphin; seconded by Robert Harrison, Minnedosa.

" This Conference, representing the Municipalities of Southern, Western, Central and Northern Manitoba, records its conviction that the Manitoba National Park should be located in the Riding Mountain Forest Reserve.

That this Conference suggest that the area of the said National Park should include the whole of the area comprised within the present boundaries of the Riding Mountain Reserve, excepting therefrom all that portion thereof lying East of Range 18, and also that portion thereof lying North of the centre line of Township 22, in Ranges 18 to 23 inclusive.

That the Government of the Dominion of Canada be memorialized to enact the legislation necessary to establish the said Park and that the Government of the Province of Manitoba be memorialized to endorse the recommendations of this Conference and that copies of this resolution be sent to the Manitoba members of the Parliament of Canada and the members of the Legislature of the Province of Manitoba with the request that they give this recommendation their endorsement and active support."

J. A. GLEN, M.P.
Chairman.

J. N. McFADDEN,
Secretary.

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The Forests of Manitoba, 1934, J. D. B. Harrison, D.
Sc. F.

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Ukrainian Greek Orthodox Church in Canada,
Odarka S. Trosky.

HAROLD SLEIGH 31	MRS. J. ANTONICHUK 31	ANDREW KIRYLIUK 32	WASYL ANDRIETZ 32	Wm. HOLLOWAY 33	SIDNEY GEARNEY 33	WASYL KARMAZENUR 34	WASYL TOPOLNISKI 34	TOM KARMARDO 35	MIKE CANSKAKA 35	NICK ANTONIUK 35	FRED DIDYCH 36	FRANK KOROWSKI 36
HRYTSKO YARMEY	JOHN ANTONICHUK	THEODORE BERZANSKI	JOHN TOPOLNISKI			ALEX BATURAK	JOHN KALYNIUK	KORNYLO CHOPP	V. SKONCYLAS	MICHAEL MARVINIUK	JOHN FIEL	
JOHN DANYLEYKO 30	WASYL ANTONICHUK	D. A. DOWNIE Co. 29		ONOFREY 28	FEDOR ABRAMCHUK 28	ANTON GREY 27	FRED ANTONOW 27	KOST TOPOLNISKI 26		JOE BOBINSKI 25	WOYTKO BOBINSKI 25	
NICK TORSKY	WASYL ANTONICHUK	GEORGE DANYLEYKO		TODOSI 28	JOHN ZAWERUCHA	MARTINDOWICH	JOHN KLYM	BASIL GENOVEY	HUDSON BAY Co.	FRANK GUMIENY	MIKE PROKOPIW	
ALEX 19 HAGGART	DMYTRO DANYLEYKO 20	DMYTRO KUZ 20		DAVID FLEMING 21		MACKO CYCHY 22	TOM GENOVY 22	FRED ANTONOW 23	INDIAN RESERVE 23	FRANK GUMIENY 24	WOYTKO GUMIENY 24	
	ANDREW KORNYK	WASYL DANYLEYKO		WASYL ANTONICHUK	METRO KOZAK	JOHN GENOVY	MARTIN GENOVEY	MRS. KITLAR	PETE SCHAWORSKI	MIKE SIDLAR	JOE BARKIN 24	PETE TOKARUK 24
ALEC HAMILTON 18	LAZARI DIMIANIUK 18	FRED DANYLEYKO 17	MRS. W. DANYLEYKO 17	MIKE DOWHAN 16	DMYTRO KOZAK 16	DMYTRO GAWRYLUK 15	FRED ANTONOW 15	FRED ANTONOW 14	STE PEN PANAS 14	NYKAFOR PANAS 13	CROWN 13	
ROBERT HAMILTON	JOSEPH SIANCHUK	WASYL DANYLEYKO	ANDREW PEDEN	DMYTRO YARMEY	MAKSYM YARMEY	FRED ANTONOW	DMYTRO KOZAK	SAM KLYM	JOHN HRANKOWSKI	FLORAN HRANKOWSKI	PETE DUTKYWICH	
JOHN DUNCANSON 7		DMYTRO YARMEY	P.W. JOHNSTON 8	H. JOHNSTON 9		CROWN-GUNY LAKE 10	NICK KITLAR 10	ALEX KITLAR 11	R. BAILEY 11	DAN CHWALUK 12	ANTON DUTKEWICH 12	
JAMES IRWIN	N. SCHARKO	ALEX BROWN	HARRY JOHNSTON	W.M. PEDEN		ALEX NOYCHYSHYN	WOYTKO CZYKLO 10	MIKE BODOWSKI 10	CROWN 11	ROMAN EMBASZYN 11	DMYTRO LEPSHAK 11	TOM KIEZ 12
Wm. MANSON 6	ALEX BROWN 6	Jos. PLASTOW 5		JOHN TOMCHYSHYN 4	JOHN KARMAZAN 4	WASYL SIDLAR 3	ALEX KITLAR 3	WASYL LOSHKA 2	WASYL SHMYR 2	VICTOR SHMYR 1	GEORGE YASKIW 1	
				FRANK BLASKIEWICZ	NICK SIDLAR	GUS DOWHAN	WASYL SIDLAR	JOHN MUZENSKI	SAFRON SHARAPATA 2	PAUL SLOBODESKI 2	PAUL SLOBODESKI 1	TROCHIM MACKEDENSKI 1

Township 20
Range 24

NICHOLA MUSHEY 31	C R O W N	FRED WUSHKA 32	ALEX BOYCHUK	ANTON KONYK 33	MIKE ROGASKY 34	SAM STASHINEC	MAKEY PRODAN	JOHN SKOMODOWSKI 35	GORDON PLANT	MACKEY SKOMODOWSKI 36	STANLEY KOROLYK
WASYL USHEY		ELKO KONYK	DOMINEK MUSHMANSKI	PETER PUSHKA	STEVE ROGASKY	NICOLA BELBAS	MICHAEL BABYCHOK	MIKE PRODAN	TOM OBEDNIAK, SR.	MIKE KUZENKO, SR.	WASYL KUZENKO, SR.
STEFAN KUTZAN 30	ROMAN HALOWSKI	MIKE MUSHUMANSKI 29	ANTHONY OLYNYK	FRED PUSHKA 28	SAMUEL PUSHKA	WASYL KABAN	WASYL BILAWKA	MIKAILD KUZENKO	TONKO VERBOWSKI	PROKIP MELNYK	HARRY DEYDEY
PETRO KRYSKO	HAYN SPIRAK	PETER GENSIOREK		TROPHIM DUTCHAK	JOHN DERKACH	NICK DERKACH	JOE ELLIOTT	JOHN MCKIETIUK	NICK VERBOWSKI	NICHOLA OBEDNIAK	WASYL BEREZA
HARRY WUSHKA 19	WALTER KAMINSKI	NICOLA JUCE	JOHN GENSIOREK	JOE 21 LAIRD	SIMON STORDZUK	SAM CROOKSHANKS	HNAT KOSTIN	ORYNA KOSTIUK	DON CAMERON	SAMUEL MARTIN	24
JOE GENSIOREK	ANTHONY MAGNOWSKI	JOHN DUNITZ	20								
YASKO JAVRA 18	FRED SOKALSKI	HENRY ARBURY	WASYL NAHIRNIAK	WASYL NAHIRNIAK	BYNADA LASKOWSKI	JOHN 15 REINHART	ANDREW CROOKSHANKS	DONALD CAMERON	13	Wm PLANT	12
NICHOLA UKRAINETZ	JOHN WERBOVETSKY	GEORGE FARDELL	MICHAEL HORITCHIE + PETER GLUCH	MICHAEL BEREZA	JOE PENONZEK						
STEVE UKRAINETZ 7	JOHN ROSS	DAN PENONZEK	WM. HYRA	JACOB MAYOWSKI	JOE PENONZEK	ANDREW BARNESKY, SR.	MICHAEL EWANCHUK	JOHN A. PLANTE	GORDON PLANTE	GORDON PLANTE	Wm COCHRANE
JAMES HOGG	SANKEY KARFIUK	MRS. M. BEREZA	J.C. DUDLEY	STEVE BARNESKI	JOHN SCHWALM	WASYL SEMENIUK	JOHN SEMENIUK	JOHN KARMAZENIUK	WM. BEN MARTIN	11	12
JOS. DROSDOWSKI	ALEX MAZUR	JOHN 5 REINHART	ANTHONY PENONZEK	JOSEPH MERRITT	FRED EWANCHUK	THORPE BRIGHTWELL	JOHN KARMAZENIUK	ALVAH G. WAKEFIELD	BEN MARTIN	JOHN A. SMITH	1
NICK KOLAKOWSKI	MICHAEL HUBINSKI										
			JOHN KOWALCHUK		JOHN EWANCHUK		JOSEPH MERRITT		HENRY SLEIGH		

Township 21
Range 25