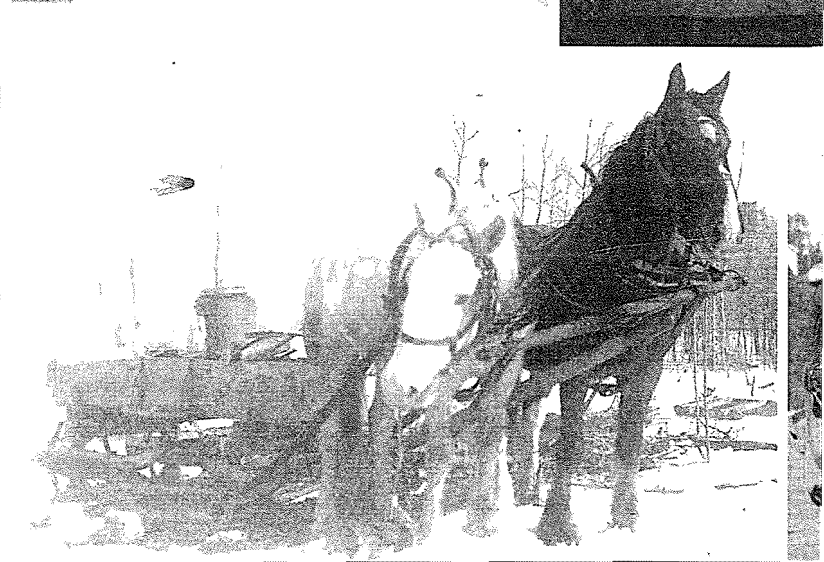
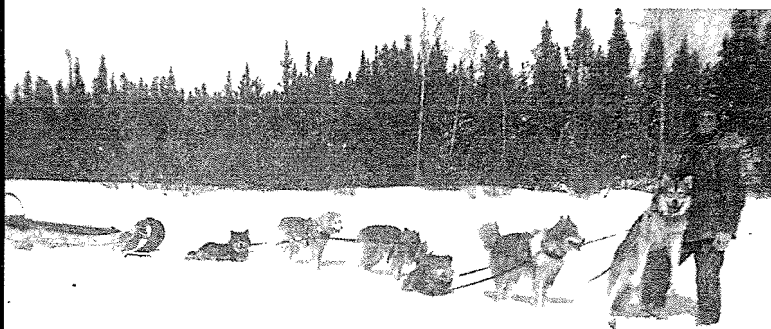
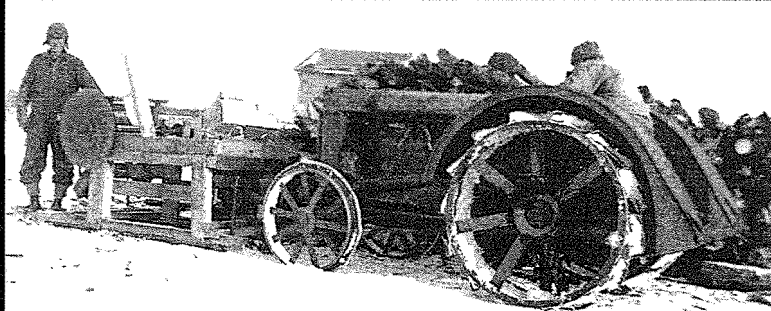
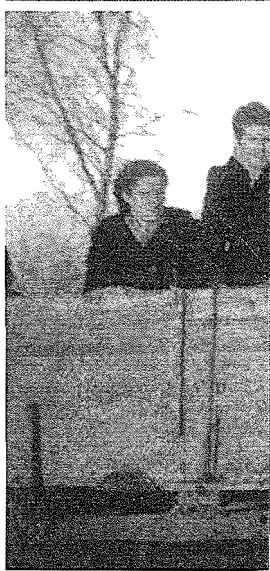
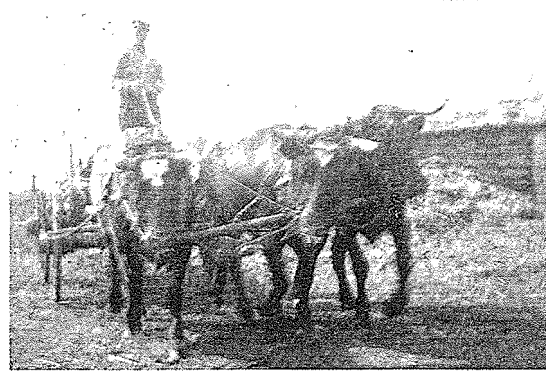
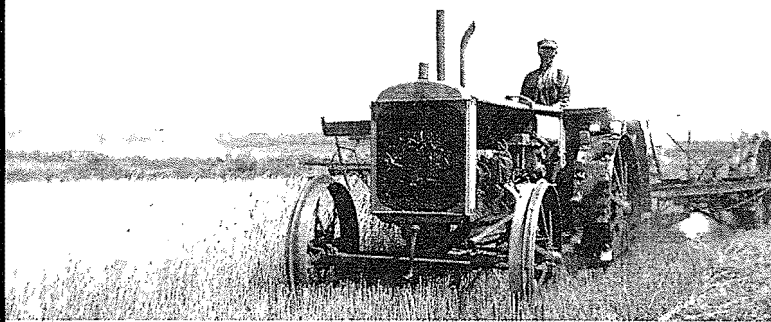
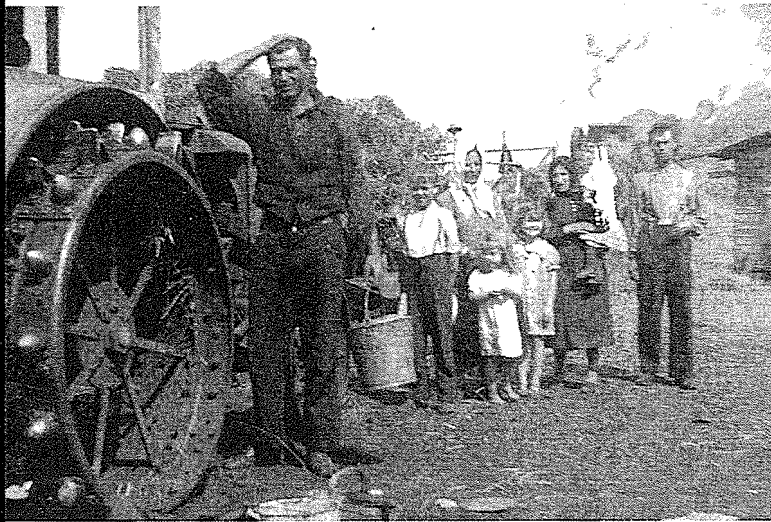
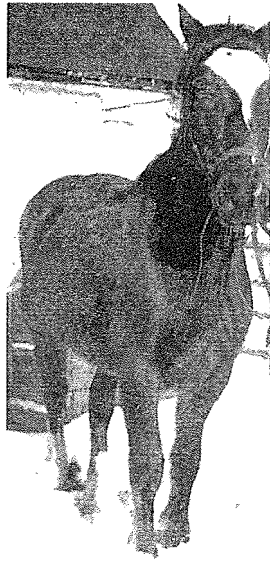
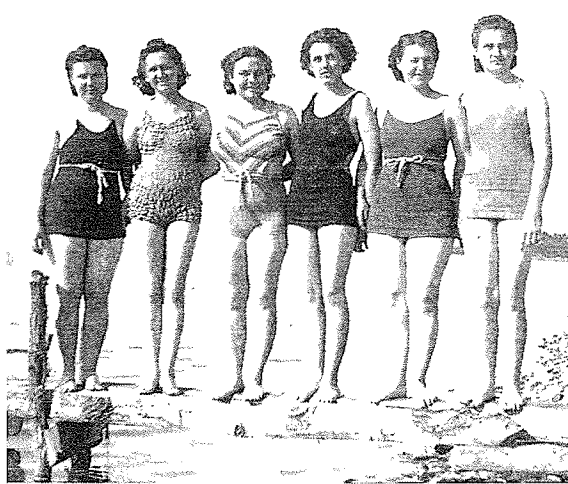
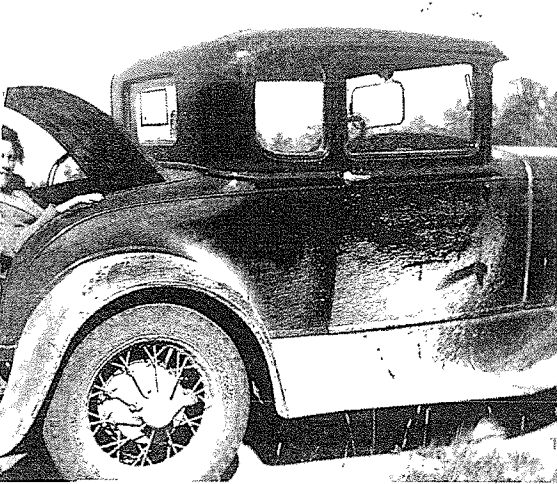
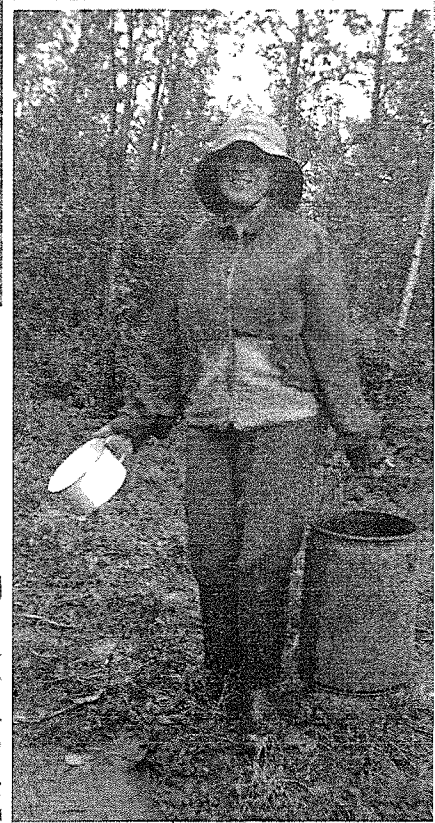
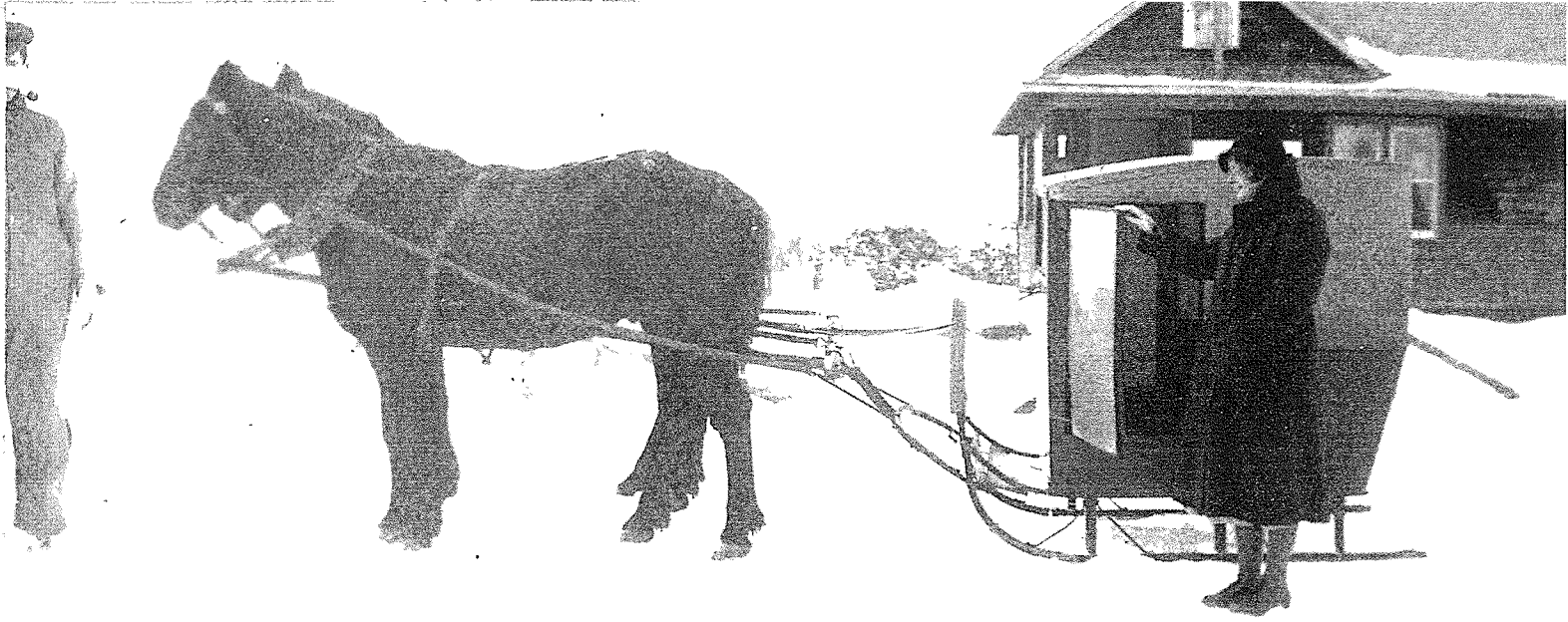


OPENING THE DOOR - THE PAST COMES ALIVE!



RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF LAWRENCE





**Opening the door
The past comes alive!
The History of
The Rural Municipality of Lawrence**

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Table of Contents

The Indigenous People	1	Horyn	93
The First Settlers	3	Magnet	119
Military	5	Methley	173
The Rural Municipality of Lawrence	15	Million	187
Medical	22	Moose Bay	207
Fishing	23	Oak Brae	227
Agriculture	26	Rorketon	239
Activities	28	Toutes Aides	419
Abbotshall	37	Weiden	477
East Bay	53	Anecdotes	498
Freedale	81	Pictures of Interest	504

Acknowledgements

The members of the History Book Committee would like to thank all those who contributed to the history book by providing their family histories and who have entrusted us with their valuable photographs and documents.

We would like to offer a special thanks to the senior citizens who warmly welcomed us into their homes, so proudly to reminisce. "The heart never grows old." Thier body may not be as supple; thier step may have slowed. Our seniors have experienced much along the way. They have the time now to look back and appreciate the beauty that was left to all of us. Their minds remain sharp, sometimes with sorrow, but more often a spark in their eyes that reveals the joy in the telling of a good story. It gives us pride to be able to record these stories.

We would like them to know it was indeed a privilege for us to meet with them and we will cherish these memories for a lifetime.

Although the dates that appear throughout this book have been thoroughly researched, there may be some discrepancies. However, to our knowledge, they are correct. Personal histories have been edited because of limited space and to avoid duplication.

We regret if there are errors or omissions; they are not intended. With a project like this it is not always possible to get all the information, but we have done our best.

It may be hard to imagine the history of the R.M. of Lawrence in all its past splendour and glory, the businesses, the booms that came and went. Now that history is recorded in a book which we hope will be a precious document for future generations.

We, Alix Harpelle and Jeneatt Latulippe, have contributed our time for the past two years to preserve this important part of our lives. The publication of this book is our finest reward. We would like to thank the following who have contributed their many hours of work into the making of this book.

Elaine Bonnett and Donna Chuipka who entered and printed information on computer.

Steve Gingera, Gary Hooper, John Pshebniski, and Lorraine Normandeau for proofreading.

John Remniak for his research and write-up on Horyn and the Veterans.

Chris Honish and Hilda Murray for recording personal histories and placing pictures.

Bill and Gloria Rehaluk for their various contributions.

Because there are too many names to mention, we would like to express our appreciation to those who have contributed in any way in compiling this book.

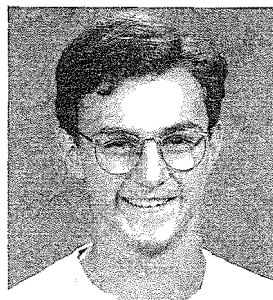
Thank you to everyone, especially our homesteaders, who left us a legacy we are proud to have documented.



Alix Harpelle



Jeneatt Latulippe



Jazmen Larocque



Stephanie Remniak

Dedication

We, the R.M. of Lawrence History Book Committee, dedicate this book to the memory of the pioneers. They toiled from sunrise to sunset with perseverance and determination. They built this country and left us a place to call home. We express our deepest gratitude to them. Hopefully we can fulfil their dreams.

God bless them all.

The Pioneer

How would you like to have lived in this land,
No roads, no bus, no car on hand.
To most who live now, it would be a shock,
If you made your living digging rock.

The pioneer, he hit the dust
He had to move, he could rust.
In the winter's snow and summer's heat,
He had to work, or could not eat.

By the strength of his back
And the sweat of his brow
He turned up the sod
With a walking plough.

But we of course, are of sterner stuff.
We ask for help if the going's rough,
So we never think of increasing pace,
So finish our days as a welfare case.

So when our days are over
And our work on earth is done;
When we go to that place,
That is higher than the sun;

And as we reach that golden gate,
We need not ever fear.
The first one in that better place
Will be our humble pioneer.

Author unknown

To All Pioneer Mothers

You may have your splendid ladies,
With their pompadours and charms,
With their flowing chiffon dresses,
And bouquets in their arms.

With their perfumes and their powders,
And their bodies tightly laced,
But the woman I love most
Has an apron round her waist.

My mother was a woman
With an apron round her waist,
With hands she deftly mixed
The flour and lard to make a paste,

She tidied up the tiny rooms,
And made our house a home,
A place that I'll remember,
Where ever I may roam.

Beneath her apron was a dress,
She'd made without much style,
The print was dark and practical,
She wore it with a smile.

She loved her home and family,
And all things good and chaste,
To me she was a lady
With an apron round her waist.

When I die and go to Heaven,
As I hope I surely will,
And Gabriel blows his trumpet,
From his throne upon the hill,

I'll search among the angels
In their gossamer and lace,
Until I find that special "Mum"
With an apron round her waist.

Author unknown



Salute to Pioneer Women

Photos of Interest



B: Earle Miltimore, John Cumming, Ed Ackerman, Percil Begg, Norm Johnston, Bert Ackerman & Howard Tiernan



Standing: Miss Williamson, Mrs Dave Johnson, Mrs Greetham, Mrs Richardson, Helen Cummings, Kate Bonnett, Mrs Barrow, Grandma Robbins, Alice Robbins, Gwen Robinson, Agnes Maze, Mrs Len Murray, Mrs Dick Mason, Mrs Rorke. Kneeling: Mrs Jim Mitchell, Mrs Perpeluk & baby, Mrs Gee, Mrs Charlie Blackmon, Mrs Baxter, Nellie Robinson, Mrs Bob Wrenshall, Mrs Mallen, Mrs Cummings, Mrs Jopson, Mrs Frazer. Front: Mrs Gillan, Mrs Bonnett, Mrs Martin Goffard, Ella Jackson, Therese Claeys, Eva Greetham, Elsa Mae McKinnon, Evelyn Ackerman, Marion Murray, Beatrice Ackerman, and Mrs Hudson.

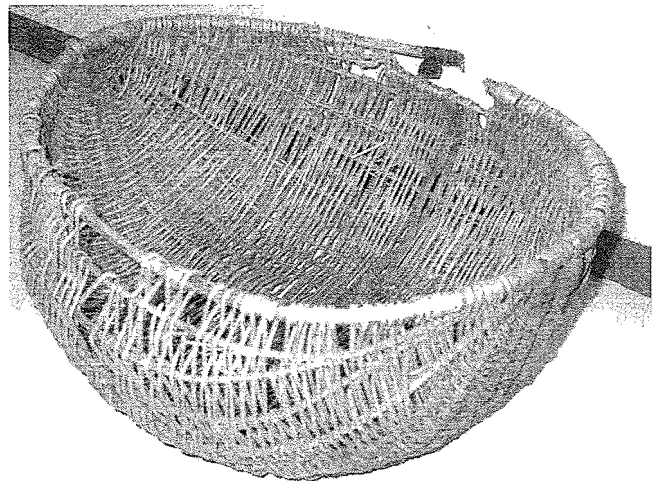
The Indigenous People

It is well documented that long before the settlers came from Europe, the indigenous people were the inhabitants of the country and knew the land and its waterways. Proof of this are the artifacts that were found around the shores of Lakes Manitoba and Dauphin. Spearheads and buffalo bones were found around Toutes Aides in the 1920's, indicating that the large animals once roamed the area. The aboriginal peoples of the area originated from Clear Lake. They passed on their knowledge to the white men. The natives would frequently bring them wild meat. Most settlers were not accustomed to the harsh winters and did not have the skills to hunt. Without the natives some of the early settlers would not have survived. Lifelong friendships were formed.

Hunting, trapping, and fishing were the mainstay of the Natives' existence. The father and his sons would leave for months at a time leaving their family behind. In other instances, the entire family would pack up and follow the wildlife. They trapped muskrat, which were skinned, stretched and dried. The muskrat was only worth a few cents, but that was good money in the hard times. There were times it was necessary to walk for miles to dig seneca root. Periodically they would stumble onto an abandoned homestead where a farmer had broken a small piece of land. In such places seneca root grew in abundance. The dried root brought in five cents per pound and the green, two cents. Seneca root was worth very little to the ones who dug it, but it was worth its weight in gold for the buyer.

In the R.M. of Lawrence it was common to see a small tent village set up almost overnight. Usually an entire family travelled in a wagon. The horses were hobbled, but were able to walk around to feed. The fire pits were made of stones that were placed in a circle. A pot of water was always on the fire ready for muskeg tea. The natives lived off the land; they hunted, fished, trapped and dug roots. Mother nature supplied the essentials. To prepare muskrat

for eating, the meat was boiled and the water was changed often. It was then put in the oven or on the fire outside. To preserve other wild meat, it was cut into strips and put out on a rack that was made of green poles with the bark peeled off. The rack was then fastened to four vertical poles. The meat was then laid on the sticks and placed over the fire. The sun and the smoke would then dry the meat. The wild chickens were cleaned and boiled. Bannock, a bread without yeast, was always a staple. The red weeds that grew in alkali were used for salt. Saskatoons were dried; stone berries (Choke Cherries) were crushed and then dried. Cranberries were picked after they were frozen, then left outside to be used during the winter months. Ashes were boiled in water and kept as a cleaning agent. The residue was the lye that was added to rendered animal fat which became homemade soap. The natives were very resourceful. They survived with what they had. Everything was useful; their tools were made from animal parts. The shank bone and the leg bone were sharpened with a stone and used as a fleshing knife. The sinew was dried and used for



A woven basket made by the Crane River Ladies

ropes and thread. The brain was used in tanning solutions. Skins were made into garments and moccasins and were beaded with porcupine quills that had been dyed with different weeds and cut into bead size. Feathers from the birds were used for decorating. Fat was kept for soap and cooking.

Limestones were piled and burnt in an enormous fire. After the fire died down the stones had become white powder and was used to whitewash homes. They also sold the lime to homesteaders for whitewash. Women weaved beautiful baskets out of red willows and meadow reeds. These baskets were for sale or traded for other goods.

Medicine of the Time

Mr. Alex Bone was one of the medicine doctors who was always in demand for his cures. The natives had tremendous knowledge of the wild herbs and roots useful for medical purposes. Boiled red willow became a potion for burns. To cure poison ivy they ate the leaves and stems of the poison ivy plant with a piece of bread which prevented the recurrence. Even the well-known Dr. Gendreau believed it.

Because of their knowledge of the great outdoors the natives managed to survive better than most.

First Settlers

It all started in the 1880's, over 100 years ago, when the first settlers arrived. Some came with not much more than the clothes on their backs; others had a few possessions, and even a few treasures. They were all seeking the same thing, a better life.

The Canadian Government had agents all through Britain and Europe, offering a quarter section of land free, only ten dollars was required to register the land claim. This gave many families a chance for a dream that might come true. The agents travelled throughout the different countries, speaking about "the land of opportunity". They carried with them brochures and beautiful pictures to illustrate their point. It sounded like paradise. With a lot of courage, the families packed up their possessions,

said goodbye to families and friends knowing that they would probably never return set out for the "promised land".

The transfer of their possessions from the trains to the docks had to be closely guarded by each family. Even so, unscrupulous workers made off with whatever they could. Other matters had to be attended to, clearing Immigration Offices and getting all the "paperwork"; passports, ship card, health certificates, etc., in order. That was of prime importance. The ship would not be ready to sail for another few days. Meanwhile finding accommodations was left to their own ingenuity. The passengers milled around in the Immigration Hall and eventually by virtue of "squatter's rights" claimed a certain little

FORM F.

No. **73931**

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, DOMINION LANDS.

Sub-Agent's Receipt,

Amount, \$ 10 00

Mathew Sub-Agency.
(Date) 10th June 1911.
At 10 40 o'clock a.M.

I hereby certify that Fred Robinson, of Lavenham has in accordance with the provisions of the Dominion Lands Act, applied in the form A supported by affidavit in the form B, as therein provided, for entry for NW quarter-section of section 32, in township 28, range 15, W of the 1st meridian, as a homestead.

And I hereby acknowledge the receipt from the said Fred Robinson of the sum of ten dollars (\$10.00), being the office fee payable with such application, my acceptance of said fee being subject to the allowing of the entry by the local agent at Quakana who, if entry be not allowed, will refund the amount to the said Fred Robinson.

A. J. J. J. J. Sub-Agent.

\$10.00 registration

area where they set down their belongings and awaited further orders. Finally, the order to board the ship was issued. The immigrants were all herded to the passageway and had to pass through a final health inspection before boarding. The officer called out any persons who showed outward signs of a possible contagious disease.

Some of the men crossed the ocean alone to claim their land and erect a dwelling. It would often be years before they were reunited with their families.

Needless to say there were many hardships. It took fourteen to twenty-one days to cross the ocean, depending on weather conditions. Sometimes the crossing was a nightmare.

The ship was often no more than a freighter, with no facilities whatsoever for the passengers. To make matters worse the families were put in cramped quarters and many were seasick. Due to poor hygiene and malnutrition, diseases could spread rapidly throughout a ship. Those who died en route were buried at sea.

Upon arrival in Halifax it felt so good to have both feet on the ground. The boat trip left them weak. They were faced with another difficult long journey by rail. Some came to the prairies to settle, travelling as far as Winnipeg, then embarking on the "Immigrant Train", as did the pioneers of our district. Some of them chose to get off at Makinak and others went on as far as Sifton.

The first task was to register their claim. Upon registering they were then informed that there were certain requirements to be met according to the "Dominion Land Act". One stipulation was that they must clear ten acres in three years or lose the land. They set out, on foot, to find their new homestead, travelling in unmapped territory, crossing



Steve & Nellie Kindzerski; original home at Horyn

rivers, and walking around the lakes, and finally reaching their destination. For most the urgent task was to build a log shanty with a thatched roof and dirt floor. Some unfortunately arrived too late in the season and only had time to dig a hole in the ground which served as a shelter for the harsh winter. There were the lucky ones who had acquaintances in the area and were able to spend the first winter with them. Sharing from one family to another was common practice and necessary for survival.

They were not prepared for a not so friendly climate, nature's fury. Winters were bitterly cold; spring brought hordes of mosquitoes, and the black flies followed.

The only transportation was oxen, horses, buggy and sometimes on foot. There was no road for travel, just a bush trail.

Some of the early settlers prospered and stayed on to farm. Many of their descendants are still living in the area. Others because of poor land conditions were forced to leave, never to return.

Roll of Honour

We must acknowledge the ultimate sacrifice of these brave men and women who laid down their lives so that we may live in peace and enjoy the freedom we have come to treasure.

It is our duty and that of the future generations, to insure their efforts were not in vain and to grant them the recognition they so dearly deserve.



John Kendzierski's grave - Holland

Boer War

Coutts, Jim
Inkster, Bill

Inkster, W
Jones, S.P.
Maze, Bill

After the first World War, the government put into effect a system to help the returned soldiers. It was called "The Soldier Settlement Board". They were given a quarter section of land; some of the land was just bush and muskeg. Some could not make a go of it so they packed up and left.

World War I 1914 - 1918

Alder, Bob
Asham, Gilbert
Bage, Wm
Barnett, Charlie
Barnett, Fred
Barrow, Burnell
Blackmon, Charlie
Blackmon, Charles, Russell
Booker, E.
Boxell, Edward
Brown, Sam
Budd, Bill
Budd, George
Bull, Wm. Jr.
Burtonshaw, Jr.
Carlyle, Alex
Carter, T.J.
Catley, C.
Chambers, T.B.
Chudley, Cleveland
Chudley, Percy

Coleman, Chris
Crawford, Rae
Dale, Frank
Dove, E.
Dustan, George
Dumas, Tom
Fouillen, Alex
Garriock, James, William
Gilbert, W.
Green, Billy
Harcus, Jim
Haywood, W.A.
Heesaker, Jake
Holiday, George
Houston, Robert
Howard, Army
Hutchinson, Alex, (Sandy)
Jopson, Bill
Jones, Herb
Jones, Herby

Kaminsky, Edmund Anthony
King, W.
Klousterman, Herman
Macdonald, I
Mackenzie, Duncan
Mulote, Billy
O'Neil, Tom Sr.
Powney, L
Raulins, Joe
Raulins, Jose
Robbins, Wm. A. Sr.
Robinson, Fred
Robinson, Randolph
Sanderson, Sam
Saunders, Bay
Smith, Fred
Taylor, Ted
Weaver, Gordon
West, Tom
Woodall, Jim



Bass, Charles



Biletski, Andrie



Bennett Gordon



Blackmon, Russell



Brusseau, Jack



Budd, George



Campbell, Josie



Carter, Arthur



Carter, Thomas, George



Cook, Orville



Hadfield, Wilfred



Hermiston, Jim



Hermiston, Robert



Howe, W. (Willie)



Ireland, Fred



Payne, John(Jack) Sr.



Powney, Leopold



Robinson, Fred



Robinson, Ross



Rushton, Thomas



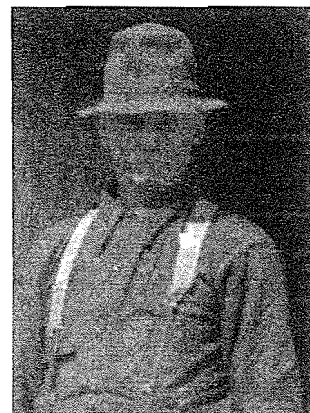
Scutt, Charlie



Smith, Harry



Stammen, Isadore



Wilson, Ernie



Wilson, Gib

World War II 1939-1945

Ackerman, Harvey
Adams, Aimee
Anderson, Doug
Anderson, John
Anderson, George
Antonyshyn, Eli
Asham, Gilbert
Asham, Robert
Bage, Billy Jr.
Bage, Jim
Bage, Ralph
Ball, Bruce
Ball, Harold
Baschuk, Nick
Bass, Charlie
Begg, Charlie
Begg, Russell, Claud
Biletski, John
Blackmon, Clarence, Hebert
Blackmon, Thomas
Bodnar, John
Booth, John
Booth, Wilbur
Boyechko, Harry
Boyechko, Joe
Boyechko, Nick
Boyechko, Philip

Brown, Burnell
Brunnen, Gary
Brunen, Gerhard, (Frank)
Brunen, Henry, John,
Brunen, Roman
Burtonshaw, Geoff
Carey, Henry
Carter, Jim
Carter, Ralph
Clarke, Norman
Coutts, Earl
Coutts, James
Coutts, Roddie
Crawford, Earle
Crozier, Art
Crozier, Lindsay
Dame, Pat
Debienne, Marcel
Didychuk, Fred
Didychuk, John
Dove, Werner
Dustan, Bill
Dustan, Helen
Dustan, Ronald
Dzuba, Bill
Dzuba, John
Dzuba, Matt

Feduik, Jack
Feduik, Max
Feduik, Metro
Feduik, Nick
Feduik, Pete
Garriock, Jim, Jr.
Gee, Ed
Gee, Leslie
Gelinass, Edward
Gelinass, Gerard
Gillion, Jim
Hill, Ernie
Hopfner, Emmett
Hopfner, Jerry
Hudson, Edward
Hutchinson, Ken
Ireland, Fred
Iwanchysko, John
Jantti, John
Jastrebski, Joe
Jastrebski, Karl
Korotash, B.N.
Korotash, Paul
Korotash, Peter
Laurila, Helen
Laurila, Sulo
Laycock, George

LeFlour, Leo
Mackie, John, Clifford
Maksymchuk, Bill
Masters, Richard
McInnes, J.I.
McLaren, Jack
Millar, Jack
Moar, Frank
Moar, James, Alfred
Moar, John, Robert
Murray, Angus
Nedelec, Alain, Marcel
O'Brian, Bill
O'Brian, Walter, Mike
O'Brian, Tom
O'Neil, Tom, Jr.
Payne, William, (Bill)
Paradis, Edward
Pawluk, Mike
Phillips, Bob (Robert)
Phillips, Velma
Poulton, Lenpi (Lillion)
Powney, W.
Pulak, John
Raboule, John
Robinson, Douglas
Robinson, Gladys

Roussin, Fred
Rushton, Elva
Saari, William B.(Willie)
Sabiston, Walter
Sanderson, Donald
Sanderson, Harvey
Senuik, Matt
Shillington, Frank
Smadella, Harry
Smadella, J.P.
Smadella, Pete
Smart, Nora
Stack, Harold
Stack, Jim
Stark, John
Stubbner, Richard
Tocker, George
Uhrina, Joe
Wauhkonen, Liljan
Weaver, Charlie
Werbiski, Mike
Werner, Dove
Whalen, Simon
Zapotachony, Teddie
Ziola, Max
Zondlo, Pete



Ackerman, Alvin



Ackerman, Ralph



Antosko, Andrew



Ball, Eric



Begg, Russell



Biledeau, Fred



Bodnar, Mike



Bonnett, Harold



Bretcher, Charles



Bzowy, Mike



Chornoboy, Stella, 2nd from left



Crawford, Earl



Crawford, Ernest



Cunningham, Roy



Didychuk, Michael



Gillian, Jim



Garriok, James



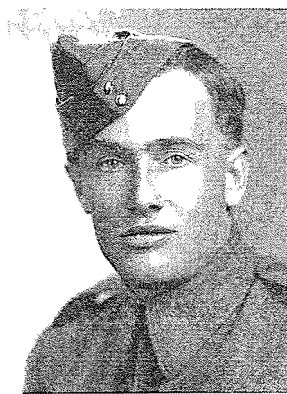
Harpelle, Norman



Heminger, John



Heesaker, Albert and Eugene



Highfield, Ronald Thomas



Hill, Ernie R.



Hill, Fred



Hopfner, Alf



Hruska, Harry



Hudson, Bert



Hudson, Edward, L.



Hulton, Edsel



Innes, J.I.



Jackson, Verna



Jantti, John A.



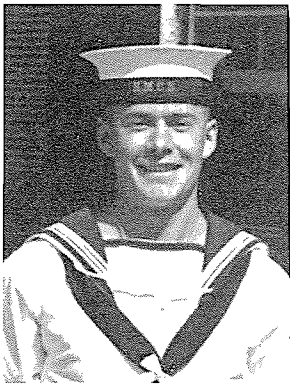
Katchur, Joseph, Andy



Kendzierski, John



Kendzierski, Matt



Kendzierski, Mike



Koski, Charlie



Koski, Severi



Krachuk, Nestor



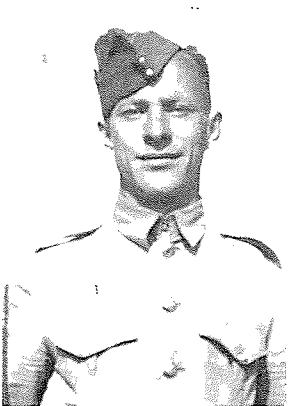
LeFlour, Leo & Albert



Litwinowich, Maryon Walter



Maki, John C.



Mandybura, Metro



Mazier, Dmetro (Matt)



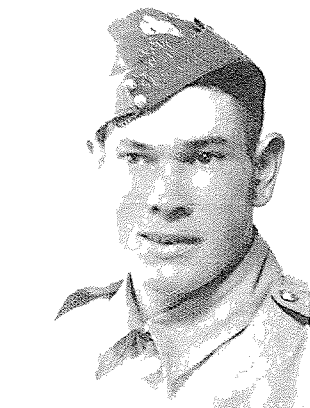
McKinnon, Bert



McKinnon, Robert



Moar, Ernest



Moar, James Alfred



Murray, Farrell



Murray, James, A.



Nedelec, Marcel Vincent



Payne, John(Jack)Edward Jr.



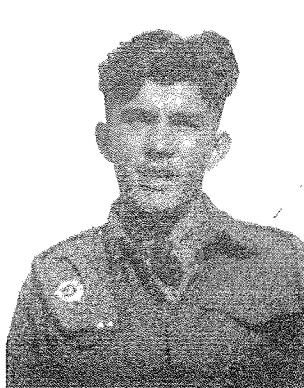
Payne William



Philippot, Alex



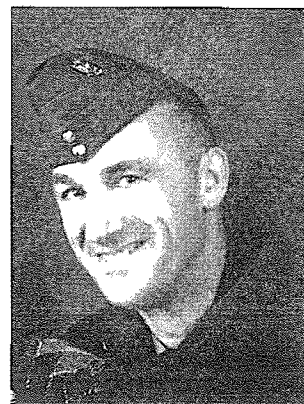
Pich, Harry



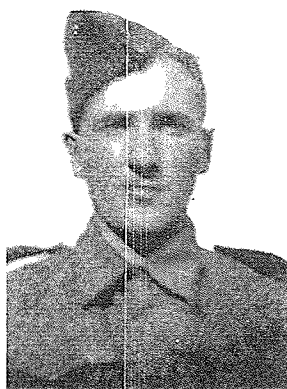
Pont, Harry



Ploschak, Bill



Preston, Frank



Robbins, W.H. Jr.



Robinson, Charlie



Robinson, Douglas H.



Robinson, George



Hruska, Harry



Saari, Willie



Sabiston, Alfred



Sabiston, Walter



Scutt, Frank



Scutt, Fred



Sedor, Steve



Smadella, John



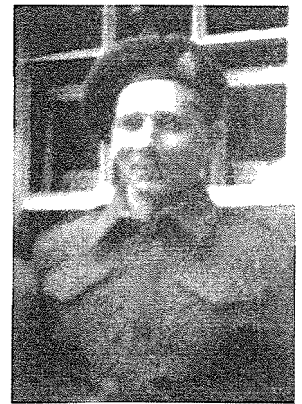
Sologuk, John



Solomon, Metro



Spence, Harry



Stark, Dick

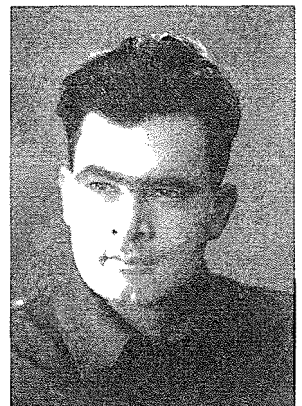


Talpash, Peter



Tkach, Fred

Zroback, Nick



Weaver, David Nelson



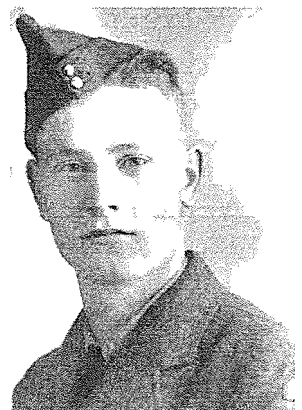
Weaver, Drue



Werbiski, M.N.



Zondlo, Martha,(Stelmak)



Zywin, Alex

Zywina, Joe



Korean War 1950 -1953

Gelinas, Gilbert
Knott, Conrad



Ruskin, Billy



Honish, Ralph



Dutchak, Alex



Lockhart, Victor

Due to lack of information as to when and where these people served our country in the wars, we are unable to place these names of veterans under the proper categories above. We will acknowledge their service to our country in this category.

Fleury, J. Scott, Herb Taylor, Alex (Sandy) Taylor, Ken



James Moar of Crane River spent 1,343 days as a Japanese prisoner of war in Hong Kong.

Japanese attacked at 8 a.m.

On Nov. 8, 1941, the war really began for me. The Japanese started bombing Hong Kong about 8 a.m. We were in barracks on the mainland but we were moved to the island of Hong Kong. They figured we'd be able to fight better off the island. All we had was one big gun. But we were lucky. Our camp was between a mountain and the sea and most of the bombs hit the mountain or dropped into the sea.

The attacks kept coming day after day. We had our Bren guns and Tommy guns, but we didn't have a chance.

On Dec. 19, the Japanese landed on the island. There were 10 of them to each one of us. On the night of Dec. 19, I was wounded. Nine of us were hit while we were trying to get a truck turned around. Two were killed and the rest of us wounded. I got a piece of shrapnel in my leg.

The Hong Kong hotel had been converted into a hospital and we were taken there. I was in the hospital till the end of January. But, on Christmas Day, one of our officers came and said, 'Boys, I have very bad news. The island has surrendered!' We were all prisoners of war.

The Rural Municipality of Lawrence

The Municipality of Lawrence was named after George Lawrence who was the elected member of the Manitoba Legislative Assembly for Turtle Mountain Constituency from 1899-1915. He was the Minister of Agriculture from 1911-1915, in the Rodmond Roblin government. He was Duff Roblin's father. The government was defeated in 1915 because of a scandal over the construction of the legislative building.



Mr. Mitchell in front of R.M.

Before the Municipality of Lawrence was incorporated all businesses that pertained to the land, such as taxes were administrated from the Ochre River municipality.

In 1914, the Municipality of Lawrence was officially incorporated. It was under reeve and council. William Armson was elected reeve and D.A. Payne became secretary treasurer. The first meeting was held on February 17, 1915, at the house of Mrs. McDonald, 2-28-16W.

Before 1914 the area was known as the Freedale School District. After the formation of the Rural Municipality of Lawrence, all meetings and business were held at the home of D.A. Payne until the new Rorketon Municipal Hall was built in 1921. The office remained open between 10:00 am and 4:00 pm five days a week.

Minutes from Meetings

On October 9, 1919, any person in this municipality having a unpatented homestead for five years may receive a notice from the Dominion Lands Office conveying the information that the said homestead is open for cancellation. This is a move in conjunction with our Municipal Council to compel homesteaders to take their patents. The Council could enforce payment of taxes, since many were in arrears for several years.

EAST BAY .. *Nov. 28* .. 1910

RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF OCHRE RIVER

Assessment for 1911

No. on Roll	Name of Party Assessed	Occupation	P. O. Address	DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY				Value Real Property \$	Real Property Exempt	Value Personal Property \$	Personal Property Exempt	Total Amount Assessable \$	Statute Labor	
				Part of Section or No. of Lot and Name of Parish.	Sec or Lot	Tp or Blk	Rge or Plan						No. of Days	Amount
	<i>J Payne</i>		<i>Mulhoin</i>	<i>S E</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>700</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>700</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>450</i>

Take notice that you are assessed as above specified for the year 1911. If you deem yourself overcharged or otherwise improperly assessed you or your agent may notify the Clerk of the Municipality at OCHRE RIVER in writing of your wish to appeal before March 20th, 1911, and your complaint will be tried at the meeting of the Court of Revision which will sit at OCHRE RIVER on the 31st day of March, 1911, at 10 o'clock, a.m.

To the Clerk of the Municipality of

Sir, take notice that I wish to appeal against the above assessment, for the following reasons:

(Signature of person wishing to appeal with P.O. Address)

A. McFADYEN,

Assessor,
EAST BAY, MAN.
(over)

By-Law N^o 1.

A By-law to Regulate the Proceedings of the Municipal Council of the Rural Municipality of Lawrence and the Committees thereof: —

The Municipal Council of the Rural Municipality of Lawrence enact, as follows. —

- 1 In all proceedings had or taken in the municipal council of the municipality of Lawrence the following rules and regulations for the order and despatch of business in the said council and in committees of the said council shall be kept.
- 2 First meeting when held Place of meeting The said council shall hold their first meeting after the yearly election on the first Tuesday in January in each year at the hour of ten o'clock in the forenoon at a place as may have been fixed by the By-Law of the previous council or in default of any place thus appointed by by-law at the place of the last meeting held by the retiring council, and in case there be no quorum at the aforesaid hour such meeting may take place at any hour thereafter during the day as soon as there is a quorum. If such Tuesday or any regular meeting day shall be a public holiday according to the law then the council shall meet at the same hour the next following day which shall not be such Public Holiday.
- 3 Declaration of office No business shall be proceeded with at the first meeting of any council until the declaration of office and qualification have been administered to all the members who present themselves to take same and until there be a quorum (51 rules to by-law - too lengthy to print)

- 51 51 The standing rule or order of the council shall be suspended except by a vote of two-thirds of the members present

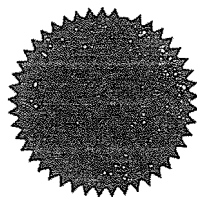
Done and passed in council assembled at the house of Mr J M Dorland situated on the North East quarter of section 2 Township 28 Range 16 West 1st The the twentieth day of February A D 1915.

William Harrison

Mayor

D. A. Hayne

Secretary Treasurer



1919 "Each Councillor including the reeve be paid four dollars per meeting, not to exceed \$60.00 a year and be paid ten cents a mile. The reeve's salary must not exceed \$75.00 per annum."

Hamlin Ditch

In 1920, the municipality initiated the construction of the "Hamlin Ditch", which runs east of Highway 276. It is one of the main drainage ditches in the area. It was named for Mr. Joseph Hamlin, the first member of the Legislative Assembly for Ste. Rose, 1914-1927

Minutes from Council meeting November 14, 1923:

That the councillor Payne be given the authority to get all ratepayers in arrears in the vicinity of the Hamlin Ditch to perform work equal to their arrears on the continuation of said ditch were directed by him and in cases where ratepayers will not work he is hereby given power to force the collection of said arrears of taxes.



Mrs. Jacob Bednarz and daughter Steeny helping dig the Hamlin Ditch

1920

"J.L. Bowman be appointed Solicitor at \$40.00 retainer.

E. Bottomly be Health Officer at \$25.00 per annum.

R.W. Irving and F. Pulak be Health Constables with no salary.

T. Moffatt, J. Pulak, and P. Didychuk be Fire Guardians with no salary.

A.B. Crozier be Cemetery Caretaker at two dollars per year and ten cents for each burial."

May 5, 1920, John Bretecher was paid one dollar for a portion of his land for the roadway. September 4, 1921, R.J. Moffatt was paid twenty dollars re: his contract for building a bridge.

Moved by Councillor F.W. Orchard

Seconded by O. Dupas

"That the Council hire Mr. Rorke as Assessor for the year 1920 at a salary of \$185.00 per month. Duties to commence August 1, 1920.

Carried."

April 12, 1922

Moved by Carver; Dupas

"That Mr. Rorke's tender of \$80.00 for re-writing the assessment roll for 1923 be accepted.

Carried."

April 12, 1922

Moved by Carver, Dupas

"Where as Mr. McDonald claims that he should have had tender for assessment as he was lowest when in reality Mr. Rorke's tender was lowest as Mr. Rorke's tender was a lump sum of \$30.00 and Mr. McDonald's tender was \$94.00 lump sum or \$75.00 per month.

"We the Council claim we let tender to lowest man in accordance with our policy.

"That the secretary write Mr. McDonald calling his attention to this matter.

1921, To Mr. Huddleston, that there were complaints that he was driving his motor truck after dark without lights.

March 12, 1924, That a by-law be prepared to restrain cattle and horses from running at large in all proposed town sites in the municipality.

Carried."

"1921, D.H. Payne Secretary Treasurer be paid \$100.00 per month. In 1922, salary be decreased to \$1000.00 per annum."

"February 2, 1921, the Municipality granted the following sums of money to cover loss of hay by fire, provided the government pay half.

"T. Thomas West Sr., John Barbour and William Kelley each were paid the sum of \$80.00.

"Thomas West Jr. granted \$60.00.

"Alex Arpin granted \$250.00.

"Jas Strong granted \$120.00.

"Leon C. Bulet granted \$500.00.

"Z. Lilygreen granted \$1,000.00.

Carried."

Social Programs

1920

"That Dr. McLennan be notified that the council give him a small monthly bonus if they will put a qualified doctor in residence in the Municipality."

July 6, 1921

Moved by Councillor Robinson
Seconded by Orchard

"That Mr. Kiszczuk be notified that he is to keep his father-in-law for one year and in the event of him failing to do so he will be assessed for \$100.00 toward the support of said father-in-law and that unless the amount be paid action will be taken by the Municipality to recover same.

Carried."

November 2, 1921

Moved by Councillor Orchard

Seconded by Wilson

"Whereas it has come to our notice through the Probation Officer for Northern Manitoba, that there are cases where certain able-bodied men are neglecting their children to an extent that the Officer would be justified in taking the children away, but to do so, would only be relieving the father of a responsibility which belongs to the parent. To imprison the father would be placing the burden on that particular community. To have him brought into Court and fined would be taking the bread away from his wife and children. We would therefore recommend to the Union of Manitoba Municipalities that they pass a resolution asking the Government of the Province of Manitoba to enact legislation, whereby such men could be sentenced to any term not exceeding two years at labour on a government farm or otherwise and receive a fair wage, to be used in support of his family. That a copy of the resolution be mailed to the secretary of the Union of Manitoba Municipalities and one to the local member at Ste. Rose.

Carried."

April 2, 1922\

Moved by Carver Orchard

"That the Council authorize Mr. Dupas to buy \$20.00 worth of groceries etc. for this month and \$10.00 a month after this month until time as Mrs. Gislason comes under the Mothers' Allowance Act and charge same to charity, same to be given to Mrs Gislason.

Carried."

February 13, 1924

Moved by Councillor Gaudry

Second by Councillor Laberge

"That the Municipality accept the responsibility for the admission of Mr. Moison to the Old Folks Home at St. Boniface for the sum of \$15.00 per month.

Municipal Loans

Twin City Tractor

In 1920, the Municipality bought a Twin City

Tractor and two scrapers to construct roads. The money was borrowed from the Union Bank of Canada, Dauphin at an interest rate of seven percent.

February 4, 1920, the Canada Ingot Iron Co. be paid \$285.00 less discount for two scrapers.

February 4, 1920, B. Wilson be appointed to attain teams to pick up a grader and scrapers from Ste. Rose; the job not to exceed \$120.00.

April 7, 1920, \$40,000.00 worth of debentures for sale for the purchase of one 30-60 engine from Aultman Taylor Engine Co. The engine will be ordered if the debentures are sold.

June 20, 1920, the debentures, both as to principal and interest, shall be payable at the Union Bank of Canada, at the town of Dauphin, in the province of Manitoba, and share payable in Canadian money or gold, and share be payable in such equal sums on the first day of July, in each of the said years period. For the payments of the said debt and interest, the sum of \$4,359.23, for twenty years, shall be and hereby is raised, levied and imposed in each of the said years of such period by a special rate sufficient therefore over and above all other rates upon and against all the taxable property in the whole of the said municipality, said special rates to be raised, levied, and imposed at the same time and in the same manner as other rates.

June 1920, Whereas the amount of the whole rateable property of the said municipality according to the least revised assessment role is the sum of \$911,276.00.

And whereas the total amount of the existing debentures indebtedness of the said municipality is the sum of \$3,256.94, no portion of which is in arrears for principle or interest.

September 8, 1920, Moved by Council, that the by-law authorizing the borrowing of \$25,000.00 from the Royal Bank, (Magnet Branch), be passed as read, that the municipality business be turned over to the bank.

November 3, 1920, the council appoint Andrew Irven to move the grading equipment to the townsite of Lawrence and leave it on a lot picked out by the municipality, and also to fabricate a shed to house the equipment. Bill Didychuk and Fred Robbins were the only two operators for this machine.

"April 6, 1921; that the Twin City Tractor Company be asked to send in an expert to overhaul the tractor and put same in good order."

The tractor was not used for years because it was very big, heavy, clumsy and had a tendency to bog down in swampy terrain.

In 1939, because the tractor had been parked in

its shed for years, it was sold to Walter Talpash for scrap iron. John and Tony Biletski managed to start the engine in order to move it. Upon moving, the exhaust pipe hit the top of the door frame knocking the pipe off and damaging the manifold.

Because it could no longer move on its own power, tractors were brought in to move it to the CNR platform where it was dismantled.

September 8, 1920

Moved by Councillor Orchard

Seconded by Councillor Dupas

"That the By-Law authorizing the borrowing of \$25,000.00 from the Royal Bank (Magnet Branch) be passed as read, and that the Municipal business be turned over to the bank."

February 13, 1924

"That cheques be issued to schools reference to Special Levy collected and that all cheques to schools issued on December cancelled on A/C of insufficient funds."

February 13, 1924

"That the reeve be authorized to make arrangements with the bank for a line of credit of \$15,000."

Moved W.J. Booth

Seconded by A. Laberge

That the secretaries of the school districts be asked to return cheques sent on account of the Royal Bank applying the deposit sent them for schools to pay off the notes due by the Municipality.

The Council wish it understood that the bank has appropriated school monies against their wishes and the Council wish it understood that as soon as credit can be arranged cheques will be sent to all school districts.

"Minutes of a Special Meeting of The Council held on the 21st day of December, 1924."

Present: Reeve Huddleston

Councillors Payne and Wilson

"Proper notice having been sent to all the council the business of the meeting being stated as to consider what action to be taken in respect to the Loan that the Provincial Government was willing to guarantee to the Royal Bank."

Moved by Councillor Wilson

Second by Councillor Payne

"If the Provincial Government require all the loan guaranteed to be used to liquidate liabilities to schools then the loan is to be refused, but if fifty percent of it can be used for general purposes the

loan is to be accepted and the note signed and sent to the Royal Bank.

Carried."

These are the last recorded minutes of the last meeting held under Reeve and Council. There are no further records available between 1925-1979.

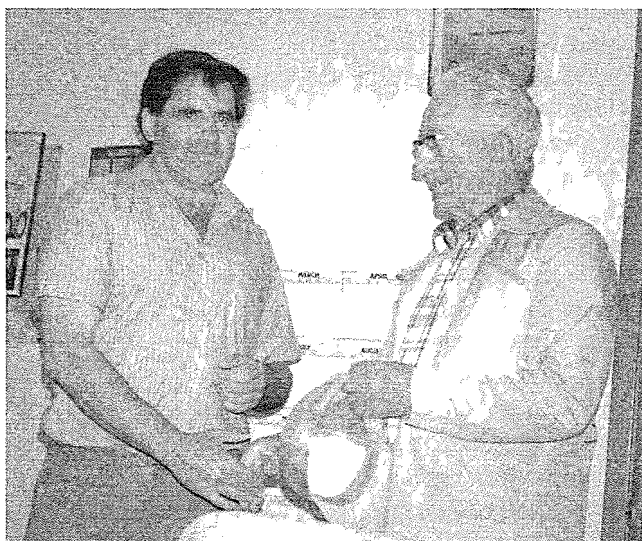
In 1924 the Municipality found itself in great financial difficulty and had completely lost all credibility. The Lieutenant Governor in Council then ordered the affairs of the Municipality be placed under administration in January 1925.

Reeves and Councillors

The Municipality remained under an administrator until 1979 when the governing powers reverted to reeve and Council.

Reeve Wm Armson	1915-1921
Sec. Treasurer David H. Payne	
Reeve Nelson D. Huddleston	1922-1923
Sec. Treasurer David H. Payne	
Reeve O. Dupas	1924
Sec. Treasurer David H. Payne	
Administrator N.S. Tate	1925-1929
Administrator O.J. Baxter	1930-1937
Administrator Gladstone Cyril Catley	1938-1942
Administrator Walter J. Mitchell	1945-1950
Administrator Maurice Chornoboy	1951-1956
Administrator John Pelechaty	1956-1963
Administrator Leonard Charzewski	1963-1966
Administrator Hellar T. Charzewski	1967-1972
Advisory Committee	1972-1979
Administrator Hellar T. Charzewski	
Reeve Dmetro Mazier	1979
Councillors:	1980
Raymond Moffatt	Norman Bass
Jack Jastrebski	Hal Hopfner
Roy Laycock	
Sec. Treasurer Duncan MacLure	1979
Reeve Dmetro Mazier	1980
Councillors:	
Pat Zamrykut	Jack Jastrebski
N.R. Biletski	Raymond Moffatt
Orval Hudson	
Sec. Treasurer Duncan MacLure	
Sec. Treasurer Elizabeth Tymchuk	1981
Reeve Dmetro Mazier	1981-1983
Councillors:	
Pat Zamrykut	Jack Jastrebski
N.R. Biletski	Raymond Moffatt
Orval Hudson	
Sec. Treasurer Elizabeth Tymchuk	
Reeve Dmetro Mazier	1983-1986

Councillors:
 Pat Zamrykut Paul Holowachuk
 Pete Tkach Ken Stammen
 Orval Hudson Edgar Hudson
 Sec. Treasurer Elizabeth Tymchuk
 Reeve Dmetro Mazier 1986-1989
 Councillors:
 Beverley Didychuk Paul Holowachuk
 Dan Iwanchysko Sam Taylor
 Terry Smith
 Sec. Treasurer Elizabeth Tymchuk
 Reeve Dmetro Mazier 1989-1992
 Councillors:
 Sam Taylor Roland Van De Kerchove
 Terry Smith Dan Iwanchysko
 Dennis Bonnett
 Sec. Treasurer Elizabeth Tymchuk
 Reeve Roland Van De Kerchove 1992-1995



Roland taking over the Reeve Position

Councillors:
 Brian Didychuk Paul Holowachuk
 Dan Iwanchysko Steve Kindzerski
 Terry Smith
 Sec. Treasurer Elizabeth Tymchuk
 Reeve Fred Taylor 1995 to present
 Councillors:
 Myron Zamrykut Phyllis Konowalchuk
 Fred Schurko - replaced by Jeneatt Latulippe
 October 8, 1996
 Malcolm Scott Steve Kindzerski
 Sec. Treasurer Elizabeth Tymchuk

Early Programs Introduced to the Municipality

Rural Credit Society

Over eighty shareholders from a radius of

twelve miles around Freedale attended the second annual meeting of the Lawrence Rural Credit Society held at the Municipal Hall on January 31. In 1918, loans of \$11,000 were made to homesteaders. In 1919 loans totalled \$20,000.

Though the Lawrence Society started with only fifty-eight members, it grew so rapidly that it became necessary to start a new society with headquarters at Abbotshall. In 1919 the Magnet Society membership has fifty-nine, the Lawrence Society still has 104. Six new members joined at the annual meeting.

A meeting of the society was held at Freedale on February 3, 1920 when all the officers and directors were present.

Eighty applications for loans were received, of which seventy-six were granted. The total amount of money requested was \$30 482.92. \$6 299 was asked for horses and cattle, \$6 503 for machinery, \$2 562.50 for putting in and taking off crop, \$7 320 for breaking, \$2 754.42 for seed and feed, \$5,041. for liabilities and sundries." <excerpts from Dauphin Herald>

On April, 1922, on account of the defeat of the Provincial Government and the withdrawal of Rural Credit loans, except for seed grain purpose, a large number of farmers in the area who had intended doing considerable breaking will be forced to do only what they can afford to finance." <excerpt Dauphin Herald>

July 21, 1919, the "Settlers Animal Act", "The Winkler Cow Scheme" it was commonly called, granted settlers to the North and South of Freedale a third consignment of cows. The settlers borrowed to buy the livestock and in return the government gave the settlers a period of five years to pay back the value of the cattle.

The Government Well Drillers was implemented in the hope of having enough wells dug to supply the vicinity with fresh clean water.

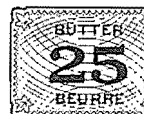
There was the Back To The Land Settlements. The government brought, into the area, families from the urban area who were unable to find employment. They were provided with a house, given the bare necessities required for farming, and sent off on their own. The program was not a success.

The "Soldier Settlement Board of Winnipeg" program was implemented by the government for the return of soldiers from WWI. The soldiers were allocated a parcel of land and in return were required to make annual payments. Much of the land proved to be too low of a grade for permanent cropping, and early settlement was largely a failure.



The dates on which butter coupons become valid and expire will be announced by the WPTB.

La CPCTG annoncera les périodes pendant lesquelles les coupons de beurre seront valables.



PREFIX & SERIAL NO.

No de série (avec lettres)

Address

Adresse



LETTERS	NUMBERS
W	3 7 4 4

Prefix and Serial Number
No de Série (avec lettres)

Letters: W 3 7 4 4
Name: Payne, John
Last Name—Nom de famille First Name—Prénom

Street Address or R.R. No.
No et rue ou R.R. No.

City or Town: Ancien
Ville ou Village

Province: Man. Telephone Number: { Numéro de Téléphone

RATION
BOOK 6



CANADA

CARNET DE
RATIONNEMENT 6

RB-275

Population records of the municipality of 1916 indicate there were 1,649 residents. At present, 1996, there are approximately 650.

The total area of the municipality, today, encompasses 744.62 square kilometres. The early by-laws indicate that the municipality was somewhat larger.

In 1930, the government paid farmers \$5.00 per day to keep a man for his board and room. Mr. John Inkster was one that kept a young man by the name of Tony Ginter. In return, John gave the young man the \$5.00 for his work.

The Unmarked Graves

In the nineteen hundreds there were no designated cemeteries. The pioneers laid their loved ones to rest on their homestead.

These burial sites are found throughout the municipality and remain undisturbed. Mrs. Armson, the Reeve's wife, is buried on their property NE 9-28-16. The grave site remains intact. It wasn't until the Diphtheria epidemic, in 1916, that farmers donated parcels of land to be used as a community burial site. Small wooden crosses were erected to mark the grave sites.

Medical

From council minutes dated the sixth day of March 1918: that Dr. E. Bottomley of Dauphin be Health Officer at a salary of \$25.00 per annum and that R. Irving be Health Constable without salary.

February 13, 1924 the council accepted the resignation of Dr. F. McLennan and appointed Dr. R. Watkin from Ochre River as Health Officer for the year 1924 at a salary of \$25.00 per annum.

In 1916, Mrs. Marchand, a doctor from Belgium, lived along the Turkey Trail, near East Bay. For whatever reason she was not allowed to practice medicine in Canada. The pioneers benefited from her misfortune and she became the midwife for the area. On December 16, 1916, she delivered Edward Mark Robinson, at the Robinson's farm in Magnet, NW 15-26-15.

The R.M. of Lawrence district worked hard to establish a "First Aid Post." On January 31, 1924, the dream became reality with Miss Robertson being the first Red Cross Nurse in Rorketon and district. Jean Robertson was trained in one of the large hospitals in Glasgow, Scotland, and was extremely knowledgeable and competent. Apparently several bachelors contracted various ailments so as to receive her tender care. Miss Robertson later married a doctor, Dr. Morley Bridgeman, in Oliver, British Columbia, but died in the 1970's.



Nurse Robertson with Mrs. Jenks & Baby



Nurse Robertson and Two Wolves

Edith May Radley, "Order of Canada", was born May 1, 1917, to the late Reverend Arthur and Grace Radley. She was a graduate of the Dauphin General Hospital. Ms. Radley worked at the Rorketon Nursing Station for a time.

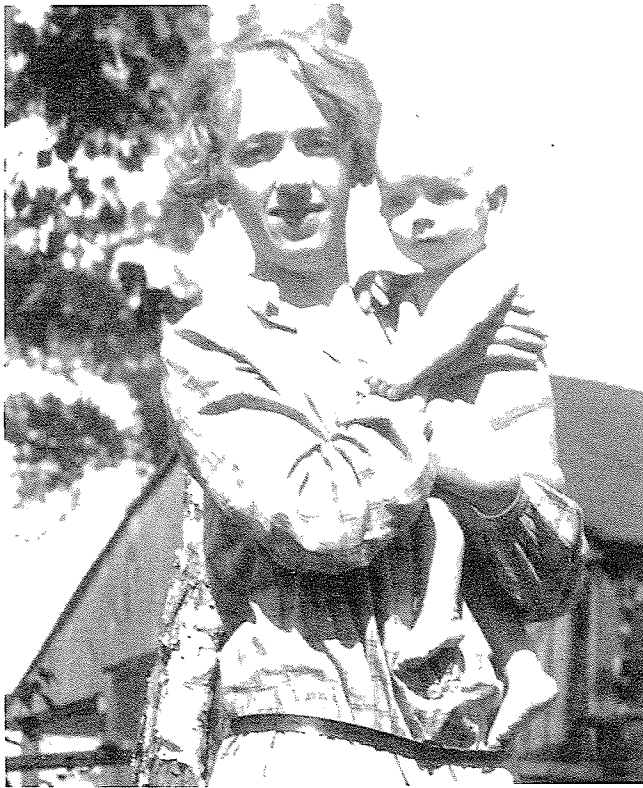
In 1935, Miss Flora Hill took the position. Everyone who knew Miss Hill would have a kind word. She devoted her life to the people and had an especially soft spot for the children and the seniors. Miss Hill delivered over four hundred babies in the area. These children are a tribute to Miss Hill for her generosity. A retirement party was held in her honor. All the children, that she had delivered, composed a song, "We are all your babies"

Recycling is not new. In times of hardship it was necessary to recycle. The bottles, especially empty vanilla bottles, were in great demand by nurse Hill, who would fill them with various medication.

A doctor would come into Rorketon and the Red



First Aid Station Drill



Nurse Flora Hill

Cross nurse would make previous arrangements for the children of a certain age be taken to the hall to have their tonsils removed. After the tonsils were removed, the children were laid on benches around the room. The same day the parents took the children home to care for them.

Although there was never a resident doctor, over the years, the families of the Lawrence Municipality have fortunately been able to rely on dedicated nurses to provide medical attention in emergency situations. It's a service that was greatly appreciated.

Fishing

They mastered the art of commercial fishing

Commercial fishing began in the early 1900's. As the settlers came, they found the lakes and rivers to be teeming with fish. Not only was it an important food source, but for many it was good cash revenue. Commercial fishing became an industry which included the buying, filleting, packing, and transporting of fish. Mostly everyone that settled around or near the lakes became commercial fishermen. The fishing was done during the winter, leaving the summer season to tend other business.

Commercial fishing was very hard work. At the beginning of the season, because ice was thin, a running board was used for setting the nets. It consisted of several 1x4 inch boards nailed together to make one long board.

The net was attached to the running line. The net was then inserted in a hole made in the ice with an ice chisel. The board could be seen under the thin ice and could be manoeuvred from one hole to the length of the running board where another hole was made to push the running board further along. This was done as many times as required until the net was fully stretched. The running line attached to the end of the net was longer and was used to pull the net back into the water.

When the ice was too thick to see the board, a jigger was used. A jigger is a long plank with a moveable lever, like scissors, with a rope attached. After the jigger is inserted in one of the drilled holes in the ice, the fishermen pull on the rope attached to the moveable lever. They are able to guide it to the other hole drilled in the ice, leaving a long rope stretched from one hole to the other. They retrieved the running line with a hook. The nets were pulled out accordion style, and the fish were removed from the nets. The nets were reset by pulling the running line back from the other end. The fishermen attached the line to a stick and dropped it into the hole to freeze. That was their marker to show where the net was.



Lifting nets

The fishermen use gill nets. The long rectangular net hangs in the water like a fence. Wooden floats and weights hold the nets in this position.

Three and three quarter inch cotton nets were used in Lake Manitoba. With the slime, weeds and large fish ripping holes in them, they only lasted one season.



FIRST MEETING OF
LAKE DAUPHIN FISHERMEN
HAMILTON HOTEL - SEPTEMBER 23 1929
PRESENTED TO LAWRENCE MUNICIPALITY
BY A. R. 'PETE' ADAM MIA OF STE. ROSE

When the fish swim into the net, they try to swim through the opening. The head will go through but not the body. When the fish attempt to free themselves, they are caught by the gills.

November was the best month of the season. It was necessary to lift the nets every two days. At times there were as many as 100 to 150 fish in a net.

During the winter, the nets were lifted once a week. It was considered a poor catch if there were only fifty to seventy-five fish.

The fish were sold whole. Fresh fish were packed on ice. Pickerel sold as first grade. The heads were removed from the drowned fish. Jacks and suckers were sold frozen, depending on the market.

In the 1930's, the fishermen were paid two cents a pound for the fish or one cent if the buyer bought directly on the lake.

Some fishermen would fish on shares. Mr. Lionel Adam was the first buyer to introduce fishing on a percentage base. At times, the fishermen would get half the catch or as little as one-quarter of the catch, depending on the buyer. The dealer supplied the nets, weights, and corks. In the early thirties, 120 four inch mesh nets and equipment cost eleven hundred dollars. The fishermen were responsible for seaming the nets and purchasing the fishing licence, at the cost of eleven dollars in the 1950's. It was a good deal for the fishermen who did not have the money to invest in supplies. It gave employment, for some, for the winter. Some fishermen filled their quota in two weeks. In the 1930's, the fish quota for Lake Dauphin was 300,000 lbs.



L-R: Mark Hermiston, Billy Howe, Frank Guyot



Hauling fish to Rorketon from Crane River

Mr. Adam taught Yvonne Bretecher, Martin's daughter, how to seam nets. This became her summer job. She became an expert and could seam ten nets a day, while others usually could do only four. Yvonne was paid per net. Later, she moved to Winnipeg and continued seaming nets.

Before the railroad, some buyers came across Lake Manitoba, from Steep Rock to Meadow Portage, to buy and haul fish. The fish were kept frozen and put in big boxes, ready for the buyers who came when the ice was thick enough to cross with a caboose.

After the railway came, in the mid-twenties, Mr. Lionel Adam was the only fish buyer. The fishermen came to Rorketon from all over the area to sell their fish. They came from Crane River with their loads of fish, as many as seventeen cabooses at a time. It was just like a wagon train. It was a one day trip to get to Rorketon. They stopped at Mr. La Marsh, NE 35-28-15, to rest and feed their horses.

Mrs. La Marsh would supply meals if required. A full course meal cost 25 cents. To feed and keep the horses cost ten cents.

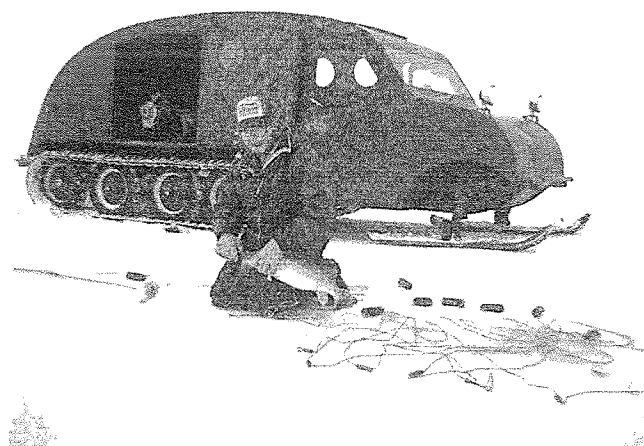
The fishermen spent the night at Rorketon. Some stayed in tents that they set up near the railroad tracks. It was like a little town of its own. It became the main centre and Rorketon became alive.

In the mid 1940's, the fish were being transported by truck to Winnipeg. There were several fish buyers: Nick Marchenski, Pete Adam, Joe Storoinski, Charlie Strasdin and Gordon Bonnett. Gordon took over from Charlie who was buying for Booth Fishery in Winnipegosis. The fresh fish were

shipped by train and the frozen fish were transported to Winnipeg.

The fishermen took their fish to the train where there was a box car especially for the fish. Usually the box car was half loaded with fresh fish. In one incident, in December 1926, the box car was filled and unable to take all the fish. "Things are booming in our town now. Lots of snow and winter has set in, in real earnest. Fishing in the lakes is in full swing thus bringing crowds in on train nights. The boarding house is crammed. There is even a call for an extra train a week. Hop to it boys, keep on fishing and swell the terminus. There are whisperings of a canning factory being erected to take care of the fish that can't be shipped and this is no fish story either." <excerpt Dauphin Herald>

Pete Adam worked seven days a week transporting fish from Crane River to Rorketon. In the



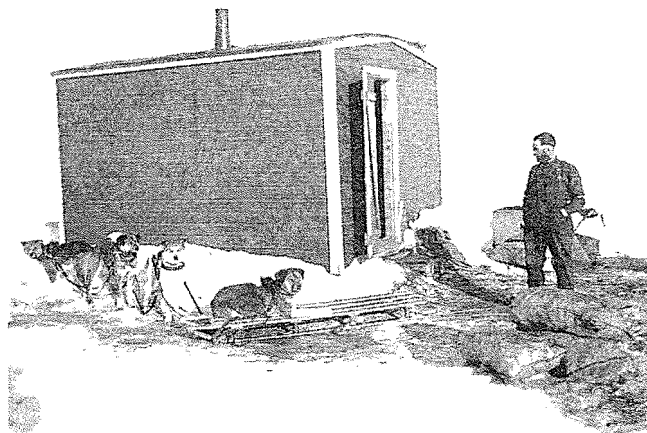
Gary Huhtala lifting nets

1950's, the fishermen took their fish to Gabriel Fortin in Toutes Aides who in turn would haul them to Rorketon.

In 1993, the government reduced the size of the mesh to 3 3/4 inch and the commercial fishing season was extended three weeks.



A great catch



Fishing camp



Raymond L., Jake M., Lawrence P., Walter S., Billy R., Roy L., Billy D. Mike D., Pete T., Alex B. A day's catch.

The stocks in Lake Manitoba have dwindled. In 1994-1995, some fishermen stopped fishing in December because there were no fish.

Perhaps, sometime in the future, our lakes and rivers will once again be teeming with fish.



Fishing Boats

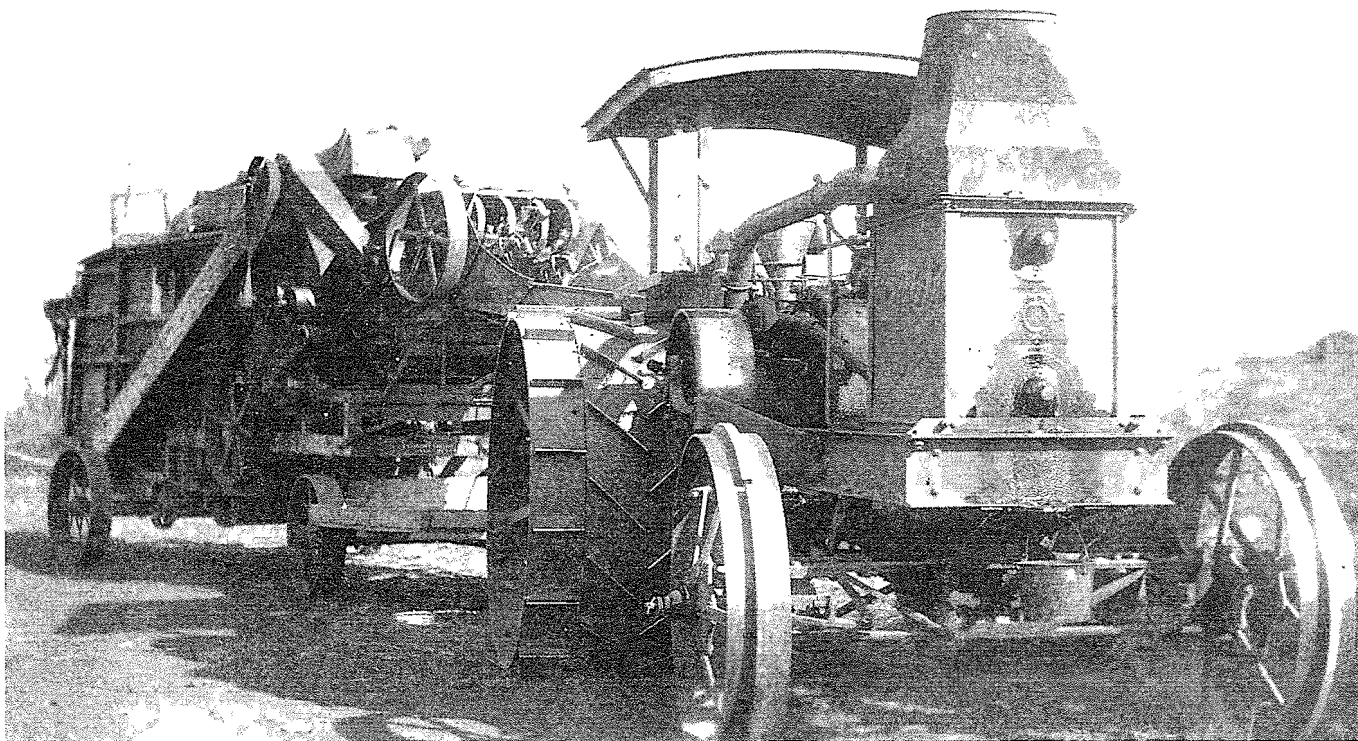


Smoking Fish

Agriculture

This was the first industry the settlers practised. The first task, after constructing a shelter, was to clear and plough the land, with the help of oxen, for growing a crop and a garden. Their lives depended on it. Other than the wildlife and berries, this was their only food source. Perhaps this is one of the reasons why the spirit of sharing was practised.

The work was hard, with no power tools. The removal of trees (scrubbing) and picking rocks were all done manually. It was a very slow process. As soon as the land was cleared and worked, grain crops were seeded by broadcasting by hand. When the grain was ripe, it was cut with a scythe and tied into bundles. When the grain stalks were completely dried, the stalks were placed on a large sheet



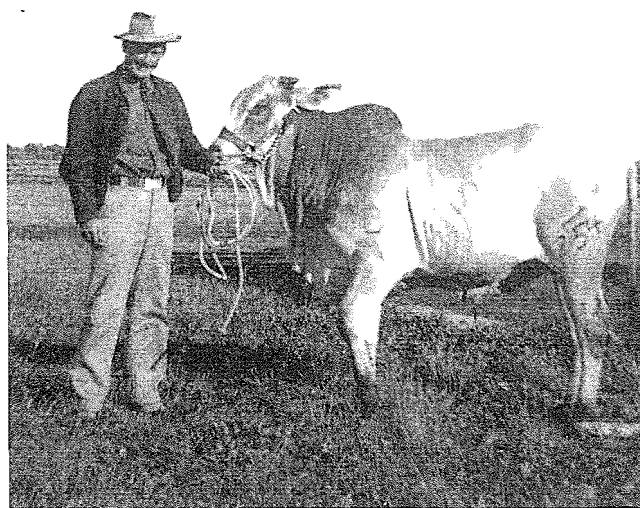
Old Pull Tractor

made by sewing the flour bags together, and beaten with a flail until the kernels fell out. The uncleaned grain would then be thrown in the air and the wind would blow away the chaff, leaving the cleaned kernels. The wheat was then taken to Sifton, to the flour mill, to be ground into flour. In 1920, wheat yielded 20 to 22 bushels per acre. With the introduction of chemical fertilizers and pesticides, yields have grown substantially.

Livestock and poultry were also of great importance. They meant a supply of fresh milk, meat and eggs.



Stooking grain



Walter Tuer with his Brahma Bull

The dawn of self-powered tractors meant larger equipment and with the introduction of the threshing machine in the 20's, the farms began to get larger.

Harvest was always the busiest time of the year.



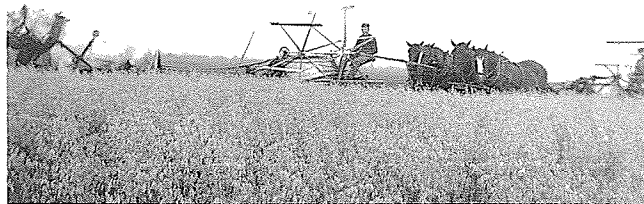
Breaking Land

Everyone hustled to get the crops into the granaries. Some had their own threshing machine and tractor. The neighbours would come with their team of horses, a hay rack and their pitch fork. They would work until the crop was off. Then the same crew would move to the next neighbor, until all the neighbours' grain was threshed. There was also custom threshing where the machinery would be moved from one field to another. The farmers were paid for their teams of horses. In return the farmer paid the threshing company six cents a bushel for wheat and four cents a bushel for oats.

It was also a very busy time for the women. There was the preparation of meals for the large threshing crews, breakfast, dinner, lunch and supper. It would be eleven o'clock or midnight before everything was done. Then it was up at six the next morning to start all over again. Besides the preparation of meals, it was also the season for preserving fruits and vegetables.



Burchuk farm-threshing gang



Cutting Grain With Binder

The Bull Ring was a government sponsored program set up to improve the stock. A registered pure-bred bull was provided to service the livestock for the farmers in the area. Farmers would take turns to board the bull.

As the farmer's herd of cattle grew, as many as twenty cows were milked every morning and night. The cream was shipped to the creamery. This practise began in the late thirties. It was good revenue.

As the years passed and with more desirable breeds of cattle being introduced, ranching flourished. The ranchers made this the largest cattle producing area of Manitoba.

The raising of registered chickens also proved to be a prosperous undertaking. Not only were the fresh eggs sold to customers, but fertilized eggs were sold to a hatchery in Winnipeg.

The biggest change in farming has come with the consolidation of family farm units. We can only admire the efficiency of today's farm operators with their heavy equipment and their willingness to adapt to modern agricultural technology.

Farms have diversified. There are more specialized crops being grown. Some farms are strictly grain, some strictly ranching, while others have grain and cattle. Agriculture has been a prosperous and viable industry from the beginning, with a bright future.

Activities

In March 1922, a Community Club was organized in Rorketon. President: W.S. Tate, Vice-president: Mrs. D.W. Johnson, Secretary/Treasurer: D.H. Payne.

March 1922, Application was made to the Agriculture Extension for the loan of a library.

In March 1922, a Baseball Club was also organized. President: J.S. Irven, Secretary/Treasurer: N.D. Huddlestone, Manager: C.N. Kutch, Committee: R.B. Wilson, Bert Rorke, N.C. Johnson, E. Laski and D.H. Payne.

July 1, 1923, was on a Sunday, so the sports day was held on Monday, July 2, instead, as Sunday was a day of rest.

4-H Club

Submitted by Gus Arnal, (Agricultural Representative of the Ste. Rose area 1946-1972): By their unselfish devotion and community minded spirit, the 4-H Club leaders have placed Rorketon and district to the forefront of this most worthwhile movement.

The community as a whole must also be recognized because without its support, no organization can survive.

It was with a very humble beginning that 4-H made its debut in Rorketon. A Swine Club ran into difficulty over a misunderstanding in prize money distribution. A Calf Club with limited membership was organized and did very well for many years.

However, farsighted individuals could see the many benefits of 4-H, and by branching into a variety of projects, the Rorketon 4-H Club became the largest to march in the 4-H Parade at the annual Dauphin Fair.

The willingness of members and the encouragement of parents ensured the participation in all extra



4H Beef

curricular activities such as public speaking, demonstrations, etc. Finals for these competitions, as well as for curling, brought forth many honours to the club and its members with participation in district and provincial finals. Members were also selected to take part in provincial and interprovincial conferences and distinguished themselves at these meetings.

Again, a salute to the leaders for their sacrifices of time and often money, to the parents without



whose support the club could not function, to the community for its encouragement and finally, to the young people with the foresight to appreciate the benefits derived from being a member of a 4-H Club.

The 4-H Club in the Magnet area was formed in 1944 or 45. Billy Johnson was the first leader of the Poultry Club, and Ethel Highfield, the first leader of the Sewing Club. The 4-H group expanded to include sewing and crafts, cooking, woodworking, mechanics, and beef to mention a few. After several years, the club was dissolved.



Magnet Poultry Club

The Toutes Aides 4-H club was organized in 1964 with beef, hunter safety, woodworking, sewing and Public Speaking Programs. Anthony Chiupka and Roland Van De Kerchove were two leaders of the Beef Club and Les Woods was the leader of the Hunter Safety Club. The Toutes Aides 4-H Club continued until 1971. There were time periods when Rorketon had no club. The Rorketon children would join Magnet and Toutes Aides Clubs.

Rorketon 4-H Clubs **submitted by Rose Taylor**

Though few details are available, it is thought there was a Boys and Girls' Club in the early 1940's with Helen Ackerman as main leader. In the early 1950's, Mrs. J. Gariepy, Mrs. P. Kukura and Winnie Papuga began a Sewing Club. However, this club was short lived. 4-H did not reorganize until 1961, when the Rorketon Check-Mates Sewing Club began with twelve girls. Winnie Papuga and Marguerite Mazier were the leaders. The club met at school. During this period, Mary Biletski's work was chosen to be entered at the Toronto Royal, where it won second prize. This club continued until about 1965.

In 1975, 4-H reorganized in Rorketon with the beginning of the Rorketon Variety Club, under Doreen Stammen. The club comprised the entire area, including Magnet and Toutes Aides. Their first executive consisted of, President: Randy Moffatt, Vice-President: Mark Senuik, Treasurer: Patrick Sliworsky, Secretary: Donna Stykalo, and reporter: Rae Kujanpaa.

During the last twenty-one years, the club has enjoyed the involvement of over one-hundred and eighty members and fifty-one leaders. Membership in 1981 climbed to ninety-five! Individual members who have had national travel opportunities include: Rae Kujanpaa who attended Citizenship Seminar in Ottawa and Bernie Smigelski who attended National Members' Conference in Toronto. Darlene Michalot served as President of the Manitoba 4-H Ambassadors.

Our club also took part in the following trips as a group. Open House Canada Exchanges, sponsored by Manitoba Club Council:

- 1979 - Trip to Newfoundland
- 1981 - Trip to Chatham, New Brunswick
- 1986 - Trip to Lanark County, Ontario
- 1989 - Trip to Barshead, Alberta District Exchanges, the members involved fundraised in order to go on these trips:
- 1980 - Trip to Oshweken, Ontario (6-Nations)
- 1983-1984 - Trip to Halecounty, Texas
- 1986 - Trip to Minnesota
- 1987 - Trip to North Carolina (Cherokee County)
- 1990 - Trip to Roby, Texas
- 1991-1992 - Trip to Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin

There was also a variety of annual trips for leaders to take part in. Our club participated in the 75th Anniversary 4-H celebrations held in Portage La Prairie, August 5-7, 1988. The club marched in the parade and took part in other activities. The club has consistently participated in interdistrict rallies in Dauphin, winning numerous awards for marching, the float, theme display and scrap book. Tug-O-War has always been a popular event at Rally Day and continues to be.

Public Speaking is done at club level where all members participate. The club has a rule where members who want to curl must say a speech. It has worked very well over the years. The first and second place winners then go on to district level and from there to regional level.

The club has four fundraisers each year. The selling of our Community Calendar is in its 18th year. This has been and still is very successful. We



Rorketon Sewing Club

also have a Spring Tea and Bake Sale. The Manitoba Highways sponsors the 4-H Club in the annual Highway Clean-up of a designated stretch of highway and ditch. 4-H Christmas Cards are also sold.

The club is involved in several activities. A specific weekend is set aside for the clubs for Ste. Rose District curling.

Each year, the club, along with the Rorketon Volunteer Firemen, co-sponsor the Community Christmas Party. This event has been going on for several years.

The Rorketon 4-H Variety Club has a large variety of projects to offer the members: all the projects that have been around for years, plus a lot of new and exciting ones. Members have opportunities to take part in workshops each year, at both the Junior and Senior levels. They also can apply to attend 4-H camp each summer.

Each year usually in April or May, the club holds its Achievement Day, where members display projects they have worked on during the year. These are judged and award ribbons are presented.

Executive for the 1996-1997 year is:

Head Leader - Debbie (R) Murray

Co-Head Leader - Darcy Hill

President - Ryan Smigelski

Vice-President - Craig Murray

Secretary - Jennifer Huhtala

Treasurer - Laurel Sedor

Club Reporter - Tanya Robbins

District Council Reps - Rose Taylor and Florence Turko

4-H has been and still is very important part of our community with lots to offer our youth.

Ukrainian Dancing

In the early 1940's, Walso Avramenko from Hollywood travelled through Manitoba to promote the Ukrainian culture. He stopped in Rorketon and taught Ukrainian dancing to the older children. He was raising money to produce a movie called, Marusia, named after the main dancer, a young girl called, Maria. The film was a great success, and viewed all across Canada.

In the mid 1940's, Walter Tuer organized the Ukrainian dancing under the direction of Mr. Tyziuk. The dancers performed in Weiden, Horyn and the surrounding area.

In 1950, Harry Chornoboy, a teacher in Rorketon, took it upon himself to teach Ukrainian dancing to six young students, Alex Biletski, Fred Werbiski, Jean Polowski, Dianne Korotash, Katherine Barnett, and Pauline Boyechko. They would practice once a week in the school.

The dancers competed in an amateur show in Fork River. Because they raised the most money, they had the opportunity to compete in Dauphin. They placed second in a contest that was held in the spring of 1952. They performed in the Lakson Theater for many special occasions and were the main attraction for Mother's Day and Christmas Concerts.



Ukrainian Dancers

The Ukrainian dancing was active until the mid 1950's. In 1986, dancing was re-introduced with 35 members taking part, starting at the age of four. It was sponsored by the Lawrence Recreation Commission who paid for most of the expenses including wages for the instructor. The club is now self-supporting with the introduction of several fundraisers. One-hundred and four students have taken part in the last ten years.

Rorketon Rusalka Dance Group

submitted by Debbie (N) Murray

The Rorketon Rusalka Dance Group was formed in 1986 as an activity for the youth in our area. The first instructors were Tara Shewchuk and Charlene Sedor. When Tara and Charlene graduated from school, their positions were taken over by Kyla Shewchuk and Andrea Sedor, until they too graduated. To continue building upon the strong foundation established by our young instructors, the group acquired the instructing skills of Ken Matlashewski. Under Mr. Matlashewski's instruction, the group has become skilled in various regional dances of the Ukraine.

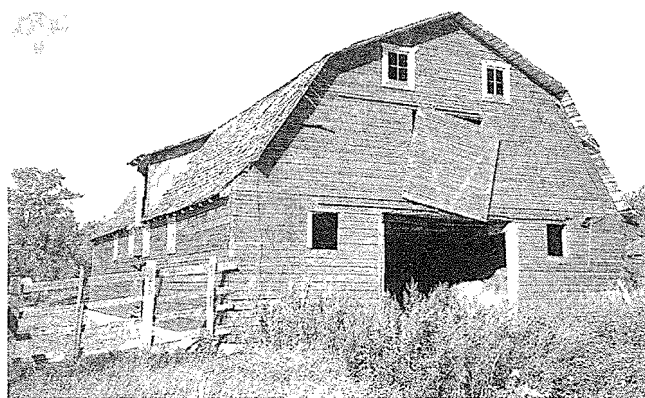
In the beginning, the group performed in simple costumes of white shirts and black sweat pants for the boys, and white blouses and simple red skirts for the girls. The group's costuming has come a long way. Their beautifully detailed costumes represent the Poltava, Transcarpathian, and Hutzal regions in the Ukraine, with Boukovanian costumes in the discussion stage. The costumes are made by members of the group. Some of the footwear is brought from the Ukraine by Mr. Matlashewski, who visits the Ukraine annually to expand his knowledge of the Ukrainian culture and in turn pass it on to his students.

In the beginning, the group had one major performance, the annual concert. In the last few years, the dance group entered competitions in Winnipeg, Teulon, Regina, and of course at Dauphin's Ukrainian Festival. The dancers have been very successful, returning home with high medal counts. Their dedication to learning and perfecting the intricate steps and interpreting the characteristics of each region for their audiences has made them a delight to watch.

Barn Dance

In the early 1950's the Honish family finished the barn loft floor with the intention of starting "barn dances". A stair on the west side gave access to the loft. Benches were placed on each side along the long wall. After every dance, Hilda and Delphine scrubbed and waxed the floor on their knees. It was ready for next dance which took place every two weeks for the first year then once a month until the dances were discontinued. Admission was one dollar. Wilfred and Rufus provided the music. Mrs. Honish with the help of the girls baked buns and they sold hot dogs at ten cents each.

John Didychuk also started "barn dances" in the mid 1950's. The local musicians played. Lunch was served. Admission was one dollar.



Honish's Barn where the dances were held

In the mid 1900's, there were many good musicians in the municipality. A dance was held every week, either at someone's home or at the school. Everyone who could play an instrument would take turns providing music.

The dances started early in the evening. There was always a good crowd, good floor, good music, good times and then the first thing they knew it was good morning again.

After the halls were built, dances were held in the halls. Rorketon Orange Hall had its share of good times. Admission was 25 cents. The musicians were payed whatever was dropped in the hat which was not much, but it was a labour of love. Some walked miles just to play, others walked to come to dance. Now there are but a few bands left. Another era is coming to an end.

"Hard times dance will be held in the Orange Hall on Friday night. As overalls are to be worn, everyone will be able to attend providing they come across a half dollar in the old overalls' pockets. Everybody come, but be sure and leave off your red tie or you may get fined at least \$50.00." (excerpt Dauphin Herald)

The Scotch Dances

The Reel, Highland Fling, and the Sword Dance were performed by girls from the Magnet area. Joan and Diane Stammen, Anna and Dorothy Preston, Dorothy Ackerman and Jeneatt Honish were the participants.

At noon, the girls would go from school to Len Murray's home in Magnet to practise the dancing. Mr. Murray would supply the music on his violin. He would also supervise the dancing. There were performances at concerts and at the Dauphin Fair.

In the early 1950's, tap dancing was introduced to the area. Marion Stammen generously gave of her time and taught four girls, Joan, Diane and Mary Ellen Stammen and Jeneatt Honish. They went on to perform in various concerts.

Box Socials

A box social was meant to be a fund raiser. The ladies would decorate a basket and prepare a lunch for two. Hopefully, the highest bidder would be her husband or her beau. It was not always the case. If a young man had his eye on the young lady, the basket would go for a high price.

The Carnival

The carnival was held at the skating rink, in March, in the late 1940's, bringing the long cold winter to an end. It gave everyone an opportunity to participate in this outdoor event.

Nick Marchenski generously supplied the generator that was necessary to generate power for proper lighting.

There were between twenty-five to thirty figure skaters competing. After the competition, spectators were entertained with a hockey game. Hot dogs were sold.

Tickets were sold, and after the activities, a Carnival Queen was crowned.



Rorketon Carnival

Rorketon Baseball / Orthodox Softball / Fastball

submitted by Fred Budzey

My earliest memories of baseball in Rorketon involved John Perepeluk and Mike Hanchar pitching for the Rorketon team. Other members of the

team were Joe and Felix Kubas, Bill and Mike Kendzerski, John Inkster, Omalin Budzey, Bert Ackerman, Matt Benyk, etc. This was in approximately 1942 to 1946.

About this time there was a group of Rorketon girls who were also making a name for themselves as top-notch ball players. Some of the players on that team were Eileen and Doris Laycock, Emilia Kubas, Mary Rehaluk, Dorothy Mitchell, Ann and Nellie Korotash, Eva Didychuk, Mary Glena, and others. According to Mary (Rehaluk) Juce, Ann Korotash was one of the best pitchers at any given tournament. The girls didn't have as many teams to play against as the boys. Because they were so skilled, other teams became reluctant to play against Rorketon. It was quite a long time before Rorketon had another team as skilled as this one.

Baseball gave way to orthodox softball, and many of the same players continued with the game. Mike Kendzerski was a deceptive, accurate left-handed orthodox pitcher, supported by Mike Hanchar and Peter Korotash, whose strong points were speed and accuracy. Joe and Felix Kubas, John Inkster, Mike and Bill Bednarz, were among the players who played for Rorketon during those years.

Games were played against other rural communities:

Magnet - Jim and Farrell Murray, Cletus, Dennis, Werner and Harold Honish, Sid Ackerman, Raymond Moffatt, Charlie McKinnon, Jerome and Donald Stammen, and others.

Methley - Alf, Ardel, Jerry, Charlie and Cliff Hopfner, Arnold and Martin Luke, Ron, Teddy and Reg Boxell, Joe Katchur, and others.

Meadowlands - Paul, John and Ernie Shewchuk, Mike and Sam Martyniuk, Mac, Steven and Allen Sliworsky, Jack Feduik, Louie and Rene Nedelec, and others. Paul Shewchuk was another left-handed orthodox pitcher who was very effective and competitive.

Vedenia - Bill, Mike and John Smigelski, Fred, Peter and Bill Didychuk, John and Bill Matychuk, Joe Katchur, Peter Dzuba, Mike Bzowy, Mike Kerelation, and others.

Ste. Rose, Dauphin, Mossey River, Fork River, and Winnipegosis were other teams that provided opposition.

In the early 1950's, Rorketon developed two teams: the one mentioned above and a younger generation group that wanted their own ball team. Players on the younger team included Jim Laycock, John and Peter Tkatch (Weiden), Peter Tkatch (Rorketon), Bill Rehaluk, Martin Boyechko, Alex Boyechko, Stanley Jastrebski, Roy Yaeger, Fred

Budzey, Tony Didychuk, Larry Fraser, Ted and Walter Shyiak, Adam and John Sedor, Melvin and Melfort Hill, Walter and Metro Pretula and others. All played for Rorketon at one time or another.

The communities mentioned above provided opposition in the form of ball tournaments as there were no leagues. Almost every Sunday one community or another would host a picnic and ball tournament, and when Rorketon wasn't hosting a picnic, the ball team would enter someone else's tournament. Players would share in the cost of the entry fee to take part in the tournament and would share in any prize money won. The entry fees were almost entirely used as prize money, as the greater the amount of prize money, the more teams would enter. The more teams entered, the more people would attend as in those days it was interest and support for your local ball team that would encourage people to attend picnics. The communities would make their profit from concession sales.

In the early 1950's, Rorketon, Magnet, Ste. Rose, Winnipegosis, and Fork River formed a baseball league. This lasted for about two years but orthodox softball regained its popularity probably due to the fact that all picnics or tournaments held softball games.

The first fastball (windmill style) pitcher to arrive on the scene was RCMP constable Dwayne Brown who was stationed in Dauphin in the mid-

fifties. He was intimidating with his speed and ability to throw curves but did not have enough defensive or offensive support, so Rorketon was still able to win their share of tournaments. After watching the windmill style pitching, many players from Rorketon and surrounding areas developed this style of pitching which is still popular today.

This report is basically up to approximately 1956. Since that time there have been many skilled ball players in Rorketon and surrounding areas. However, when one takes into consideration the fact that there was almost no coaching or training for the earlier or later generation ball players, one can only wonder how good some of the boys and girls could have become with proper coaching and training.

Apologies are extended for players' names left out.

Rorketon Hockey - Early Years

Because Rorketon had a small population, there weren't many players to choose from so many of the same boys played baseball in the summer and hockey in the winter. Some could not afford skates. Others couldn't travel to town on difficult roads in winter and so did not play hockey. Some boys had to help on the farm in summer, so could not take the time to play baseball.

Hockey was played on an outdoor rink. As soon as it was cold enough to freeze, the ice would be



Hockey Team- Winners of Scrase Trophy B: Gladwin Scott, Unknown, Roy Yeager, Walter Shyiak, Mr. Scrase, Harold Pollack, Bud Abersrad, Dan Iwanchysko, Tony Didychuk, F: Jim Laycock, Alex Biletski, Unknown, Peter Tkach, Glen Scott, Neil Johnson and Walter Chitick

started. Sometimes it was as early as the middle of November, but usually by the middle of December, there was enough ice to start playing hockey. There were no televisions or other distractions, so boys and girls, young men and women congregated at the rink. After snow storms, it was not unusual to see fifteen or more people helping to shovel the snow off the rink. Around the end of February the sun would be strong enough to melt one side of the rink, making it difficult for the player who was on that side. It was always sad when the rink was closed for the season.

Although everyone on the team was special, my earliest memories of hockey involved my two heroes, John Perepeluk and Mike Hanchar. John was quick and shifty often stick handling quickly past his opponents and getting good shots on goal. Mike used his long reach and long stride to stick handle around opponents. When he couldn't get through, Mike would circle back drawing opponents out of position and then skating in and scoring some very pretty goals.

When a player broke a hockey stick and threw it over the boards, the really young boys would scramble to retrieve the pieces because for most of them, splicing the broken pieces was the only way they could have hockey sticks. Some dandy fights occurred over broken hockey sticks!

Hockey in the forties was more of an individual game than at present. Players involved at this time included: John Perepeluk, Mike Hanchar, John Inkster, Felix and Joe Kubas, Mike and Bill Bednarz, Omalin and Mersil Budzey, Dick Stark, Tony Iwanchysko, Ben Korotash, Eli Antonishen, Ted Luke, Jim Laycock, Metro Pretula, Nick Biletski, and others.

Teams from Ste. Rose, Dauphin, Fork River and Winnipegosis would come to play in Rorketon. The games would be played on Sundays in the early afternoon. This would allow the opposition to drive in, play the game, and drive out before it got too dark. Roads and communication were not very good and so it was amazing how many people from town and surrounding areas would turn out to watch the games. Although the game could be watched from inside, the windows would fog up quickly, so most people would stand on the snow banks along the hockey rink. Often both sides were filled, end to end, no matter how cold it was.

Occasionally fights would break out on the ice and it was not uncommon for fans to get involved. Mr. Philip Rehaluk rarely missed a game insisting that no-one would hurt his boys while he was around! His favourite trick was to lift an offending

player off the ice and bury him in the snow, usually accompanied by a few clouts to "smarten him up". Pete Tkatch Sr. was usually one of the goal judges and came to our rescue when we had problems. Mike Dutchak, known as "Giant", also got involved regularly. During one game when a fight broke out, Mike came flying over the boards onto the ice. His mickey of "Homebrew" fell out of his pocket and smashed on the ice. It was so comical to see him lament over his broken bottle that the fight stopped right then and there. Maurice Chornoboy was usually the referee.

For those that could afford it, a blue New York Ranger sweater with a big red "R" on the front (also standing for Rorketon) was a proud possession. Later some players bought yellow and black Boston sweaters, cutting out the bottom of the "B" to make it into an "R". Few had stockings or hockey pants to cover their pads; most just had kneepads strapped over their trousers.

Roads and communications improved so Laurier, Sifton, Alonsa, Sandy Bay, RCMP Team-Dauphin and Kelwood among others were added to the list of teams played. On one of the trips to Kelwood, a sudden winter storm came up and the players were not able to make it back to town that Sunday evening. To make matters worse, many high school students had made the trip as fans. There were a lot of anxious families in Rorketon that night, wondering whether the group was safe or not. At our house, my sister and two older brothers were on the trip. My father was worried, but he kept soothing my distraught mother by insisting that Adam Juce (Principal of the High School) would look after things. Fortunately Mr. Juce and the group arrived just in time to attend school classes on Monday morning! Parents had no problem getting their children to bed early that Monday evening!

In the early fifties, CNR station agent, Neil Johnson, was posted to Rorketon and Harry Chornoboy came to teach school. It was these two who taught more of a team oriented game. Some of the players involved in the fifties were: Jim Laycock, Mike Bednarz, Dan Iwanchysko, Mersil and Fred Budzey, Martin Boyechko, Harry Chornoboy, Neil Johnson, Matt Didychuk, Bill Rehaluk, Peter Tkatch, John Tkatch, Nick Biletski, John Inkster, Felix Kubas, Tony Didychuk, Ted and Walter Shyiak, Peter Benyk, Roy Yaeger, Ed "General" Demkiw, Leo and Sylvio Plamondon (Ste. Rose), and others.

Harry Chornoboy felt he had to "look after" some of the younger players. On one occasion, his defence partner, Dan Iwanchysko, delivered an

especially hard check to one of the Fork River players. Dan was about to get punched, but Harry intervened. The Fork River player then used his stick to deliver a two-handed chop over Harry's head, knocking him out cold. Needless to say, the game ended right there and we had to rush Harry to the hospital in Winnipegosis for stitches and observations. When Mr. Chornoboy arrived at school the next day with the patch on his forehead, the students all thought he was a real hero!

Hockey nights were Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 7:00 pm. to 9:30 pm. We either practised, played a game or shovelled snow.

Rorketon was becoming recognized as a good team and so entered the Provincial C Hockey Playoffs. It was a home-and-home total goal series. Rorketon kept winning until the final when they met Reeder (a team with seven brothers) from near Elkhorn. Rorketon lost both games 9-6 and so Reeder won the Provincial C Championship.

Dauphin invited Rorketon to play in a tournament for the Scrase Trophy. The first year they attended, they were a little short of players because of injuries and some who couldn't attend. To make matters worse, Dan Iwanchysko got a severe cut and lost a lot of blood, leaving him weak. (He would have lost more if not for the "quick thinking" of Jean (Rehaluk) Chornoboy). Although Dan and the rest of the team tried their best, they were worn down so Minitonas won the final. The following year Rorketon again went through the tournament undefeated and met Minitonas. This time Rorketon won handily and came back with the Scrase Trophy.

It was during the Scrase tournament that members of the Dauphin Kings recognized the ability of Jim Laycock. He was invited to join the Kings and all his friends and former team-mates listened to the games on the radio wishing he would do well. Although he was successful, he chose not to return to the Kings as he decided he wanted to start "a new team" of his own and so shortly thereafter he married Emily Zaplitny.

This report ends with the fifties. Apologies are extended to anyone forgotten and left out.

From 1983-85 there were about 50 boys interested in hockey. With the co-operation of Crane River and surrounding area we managed to ice Atom, Pee Wee, Bantam and Midget teams. There were practises for different age groups every night and we had games with Ste. Rose, Crane River, Ethelbert, Winnipegosis and Gilbert Plains. We won a few trophies at tournaments. The local businesses donated uniforms for everyone with Rorketon written on the front and the name of the business on the

back. Coaches were Ken Stammen, Myron Helash, Roland Van de Kerkove, Bob Bonnett, Dan Iwanchysko, Walter Werbiski and Michael Schurko. The concession was open every night, as well as for games, with hot dogs and drinks for sale.

Rorketon Community Club Curling

Rorketon has its share of great curlers. For the first few years, all the curling events were mixed. Entry fees were five dollars a season and fifty cents a game. The first Ladies' Bonspiel was a closed event in which 12 rinks competed for 12 prizes. It was to encourage local participation. Later on, the club organized curling events such as the Men's, Ladies', Legion, Farmers' and Wildlife Bonspiels. The prizes were donated by companies like Eaton's, United Grain Growers, Manitoba Hydro, Manitoba Telephone, and local businesses. Today only the trophies are donated by businesses or individuals. Prizes are bought by the club. In the 1960's, dances and banquets became part of the curling bonspiels and are held at the Rorketon Parish Hall.

Through the year, the club rents the lobby and the rink for various functions: family reunions, community socials and elections.



Rorketon Curling. Pete Kakura, Wally Burtniak, Joe Panagapka, John Biletski

Centennial Park

In 1967, land was purchased for a Centennial Park, across from Manipogo Beach, NE 30-29-15. Land was cleared, ready for use. Throughout the years, picnics and ball tournaments were held in the park. Frank Papuga had a dream that one day this park would become a golf course.

Abbotshall District

August 14, 1919, was a most exciting day for Abbotshall. Napoleon, known as Paul Dufault had just finished building the Abbotshall School No. 1875. His workmanship was indeed complimented by everyone, standing second to none in Manitoba. The families of the district of Abbotshall held a special gathering to celebrate. It started with the first meeting to be held in the new school. After the meeting was adjourned, the dancers tested the new floor. Supper was served at twelve and the dancing resumed. Chas O'Brian, as usual, entertained. With the good mood, splendid floor and great music, the party broke up in the wee hours of the morning.<excerpt Dauphin Herald>

When the school opened, there were forty-five students in attendance. Some walked miles through swamps. There was so much water that they would remove their leather boots, so they would not be ruined, and put them on when they reached the school. Most children only completed grade five.

The first teacher was Miss Middleton. After a month, the trustees, being satisfied with her performance as a teacher, hired her for the remainder of the year.

"October 16, 1919 an informal meeting was held by a number of residents of the district for the

purpose of discussing the advisability of forming an educational, literary or debating club in this locality.

We understand it is the view of the promoters to have committees attached to take charge of sports in season, such as tennis, baseball, etc. During the winter months, debates, addresses, discussions, etc. and occasional social evenings would be the features. It is hoped that any move along this line will be sufficient to have the approval and support of all.

"October 16, 1919, we understand that Mr. Frederick Orchard of the Abbotshall Post Office is figuring on giving up the work as postmaster in the near future. If this is correct it will be much regretted by a grateful public as the service and courtesy extended have always been excellent.

August 26, 1920, the Abbotshall reporter must be too busy with the new engine to report. We certainly miss his live reports. Come again. We hear nothing of the Freedale oil wells, only that all wells are dry for want of rain.

C. P. O'Brian narrowly escaped a most serious accident last week. At a party, an unknown mule with a white tail tried earnestly to make an impression on "Charlie". "Maud" insistently made efforts to rest her front feet on O'Brian's face and was



Abbotshall School



Charlie Barnett on pipes

about to leave a "marked impression" there, but James Garrick who saw the danger, came to the rescue.

October 30, 1919, Jack Cummings has completed his dwelling house. We hope he has made it large enough for future requirements. You have the cage, Jack, now for the bird!

October 30, 1919, Donald Inkster has returned home from the harvest fields, and doubtless he will live quietly at home for some time, having put in a good season at threshing.

The telephone added a new dimension to the lifestyle of the pioneers."<excerpt Dauphin Herald>

Church Services

Church services were held in the school every second Sunday at 3:00 p.m. with an average attendance of thirty. Mr. K.T. Postlethwaite was the minister, for the summer only, because he had to further his education. He returned to college in the fall 1920.

In 1967, the school closed permanently. The contents and the school building were auctioned off. Mr. Charley Inkster bought the old school and land for \$300.00 and it became a place of worship.

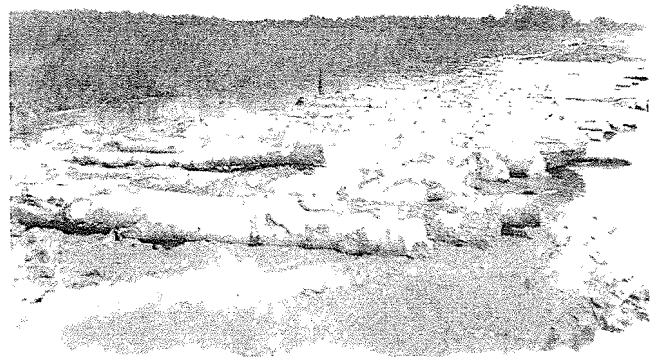
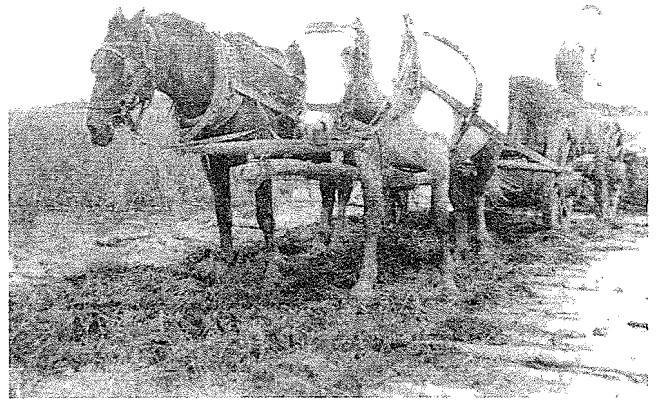
The school hall that held so many activities is still standing firmly on the same three acres of land. At a glance it appears to be in need of repair, a few broken windows and weather beaten clapboard siding. The faded sign, "Abbotshall School No. 1875" has not moved and the writing is still readable.

It was indeed great workmanship; for seventy-seven years it withstood the element of time. It has become but a memory for those who went to school and attended the functions. It's part of life, the old gives way to the new.

The good old time, it really was the good old

times. Every two weeks a dance was held in the school. Fortunately, there were many good musicians who took turns to provide the music. There was a collection and the money went to the musicians. A few of the musicians were, Arthur and Karl Begg, Bill Fraser, Norman Johnston, Bert and Harvey Ackerman.

It was a time of trust. It didn't matter what time of the year it was, one could stop at any place along the trail leading to Ochre River, Makinak or Ste. Rose for the night. Travelers were always welcome and a new friendship was formed.



Sunday School at Abbotshall School-1936

The building of Abbotshall Road

School

Lists of Teachers and Students

1919 - Trustees Jim Garrioch
Alex Stewart
Walter Alexander

Secretary Treasurer: Tom Cameron

First Term Teacher: Mildred E. Middleton

Second Term Teacher: Beatrice Thompson

Enrollment - 22 students

Grade I - VII

Age	Grade	Name
8	1	Pearl Ackerman
8	1	Wilfred Coleman
6	1	Pearl Kinley
6	1	Mercella Hayes
10	1	Bert Ackerman
7	1	Agnes Hayes
9	1	Margaret Hayes
9	1	Joyce Edgely
9	1	Mary Garrioch
9	1	Iva Fraser
		William Fraser
		Jessie Fraser
12	3	John Inkster
14	4	Leah Coleman
10	4	Claude Edgely
14	4	Georgie Hill
11	5	Hazel McDougall
14	5	Viola Inkster
12	5	Violet McDougall
12	6	Elva Kinley
12	7	Gertrude Edgely

Teachers

Year	Name	Salary per year
1924-29	Mary S. Wrenshall	\$800
1929-30	Adeline R. Kinnettle	\$750
1930-31	Grace Roberts	\$800
1931-32	Lylia Rogers	\$750
1932-33	Lylia Rogers	\$600
1933-35	Winnifred M. Clarke	\$40 per month
1935-36	Elizabeth H. Cumming	\$360
1936-37	Elizabeth H. Cumming	\$320
1938-39	Olive McMahon	\$500
1945-46	Violet Mulvenay	\$700
1946-47	Sheila Payne	\$950
1947-48	Emelia Kubas	\$700
1948-49	Joan McLaren	\$1000
1949-50	Denise Moreau	\$1000
1950-51	Ina Rawlings	\$1000
1951-52	Margaret Jose	
1952-53	Mary Maksymchuk	
1953-55	Lucy McCann	

1955-56	Jennie Boyechko
1956-57	Emma Arneson
1957-58	Ernest J. Burtiak
1958-59	Audrey Biletski
1959-61	M. Szport
1961-62	First term: M. Heschuk Second term: J. Harrison
1962-63	Miss Mackie
1963-66	Elizabeth Michalot

Class list for the last year that Abbotshall School was in operation.

Age	Grade	Name
6	2	Judy Inkster
8	3	David Boyechko
11	5	Lonnie Inkster
10	5	Denise Zastre
10	5	Robert Zastre
13	6	Vernie Zastre
14	7	Carole Zastre
12	7	Julia Zastre
15	7	Raymond Zastre
13	8	Tony Boyechko
14	8	Brian Inkster
13	8	Gerry Inkster

In 1967, schools were consolidated and students from the area were bussed to Rorketon.

Edillen School

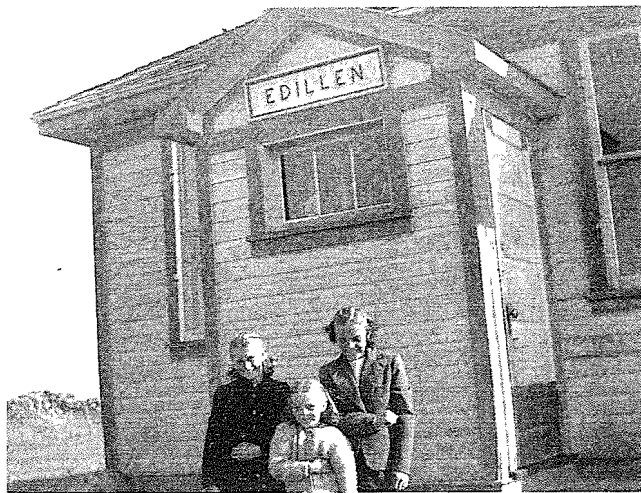
Edillen School, No. 1753, was constructed in 1916 on the SW 16-28-15. When the school opened, there were 45 students in attendance. Edillen was basically like the other one-room schools. There was no teacherage. Some teachers stayed with the Johnston family. The school was closed in 1964. A few years later, Carl Storozinski bought and moved the old school to the farm SE 16-28-15. It has been taken apart for the lumber.

Following are a few of the teachers:

Miss Ramsen
Miss McGhie (1922)
Mr. Ed. Honhosler
Miss Inez Abbot
Miss Claire McNeil (Johnson)
Mary Wallace
Vivian Gray (Didychuk)

School Cheers

Edillen Zip Boon-Bang
We belong to Edillen gang
We've got Zip, We've got Zeal,
We've got something you can't steal
E-D-I-L-L-E-N.



Edillen School, Betty Didychuk, Ann Sliworski, and Vicki Ziola

Family History

Bert and Helen Ackerman

Robert Emerson (Bert) Ackerman, the first son of Ed and Rachel (Simpson) Ackerman, was born at Portage La Prairie in 1909. Elizabeth Helen Cumming, the first daughter of Ned and Agnes Cumming, was born at Winnipeg in 1914.

Bert, his parents and baby sister, Pearl, moved to their homestead at Abbotshall in 1911. Helen, her parents and four- year-old sister, Dorothy, moved to their homestead in 1920. The Ackerman's belongings were hauled to Abbotshall by ox-drawn wagon. The Cummings hauled theirs by horse-drawn wagon. The Cumming and Ackerman homesteads were about four miles apart.

By the time Bert and Pearl were of school age, the nearest school was at Magnet and too far for them to travel each day. They were boarded with the Mason family at Magnet until some years later when a school was built at Abbotshall. Bert was allowed to attend school only when work on the farm was not more pressing, and was not able to attend at all after completing grade 6.

About 1915, the Ackerman family moved back to Portage La Prairie for a while where Bert's brother Harvey was born. They then returned to the homestead at Abbotshall where they remained until the early 1940's. A number of Bert's aunts, uncles and cousins had also come to the Abbotshall area to farm.

As he grew older, Bert's thoughts turned to building his own life. He worked on neighbouring farms, as well as at home. He even travelled as far



Ackerman Family Reunion. Back: Harvey, Ed, Arthur Begg, Rachel & Bert Ackerman. Front: Harvey's wife Pearl & baby, Helen Ackerman & baby Teddy, Wayne & Roy

as Saskatchewan on threshing crews. He worked on the Hudson Bay Railway line in northern Manitoba from The Pas to Churchill. He installed a refrigerated box on a truck, and in his "spare time" butchered beef and travelled about the area selling it. In 1937, he bought a small town lot in Rorketon. He acquired two tiny buildings, one which he put on the front of the lot for the business and one which he put on the rear for his home, and started a butcher shop and egg grading station. The buildings needed quite a bit of work to make them habitable.

In 1926, Helen's teacher was convinced that Helen was such an outstanding student she could complete grades 7 and 8 in a three month period, and she did, but suffered a physical breakdown and lost the whole next year of school. For the next two years, the family moved to Winnipeg, where Helen and her sister Dorothy finished grades 9 and 10. Then her father took ill and the family returned to Abbotshall. Helen completed high school at Ste. Rose du Lac, while at the same time studying music and living at the convent there, surviving the strict discipline of the nuns. The following year she attended the normal school at Dauphin to obtain her teaching certificate.

From 1933 to 1937, Helen taught school at Crane River, East Bay and Abbotshall. The Crane Bay School at Crane River was very isolated, and particularly challenging. The former teacher left because he could not control the students, and it was Helen's first crack at real live teaching. The school had virtually no equipment and the only textbook for one course had no covers and even some pages missing. But the children, some, at least, were hun-

gry for knowledge and she improvised as necessary. She managed to control the students and, even though there were many tears, both hers and the students, she finished the year with success. One student said, "Miss Cumming, why do you bother with us? Years later, another student at a school reunion came up to her and said, "You were the best damn teacher we ever had."

In 1926, Bert decided Helen should be his future wife and set about establishing that relationship. Over the next few years he did succeed, although courting Helen meant courting the whole family. An outing almost always included her parents and often some or all of her three sisters.

By 1936, Bert had enough of courting the whole family and worked up the courage to ask Helen to marry him. After some very deep thought lasting at least four seconds, Helen said "yes". They were married at Helen's parents' new home in Rorketon on December 27, 1937. The minister came by train from Ochre River. They started married life in the tiny house behind the egg station. In fact, the house was so small that, if guests were there for a meal, a person wanting to get from the head of the table to the foot would have to go out the front door and come back in through the back door.

In December, 1938, their first son, Wayne Robert, was born and the tiny house started to feel pretty crowded. Soon after, they bought a lot with a small house at the end of the main street and moved the tiny house they had been living in to the front of the new lot, added a kitchen and two bedrooms and remained there until moving to British Columbia in 1946. In the early 1940's Bert's parents, Ed and Rachel Ackerman, moved from the farm to the small house at the back of the lot.

In 1940, Helen was asked to teach a term at Cecil School, a few miles from Rorketon, and her mother baby-sat Wayne. The most practical way to get to Cecil School in the winter was by dogteam and sleigh, so Bert acquired some dogs and trained them. Helen learned to mush her way through the snow. She survived the mad dashes through the willows and so did the dogs, although friends wondered how? The next year, Rorketon acquired an old house, moved it to the school yard and called it a high school. Equipment, books and supplies could come later. The teacher would have to improvise, and so she did, even making up workbooks by hand. Helen accepted the job as the first and only teacher that year, except for Clara Johnston who taught the art class.

In July, 1944, the day after Helen's 30th birthday, another son, Rae William, was born.

In 1946, a visit with family and friends in British Columbia convinced them to move to, as Norman Johnston, formerly of Rorketon, called it, "God's own country", at Canoe, British Columbia. They bought and packed an old truck, said good-bye to all their friends and set off in November. They bought a 20-acre place with an old house just out of Canoe and close to the Canoe school. Bert's parents Ed and Rachel Ackerman and Helen's uncle Jack Cumming accompanied them and remained at Canoe for the rest of their lives. Ed and Rachel built their own house right in Canoe. Jack Cumming lived with Bert and Helen until he died in 1957. Ed Ackerman died in 1966 and Rachel in 1977, at the age of 90.

Bert and Helen's third son, Edward George (Ted), came along in 1951.

At Canoe, Helen resumed teaching elementary school, and continued until her retirement in 1975. She was a very busy leader for many community events and remained very active in the Canoe senior citizens' group in retirement. Bert worked at the grocery store, managed an egg station, and worked on a government dredge in British Columbia, and on the Mackenzie River as far as Tuktoyaktuk, North West Territories, rising from watchman to dredge-master. He retired to his twenty acres with two tractors and tried to ride them both at the same time.

Their sons all married and had children of their own.

Wayne, who married Margaret Schulz at Canoe and is now divorced, became a chartered accountant and a partner in the world-wide firm KPMG. Now retired, he lives at Vanderhoof, British Columbia. They had two children, Derek and Paige. Derek works for British Columbia Forest Service and is studying to become a professional forester. He married Julie Ross and lives in Cranbrook, British Columbia. Paige earned her Master of Science degree in agriculture with specialty in fish sciences from UBC. She continues her studies toward her doctorate, while working part-time in a pet store. She lives with her significant other, Kirk Kohn, in North Vancouver.

Rae, who married Margot White at Calgary, earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in theatre at UBC and after being instrumental in the establishment of several theatres across Canada, including the Pantages in Toronto and the Calgary Arts Centre, is now the Director of Theatres for the City of Vancouver. Living in North Vancouver, they have two children, Kyla, born in 1988, and Ryan, born in 1993.

Ted, who married Susan Jansen in the Fraser

Valley, and is now separated, became manager of a small credit union and then a computer programmer working with fibre optics. He lives in Coquitlam. They have one daughter, Amelia, born in 1977, and presently in her last year of high school.

Bert died in 1986. Helen still lives at Canoe.

Edward and Rachel Ackerman

William Edward (Ed) Ackerman was born to George Emerson and Mary Elizabeth (Robinson) Ackerman in 1884 in Ontario.

Rachel Pearl Simpson was born to Robert and Jane (Agnew) Simpson in Portage La Prairie in 1887.

Ed's family moved to the MacGregor, Manitoba area. Some years later, Rachel and Ed met and married in 1906.

In 1909, son Bert arrived, to be followed by daughter Pearl in 1911 and son Harvey in 1915.

In 1911 several Ackerman relatives, including Ed, Rachel, Bert and the few months old Pearl, all packed up their belongings and moved to homesteads in the Abbotshall area. The next few years were understandably very busy getting the farms established and working.

About 1915, Ed's family moved back to Portage La Prairie area for a while, and Harvey was born there. They then returned to Abbotshall, where they remained farming until the early 1940's when Ed and Rachel moved into Rorketon to stay in a little house at the back of Bert's place.

In 1946, they packed up again and moved to Canoe, with Bert and his family, where they lived the rest of their lives.

As well as farming, Ed was a carpenter, and that became his main occupation after he left the farm. One of his last major project was the construction of a home for daughter, Pearl, and her husband, at Canoe, when they arrived in 1949.

Son Bert married Helen Cummings and they have three boys, Wayne, Rae and Ted. Bert died in 1986. Helen still lives at Canoe.

Daughter Pearl married Arthur Begg and they have one daughter Linda. They farmed at Abbotshall until 1949 when they moved to Canoe. Arthur then worked at the Co-op sawmill in Canoe until he retired. They all still live at Canoe.

Son Harvey married Doris Preston and they live on Saturna Island, British Columbia. Harvey left Abbotshall as a young man. He worked for Trans Canada Airlines for most of his working life. He is now retired. They have two sons, Douglas and Bradley. Douglas is divorced. Bradley married Pamela Klein and they have three daughters, Jillian,

Haley and Sashi. Both boys and their families live in the Vancouver area.

Ed died in 1966, and Rachel died in 1977 at the age of ninety.

Arthur and Pearl Begg

Pearl Ackerman was born in MacGregor, Manitoba in 1911. Her father Ed Ackerman, mother Rachel (Simpson) Ackerman and two year old brother Bert moved to their homestead in Abbotshall the same year, 1911, at the same time as several other relatives.

During those years, the nearest school was at Magnet and too far to travel each day. Pearl and Bert were sent to Magnet to board with the Mason family, until the establishment of Abbotshall School which they both attended as long as they could.

Arthur Begg was born at Moosomin, Saskatchewan in 1915. He moved to Abbotshall with his parents, Percil and May Begg and brothers and sisters in 1933. They purchased the Coleman place in the Abbotshall area.

Arthur met Pearl and they were married at Dauphin in 1937.

They bought the Dixon place in the Abbotshall area and started their own farm, where they lived and farmed until 1949. That year they bought a brand new 1949 Fargo pickup truck and sold the farm. They loaded their belongings and moved to Canoe, British Columbia where Pearl's parents and brother, Bert, and his family had moved in 1946.



Mr. & Mrs. Begg



Begg Family

Their daughter Linda was due to be born at any time. But Linda was the good soul that she still is, and waited to arrive until after Canoe was reached. She was born in June, 1949.

Arthur obtained employment with Saskatchewan Federated Co-op Canoe Sawmill and remained there until his retirement.

With the help of Pearl's father, Ed Ackerman, they built a nice house just out of Canoe and still live there.

They were very active in their religion over the years and Arthur was a ministerial servant in the congregation for quite a few years.

Linda is employed by Canada Post in Salmon Arm and has her own home just yards away from Pearl and Arthur.

Arthur is currently hospitalized and Pearl is still at Canoe.

Thomas and Mary Chamber's Family submitted by Margaret Harbottle

Thomas Buckland was born to Benjamin and Annie Chambers in England on September 11, 1887. He came to Canada to the Boissevain, Manitoba area in 1914. He joined the army and served with the Fort Garry Horse.

On December 29, 1920 he married Mary Louise Mannix. Mary was born October 14, 1898, in

Boissevain. They homesteaded in the Rorketon area until 1937 when they moved to Abbotshall. Tom passed away in August of 1950. Mary left the district in 1953 after her home burnt. She and her four youngest children went back to Boissevain. Mary died in July of 1978.

Tom and Mary had seven daughters. They are:

Mary Patricia (Patsy) married Frank Dishner. They had one child, Linda Mae. She has Tara, Buckland, Rachelle and Dean. Patsy is divorced and now lives in British Columbia.

Annie Louise married Donald Inkster. They had nine children: Bill, Ken, Mary, and Donna each married and have three, four, six and four children respectively. Jim, Timothy, Catherine, Arthur and Richard are all married and each have children. Annie lives in Brandon.

Elizabeth Jenet (Betty) married Ralph Bage. They had five children: Margaret, Norma, Bill, Jim and Lana. They are all married with children. Ralph died in 1984. Betty lives in Brandon.

Marjorie Adelaide married Ed Jacques. They have no children. They live in Ninga, Manitoba.

Margaret Josephine married Raymond Honish on May 20, 1952. We had five children: Ronald Raymond was born September 15, 1952, and died May 20, 1985. Wayne Larry, born May 23, 1954, married Lyne Kowalski 1977 and is divorced. Wayne and Paddy have two girls, Carla born December 23, 1984 and Cora Lee, born October 1, 1988. They live in Bruno, Saskatchewan. Brian Anthony Neil, born March 22, 1957, is single and lives in Peace River, Alberta. Leonard Timothy was born May 21, 1958, and married Joy in Outlook, Saskatchewan on October 7, 1989. They have two children, Leslie born July 25, 1988 and Travis born February 25, 1992. They live in Lethbridge, Alberta. Janice Marie, born June 21, 1962, married Dale Goran on October 5, 1989. They live in Sifton. Raymond and I were divorced in 1975. Raymond died July 14, 1989 at Bruno, Saskatchewan. I married Garold Harbottle on June 28, 1981 and am now separated. I live at Ditch Lake near Erickson, Manitoba.

Kathleen Isebel married Jack Grosjean and they had four children. Craig (died 1970); Connie married and has two boys. Adam married and has one child. Kay is divorced and lives in Brandon.

Susana married Howard Wood. They had three children: Dennis married and divorced and has a daughter. Debra married and has two sons. Brenda is single.

Mom and Dad raised two sons of Annie's; they were Charlie and Walter, both deceased, Charlie in

1986 and Walter in 1990. Walter had three children, Michael, Michelle and Marlon.

Nurse Hill was with mother when her last four children were born.

Edward William (Ned) Cumming

Ned was born in Fraserburgh, Scotland in 1881. About 1912, he and brothers Gordon, Jack, Arthur's wife Polly, immigrated to Canada and moved to Winnipeg. Ned was a carpenter. There, he met and married Agnes Stewart who was born in Glasgow, Scotland in 1887. She had been a tailor in Scotland, a sewing instructor in Johannesburg, South Africa, and was a telephone operator in Winnipeg.

Two daughters were born in Winnipeg, Helen in 1914 and Dorothy in 1916.

Ned joined the army during the Second World War and served in France. Wounded in the leg and left arm, he was returned to Winnipeg where he spent considerable time in hospital. The leg recovered, but his left hand remained without feeling and was deformed, reducing its dexterity.

About 1920, Ned, Jack and Arthur, with Polly's brothers Bob, Andy and John Wood, went to Abbotshall and took up homesteads. The families followed soon after. Agnes and daughters, Helen and Dorothy, stayed with Arthur and Polly in their small bare log home. Polly, in her Scottish accent, said, "but it's all m'ain," until Ned was able to complete their own home to the point where they could move in it.

The homestead was about six miles east of what is now Rorketon. The three Cumming brothers had read everything they could about farming and started their own farms. It didn't take long to learn that, although the books held a lot of theory, they didn't say that the cow might kick while being milked. They decided one of them should take a farm college course.

Being a returned and wounded soldier, Ned applied for and received a government grant for the agricultural course and some farm equipment. He took the course, and they bought wagons, sleighs, plow, harrows and an iron - wheeled tractor. Using Ned's training, they co-operated to develop their places. While the properties were not adjoining, they were only two or three miles apart. As was the custom in those days, building bees were held to build houses for all.

While there was quite a bit of grassland, a lot of trees had to be cut and the stumps pulled. It took some time to get the land broken and seeded, and there were so many stones to pick.



L-R: Lou Irvin, Anne Cunningham, Andy Irvin & James Cunningham

Finally, the crops of oats and wheat were in, some beef cattle, a purebred Holstein milk cow, two horses and some chickens were purchased, and the farm was in operation. The milk cow was so good it produced too much milk for the size of its udder and had to be milked three times a day.

Daughters three and four, Agnes and Myrtle were born at Abbotshall in 1922 and 1925. Both were born in the family home, Agnes, born in May, came before Helen and Dorothy could return with neighbour Mrs. Fraser, who, herself, had a baby that was only a couple of months old. Ned did the delivery and Mom and daughter were just fine.

Agnes (mother) occasionally became a bit "unsatisfied" with the country living and insisted on the family returning to Winnipeg for a year or so, a few times over the years. On one of these sojourns in Winnipeg, she discovered she was pregnant. Having seen a friend encounter trouble having a baby in the city, she would not even consider giving birth there and insisted on returning to Abbotshall, even though the only "qualified" assistance would be from the Red Cross nurse who was miles away.

Myrtle was born on a very cold Christmas Day. Mrs. Fraser helped with the delivery. Ned made a long cold sleigh ride to bring the Red Cross nurse who gave up her Christmas Day to be there as soon as possible after the birth. Myrtle and Mother were fine.

About 1928, they sold the animals and machinery and went to Winnipeg to allow Helen and Dorothy to take grades 9 and 10 which were not available at home. They stayed there for about two years. Ned took ill in about 1930 and they returned

to the farm which had stayed idle while they were gone. Cattle and machinery had to be bought again.

The family continued on the farm until 1937 when they dismantled the house, and sawed the logs into lumber to build their home in Rorketon. They remained there until early 1939 when Ned, Agnes and the two younger daughters moved to Vancouver, and then in 1942, to Powell River, British Columbia. Some years later, the house was moved from Rorketon to a property between the Magnet and Rorketon turnoffs, where it still stands.

Helen was sent to the convent at Ste. Rose du Lac to complete high school, returned home for a year and then attended normal school in Dauphin for one term. Returning home, she started teaching at Crane Bay School at Crane River to take over from a male teacher who could not control the children. Her experiences there are another story.

Helen (see Bert and Helen Ackerman).

Dorothy's health was not good and her further schooling was deferred until after Helen started teaching. She took her turn at the convent at Ste. Rose du Lac to complete high school, then went to nursing school at Dauphin and became a nurse. She married Gordon Mackintosh in Winnipeg in 1943, and moved to Fort Frances, Ontario where they had three children, Charlotte, Elizabeth and Gordon. Gordon (father) died in 1952 and Dorothy died in 1977. Charlotte lives in Winnipeg, married Brian Robbins and has two children, Catherine and Heather. Elizabeth lives in Duluth, Minnesota, married Jack Taylor, and has one son, Paul. Gordon lives in Winnipeg, married Margaret Mueller and has three children Cotelle, Gordon and Dorothy.

Agnes (daughter) married Bert McKinnon of Magnet, Manitoba. They moved to Powell River. They have two children, Wendy and David. Agnes, like her mother, was a telephone operator, is now retired and still lives in Powell River. Bert died of Second World War complications in the early 1950's. Wendy and David have not married.

Myrtle married Vern Cunningham in Powell River, where they both still live. They have three children, Mark, Kathleen and Dale. Vern was a millwright for the paper mill. Myrtle was a bookkeeper and also helped to establish her son Mark's pottery business. Myrtle and Vern are both retired. Mark lives in Vancouver and is not married. Kathy, who lives in Victoria, is married to Mark Erickson and has one child Drew. Dale lives in Lantzville, British Columbia, is married to Linda Mjaaland and has two children, Tamara and Michelle.

Ned died in 1951 and Agnes in 1968.

Bert Fraser Family History

Bert's parents, William and Elizabeth, came to Canada from Scotland in 1910. They went to an area west of Brandon where Bert was born in 1912.



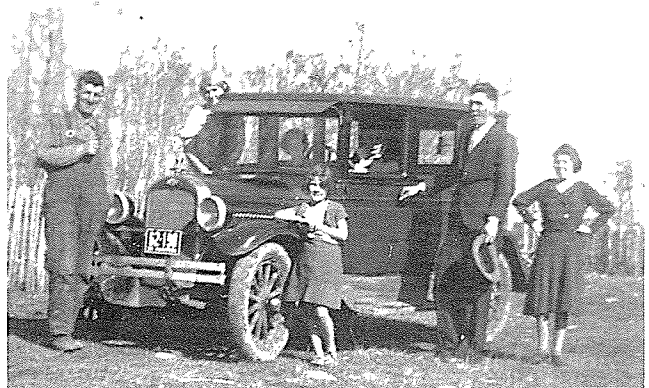
Mr. & Mrs. Frazer & Beth

Katherine's parents, James and Johana Garriock, came to Canada from the Orkney Islands, Scotland, in 1912. They went to the Abbotshall area where "Kabby", was born in 1917. Both Bert and she attended Abbotshall School.

Bert and Kabby were married in 1938 and moved to their own farm four and a half miles east of Rorketon.

They had one child, Larry, who now lives in Calgary with his wife, Victoria.

Bert was born into a family of two brothers; Bill and Jim, and five sisters; Ina, Jessie, Elsie, Isabel, and Beth.



Frazer family leaving for Church



Bert Frazer with a 1925 car

Katherine's family included one brother, James, and one sister, Mary.

Bert and Katherine have two grandsons, Dale and Dean, and one great grandson, Dylan.

In 1948, they bought their first truck from Nick Werbiski.

In 1970, they moved into the town of Rorketon.

Jim and Johana Garriock Family

Jim Garriock came to Canada from the Orkney Isles off northern Scotland in 1912. Johana and baby, Mary, arrived in 1913. First they lived in Graysville, a small town south of Winnipeg. They came to Rorketon, along with his brothers George, Jack and Sandy. George returned to Graysville where he passed away several years later. Jack moved to Winnipeg and married Viola McDougall. Sandy returned to Scotland where he passed away years later. Jack and Viola both passed away in Winnipeg years later.

Jim and Johana homesteaded in the Abbotshall district. In 1948 they moved into Rorketon. The farm was sold to Frank Ranville of Crane River. Later on, Charlie Inkster purchased it. Now John and Olga Inkster (Charlie's son) have made their home there.

Jim worked at a variety of jobs in his time. He worked on construction, then in the mill at Terrace



Garriock in Abbotshall

Bay, Ontario, where his son Jim lived. Later he worked, at what we believe was his favourite job, at Laycock's Garage, repairing tires and pumping gas. First he worked for George Laycock and then for his son, Roy Laycock.

Johana enjoyed her friends in town. She was proud of her large and beautiful garden of flowers, vegetables and fruit. She was also an active member of the United Church.

One of the highlights of their lives was a trip to the Orkney Isles. Jim met a sister for the first time, as she had been born after they had left.

Jim and Johana had a family of three children, Mary, Kathleen, and Jim Jr.

In 1937, Mary married John Inkster Sr. and had a family of two boys, Raymond and Barry. (see John Inkster Sr.)

Kathleen married Bert Fraser in 1938 and they had one son, Larry.

Jim Jr. married Rose Fedak in 1953 and they had two sons, Jim and Dennis.



Mr. & Mrs. Garriock after they moved to town

Jim served in the Canadian Army in World War II. He enlisted in September of 1943 and served overseas, being discharged in May of 1946.

They are a real example of two pioneers of this country. They left their homeland to come to a strange and what they thought was a better land. (a land of bush, swamps, and always stones) They worked hard for what they had and had very little money to do it with. Life was not easy, but they did their best.

Jim passed away February of 1978. Johana passed away in January of 1972. They are laid to rest in Ridgeway Cemetery.



Mrs. Garriock, Mrs. Bert Frazer's mother

John and Jane Holden

John and Jane Holden came to Canada in 1902 with nine of their ten children from Manchester, England. They settled on a farm at Hartney, Manitoba, farming there until the war took their younger sons overseas. They lived with their youngest daughter, Kitty and Jim Mitchell in Winnipeg, until moving with them to the Rorketon area.

They adapted to the hardships of getting started on the homestead. John was a good cattle man and could train the cattle dogs like no one else.

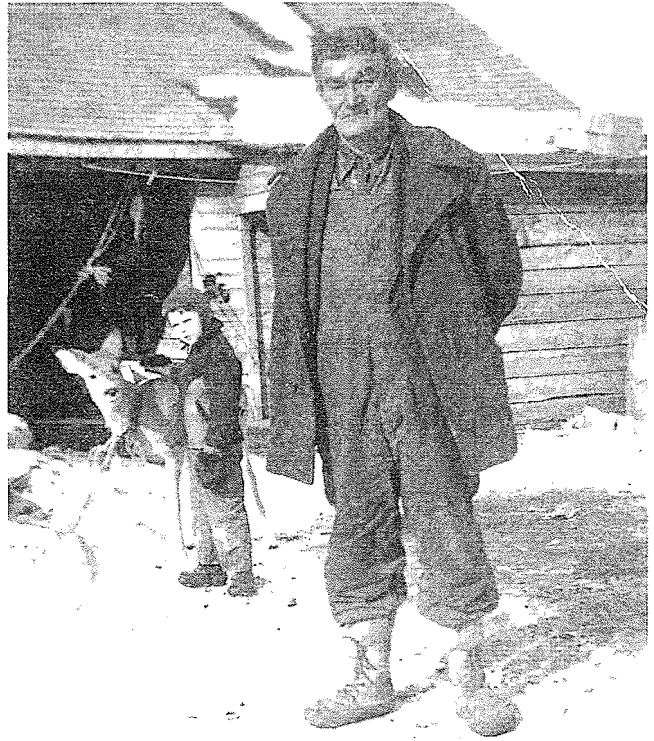
Jane was also a great person and always thought of others. She became the reliable midwife. Her comfort and courage have made a lasting impression on those of us who were lucky enough to be raised in her care.

Jane passed away in 1930 and John several years later.

Bill Inkster

Bill was a brother to Albert Inkster. He came to Abbotshall from St. Mark's, Manitoba, in around 1910. He was born in April of 1880.

Bill was a rancher and commercial fisherman. He was the first licensed fisherman on Lake Dauphin. Bill was never married and lived most of his life SE 15-28-15 next to Bert Fraser.



Bill Inkster

He was very kind hearted and always ready to give anyone a hand. He loved to go on a "toot" once in a while. It was then that his milk cow, after missing one milking, would wander over to his brother Albert's place, to be milked, knowing that Bill would return to take her home in a few days.

Bill was a veteran of the Boer War serving in the Canadian Army.

He passed away suddenly in May of 1945, and is buried in Ridgeway Cemetery.

Charlie Inkster and Valentina Bednarz History

Charlie and Valentina were married March 13, 1929 at Rorketon. Witnesses were Hugh and Florence Crozier. Charlie was born at Poplar Point, Manitoba, on February 23, 1902. He farmed and ranched there with his parents, Albert and Elizabeth Inkster, brother John and sister Viola, and a younger brother who died at the age of four.

Charlie was 16 years old when the family moved to Abbotshall district of Rorketon. Their dream was to expand their cattle herd.

The cattle roamed freely along with everyone else because there were no fences. Hay was plentiful and very rich in quality. There were families living on every quarter of land up to 1940, and neighbours worked closely together, relying on each other for travelling and getting supplies.

There were no roads, only trails, made by horse and buggy and sleighs in the winter. Cattle were branded in the spring, turned out to roam all the way to Crane River, and in the fall they would be rounded up and brought back home. Each family relied on the other to be honest and return the cattle where they belonged. Anyone who could ride a horse had one to get around with, and help in the rounding.

Valentina was born February 5, 1911 in the U.S.A., to Jacob and Eva Bednarz, who came to Abbotshall to live their dream of ranching. Jacob was a skilled carpenter. Valentina received her education at Abbotshall School.

Charlie and Valentina raised two sons, John and Ronald, on the homestead, which was only three quarters of a mile from school. The boys walked to school in the good weather, and in bad weather, the parents took them with horses.

During the school year, the Christmas concert was the main event, with the pageant being the highlight. There were only candy, peanuts, and oranges.

John and Ronald continued their education in Rorketon. John completed high school and taught with a permit for one year at Million School. He worked for Laycock's Garage, Semins Telephone

Company in Winnipeg and a meat packing company in Winnipeg, from 1948-1950.

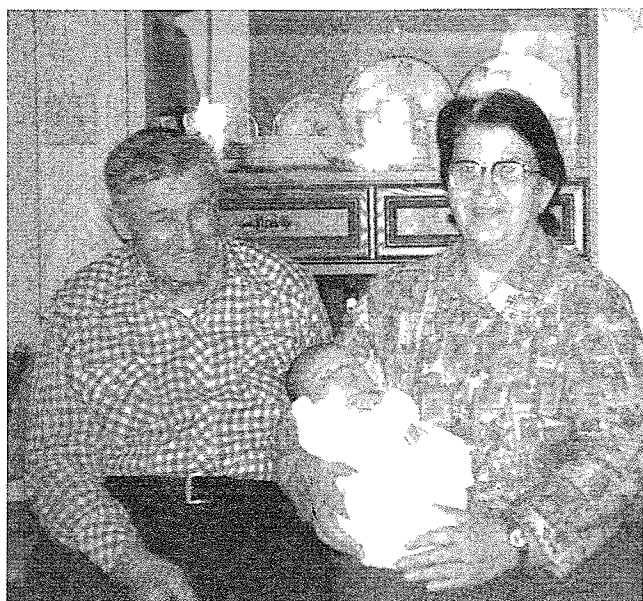
In 1989, Valentina passed away at the age of 78; Charlie passed away at the age of 79, in 1981, and Ronald passed away at the age of 25, in 1959.

John Inkster Sr. Family

I was born in St. Marks, Manitoba on May 9, 1907. I was the youngest of three children, Charlie, Viola and John, born to Albert and Elizabeth Inkster. We lived in St. Marks until 1916. We then moved to Edillen (now known as Rorketon). This move was done by wagon. We followed the south side of Lake Manitoba to Gladstone; then we went north to Edillen. We settled on NE 14-28- 15. My dad had approximately fifty head of cattle and five horses. The hay was put up for these before winter set in. This was done with a hay rack, rake and a mower. Later the hay was put up with a tractor and an over-shot stacker. Then a tractor and baler were used to make square bales. Then later it went to round bales, hauled by a stack mover.

I attended Edillen school for two years. In 1919, Abbotshall School was built and I continued there for another two or three years. I left school when I was 13 years old. My first teacher at Abbotshall was Mildred Middleton, Mrs. Carl Christianson Sr.

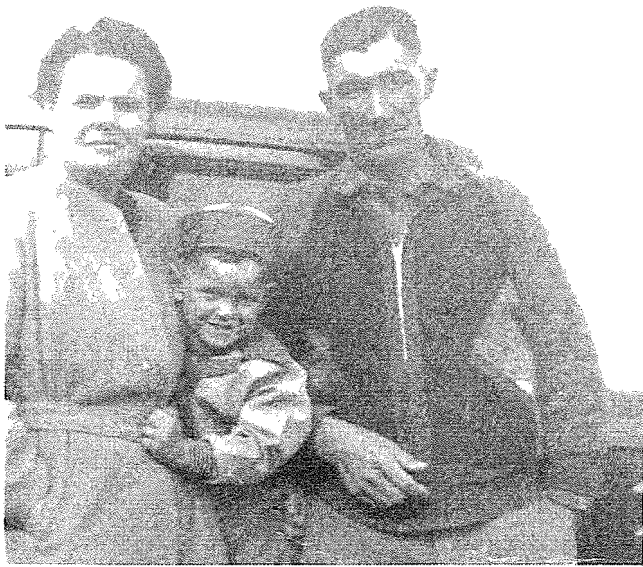
The land was broken with four horses and a single furrow breaking plow. Trees were cut down with an axe and were burned. Dad, Charlie and I did most of the breaking. We broke open sixty- five acres. The stones were picked by everyone.



Charlie & Valentina Inkster with Great-grandson Michael



Elizabeth Brough Inkster & Edith Cook- John Inkster's Mother and aunt



John, Mary & Raymond Inkster

The barns were built of slabs and lumber. These were cut poplar and hauled from the mill four miles south and two miles east of the school. This is still called the Mill Road by many people from Abbotshall and Magnet. The mill was owned by Bob Dixon.

I remember Dad and Charlie could cut a load of logs and saw them all in one day. The sawmill was



Albert Inkster with Molo & Blossom (John Sr.'s Dad)

driven by a steam engine, with the water supplied from a nearby spring.

In 1924, I went to Bresaylor, Saskatchewan, to work for my uncle, Alex Inkster. Then I worked for Charlie Taylor for the next six years. In 1930, I returned home by train when my father passed away. I then continued to farm with my brother Charlie and mother until 1937.

In 1937, I married Mary Garrioch, the eldest daughter of Jim and Johana Garrioch, who had immigrated to Canada from the Orkney Isles in northern Scotland. I then purchased the SE 14-28-15 quarter of land in 1938 for the sum of \$25.00. This was a large sum of money at that time. We built a log house which was really cold. We milked cows and shipped cream for a living. The cream was shipped to Dauphin, Winnipegosis and Ste. Rose by train. We even shipped some cream to Ashern by boat. Later on the cream was picked up in the yard. The first cream truck driver was Joe Halko and the last was Gordon Stammen.

We had a family of two boys, Raymond and Barry. Raymond was born in October of 1938 and Barry in March of 1943. They both attended Abbotshall School, which was easily assesible, being just across the road from home. Later they attended Rorketon High School and stayed with their grandparents during the winter months.

In 1961, Raymond married Margaret Bomek of Shoal Lake. They lived in Winnipeg for a short time. Then they moved to Calgary where they still live. Marge taught school for many years and has now taken her retirement. Ray was always in the insurance business. They have two sons, Bradley and Kenny. Bradley married Charmaine Bouchard of Calgary and they have two daughters. Ken remains single at this time.

In 1966, Barry married Katherine Brunen of Ste. Rose. They lived in northern Manitoba for a short time. They then moved back to the family farm where Barry worked with me. They still reside there and I live in my own little house. Kathy nursed for many years in the Ste. Rose Hospital. They have one son Wayne, who is presently teaching, for his second year, in Rorketon.

Mary passed away in September of 1986, after a long battle with cancer. I then sold our big house trailer and bought a small house in its place. I still help on the farm and am still in reasonably good health.

My sister Viola passed away in 1929. She had a daughter Connie who lives in California. Connie

has a daughter Toni who also lives in California. We still keep in touch with Connie by phone and mail. My father passed away in 1930 at the age of 55 years. My mother passed away in 1958 at the age of 90.

John Inkster Jr. History

John Inkster and Olga Litwinowich were married July 28, 1950. They continued a dream passed on by their ancestors, which was to work closely, play together, and have faith in what a family structure is and was.

John and Olga raised four sons and one daughter. They all attended Rorketon School.

Brian and wife, Donna, have a daughter, Tina, and a granddaughter Brenna-Dean. Brian has a trucking business in Winnipeg and Donna works at the Health Sciences Centre.

Jerry and wife, Gloria, have two daughters, Cindy and Cheryl, and a son Jeffrey. Jerry is a dry-wall contractor and Gloria is an accountant. They live in Vancouver.

Lonnie and wife Colleen have a daughter Susan, and a son, Michael. Lonnie works for INCO in Thompson as a computer technician.

Judy and husband Adam Tymchuk, have a daughter, Amanda. They live and ranch in the Horyn area. Adam also works for the Highways Department.

Dean the youngest, had a tragic motorcycle accident in 1992. At the young age of 24 years, he was laid to rest.



John & Olga Inkster Family: F: Dean, Middle: Olga, Judy & John, Back: Lonney, Jerry & Brian

In 1974, Olga pursued a dream of being a nurse, and in 1975, she received her licence as a Practical Nurse (LPN). She retired in 1992, after 20 years of service at the Ste. Rose Hospital.

Now, in 1996, the family ranch is still active, but is slowing down.

Robert John McKinnon

The McKinnon family came from Scotland in 1878 to settle in Shoal Lake. Robert's parents moved to Magnet in the early 1900's. His father, Donald died during the flu epidemic in 1918, at 30 years of age, leaving his wife Nellie to raise five year old Robert and two sisters.

Robert married Florence Bage in 1942. He was sent overseas soon after, arriving in Scotland August 6, 1942, the day his first child was born. Florrie and her daughter were staying with family when word came that Robert had been wounded in Germany. This was a particularly worrying time for Florrie as she also had three brothers and a sister in the army. One brother who was in the same platoon as Robert, was taken prisoner at the same time Robert was wounded.

Robert returned home in December, 1944, and recovered although he had suffered permanent damage to his back and the loss of one finger. He and Florrie bought a quarter section from Roy Ross in Abbotshall, where they settled, raising, driving and riding horses. They were always easily recognized by the well-matched, lively, and well-trained teams. They were their best advertising as well as the main mode of transportation.

Robert and Florrie raised five children in Abbotshall, sending them to the country school which offered education from grades one to eight. The oldest daughter, Gloria, completed her education by correspondence. However, in 1959, the family moved to Dauphin where the other children completed high school. Robert worked at the armory and as a guard at the jail until he retired. They still live in Dauphin, spending the summers in their camper at the beach.

The youngest of their children, David, died accidentally at the age of 24 in Alberta, where he was working as an electrician, and spending his holidays touring the country on his Harley Davidson.

The oldest daughter, Gloria, married Jim Neault from Magnet. They raised three children before Jim died accidentally in 1987. Gloria remarried in December 1991 to Laszlo Dani. They are living in Winnipeg where Laszlo has his home renovations business and Gloria is a sales rep with MTS.

Bob married Annette Zastre from Magnet. They

moved to Leduc, Alberta, where Bob runs his machinist business and Annette runs the office. They are very involved in sports with their two children.

Pat married Max Brook from Ochre River, and lived in Longlac, Ontario, for a few years before returning to farm in Ochre River. They have three children, two of whom are also farming in the area. Pat is employed at the Credit Union in Dauphin.

Marlene married Greg Hobson in Dauphin. They live in Yorkton, Saskatchewan, where Greg is a manager with the Bank of Montreal. Marlene works with the school division. They are both kept busy and involved in the activities of their two children.

Lorilla and Donald D. Ross

submitted by Margaret (Ross) Von Barga

The Ross families moved to a farm in Abbotshall about 1923. The families included Donald D. Ross and his wife Lorilla (Chant), their

son Roy and his wife Mary (Turnbull), and their two daughters, my older sister, Florence, and myself, Margaret. We attended the one-room Abbotshall school. A couple years later my sister Verna arrived.

In 1941, we all moved to Dauphin where my dad worked at the Air Force training base south of town.

My grandfather died at our home in 1945 and my grandmother went to live with a brother at Richmond Hill, Ontario and later to Calgary to live with her daughter Bessie, where she passed on in 1957.

My father passed away in 1964 and my mother in 1990.

My sister Florence married and is still living in Edmonton. Sister Verna lives in Dauphin and my youngest sister Linda lives in Pine Falls, Manitoba.

I married Myron "Red" Von Barga and now live in Dryden, Ontario. Our two sons, Eric and David, live in Thunder Bay and our daughter in Seattle, Washington.

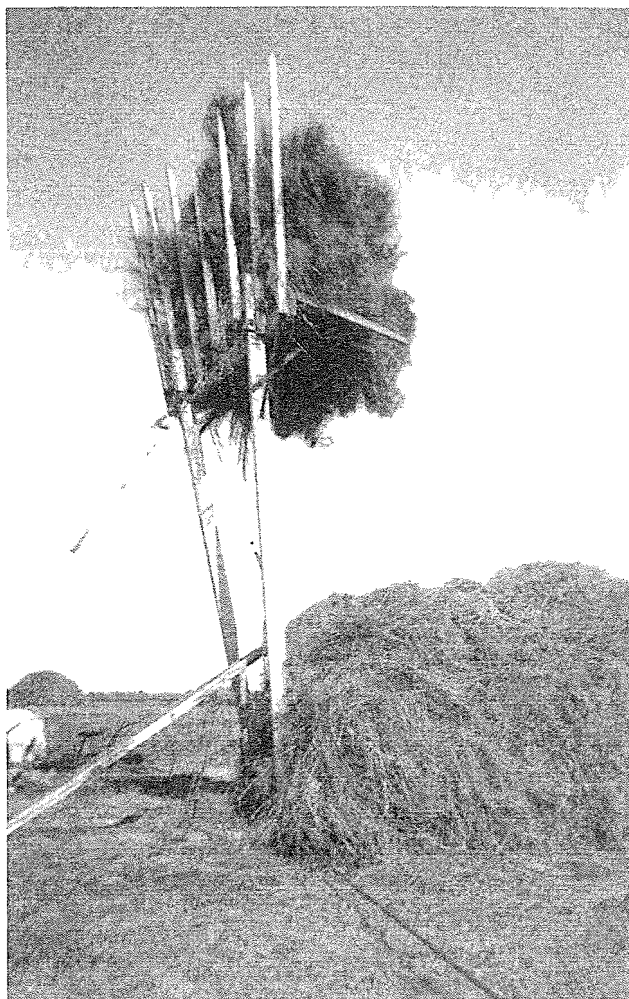
Photos of Interest



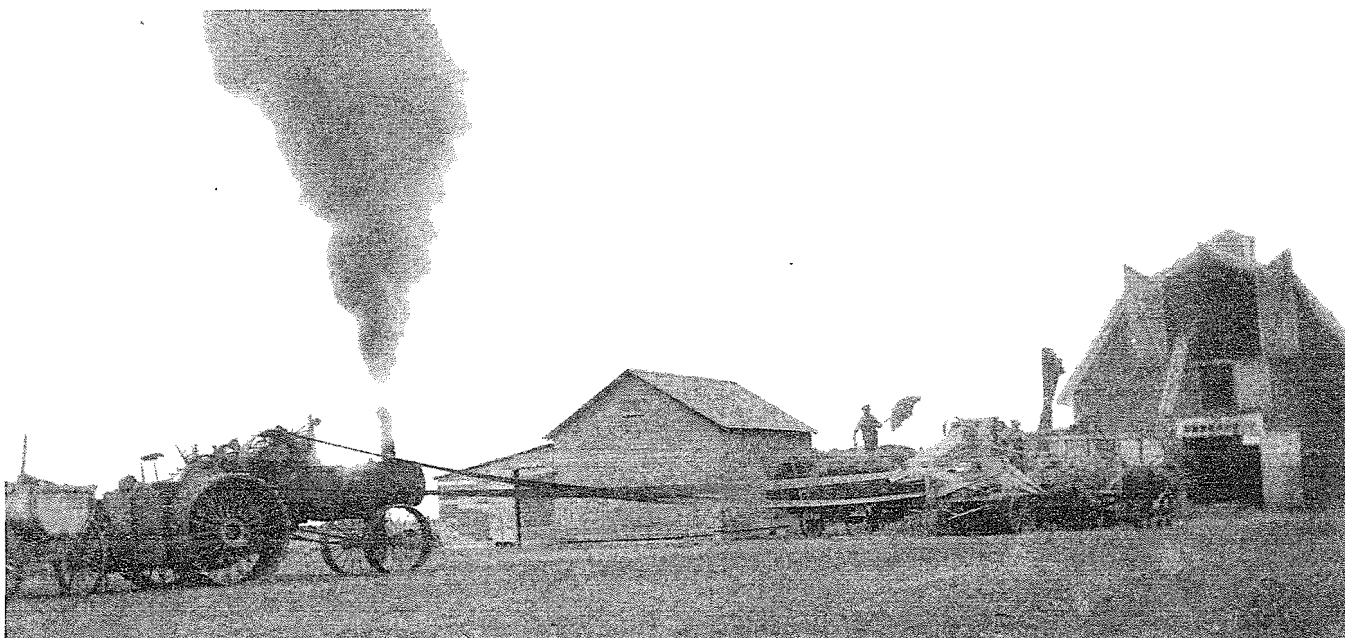
Jacob Bednarz & John Berthaudin washing after a day's work



Threshing



Stacking hay



Threshing

East Bay District

East Bay was so named because it was an eastern bay on Lake Dauphin. Mr. William Coutts' first residence was a sod building. A few years later he built a log house. This building accommodated the first Post Office which was officially opened on October 1, 1899 on SE 1-26-16. Mr. William Coutts became the first post-master and the mail carrier in East Bay.

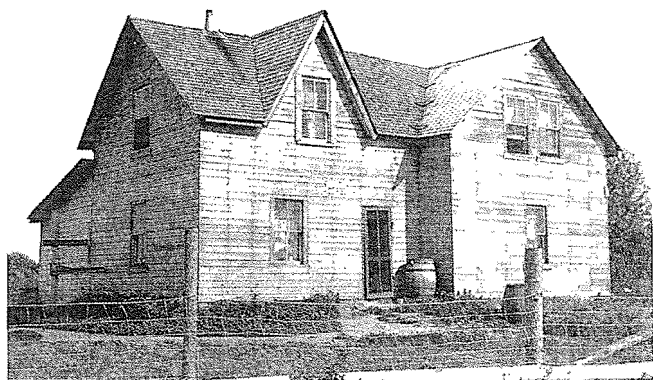
In 1913, the Post Office was moved to NW 18-26-15. In 1906, Mr. Herminston built a large house. The teacher from Blue Bell roomed and boarded at their place. He operated a small store. In 1913, the Post Office was moved to NW 18-26-15 and Mr. Herminston became the post-master until 1933.

In 1918 Mr. Whalen was a merchant in the district and his business was situated on 32-26-16.

In 1933 the Post Office was moved to SW 20-26-15 with James Coutts as post-master.

In 1948, the Post Office was once again moved to NE 13-26-16 with Mr. Albert Hudson as post-master until 1957 when Edward Hudson took over from his father until 1968 when the Post Office closed permanently.

Mr. William Coutts was the first mail carrier from 1899- 1913. Mark Herminston carried mail from East Bay to Magnet before 1919-1922. The route was taken by Bob Dickson from 1922-1925.



Christina & Mark Herminston's House Built in 1906 which housed store and Post Office

Then Russell Blackmon hauled the mail from East Bay to Million, Freedale and Rorketon from 1925-1932. Fred Robinson then took it over until the Post Office closed.

In 1918, Samuel Scott had a store on SW 6-26-15.

written by the late Nora Vivian (Brooks) Hudson

Nora was born in Bracebridge, Ontario, September 15, 1905. We came west with my parents Almeda and Herbert Brooks (commonly known as Bert Brooks) in 1907. We lived somewhere between Norgate Kelwood for about two years. My dad cut cordwood in the winter at the foot of Riding Mountain, and worked for farmers in the summer. One of those farmers was Albert McLeod, later to become M.P. for Manitoba. The other farmer was Bill Glover. We shared a house with mom's cousin Jim Ryckman, his wife Tillie and children Edwin and Blanche. The two eldest and I would go over to Mr. Glovers to get some bread dough. My sister Melisa was born in 1908 at Norgate. Dr. Rogers attended to mother. In May 1909 our dad went up to East Bay and filed on a homestead N.W. 1/4 13-26-16. In the fall of the same year we moved to Million. We lived in a house owned by Jim Lawson for nearly a year, while dad built a little log shack on his homestead.

Our grandparents were farming at Turtle River then but were hauled out so they brought their stock up and lived with us that winter. Uncle Ern had hayed with dad so they had some feed and were able to buy more up there. They moved back to Turtle River in the spring of 1910. That spring we got measles and Melissa was very sick. Tillie Rykman and their children also had them and Jim was away working. So Tillie and kids came up and stayed with us. Tillie was very sick. I remember someone went and got Mrs. Crawford Sr. to come and help mother to doctor all the sick.

Ryckmans had also moved to East Bay and



Almeda & Herbert Brooks

homesteaded about two miles north west of our farm. They were at our place a lot. We didn't have too much, but we had a few cattle and chickens. Dad managed to get two or three little pigs to feed through summer for our winter meat. Dad was not able to see well enough to drive horses or oxen, but could cut scrub and help with haying. He worked for Henry Coste for ten cents an hour. Henry had a son Numa and would haul hay and straw with a team of oxen. Dad would help pitch hay and straw. Costes ranched- he had about 100 head of cattle. They supposedly came from Moosimin, Saskatchewan in about 1894. Henry and his wife both died in 1917. They owned the south half section of 14-26-16. Art and Andy Booth lived there after Coste, then Wifred Threinen.

Archie McFaden owned the N.W. quarter and Jim Warren the N.E. quarter of that section. George Crawford lived on the McFaden place after Archine left. Walter Payne lived on the Warren place after Jim left. Later H.T. Hudson moved there about 1949.

Jim Warren had a son Bob and a daughter Fanny who married Pete Lawson. They had one son Bernie Morris Mulvey who homesteaded the N.E. quarter.

His brother Tom Mulvey had the N.W. quarter of same. Tom was married to Dave Master's sister and they had three children, when they left there in 1916, Edith, Merve and Stewart. Tom had been a policeman.

Morris was never married. He drowned in the Red River. He was a bridge builder.

Edward Robinson, and wife Ivy, then took up residence. They had two daughters, Shirley and Rita.

Elmer and Margaret James lived on that place and had a fruit farm and bees. They left in 1946 or 1947.

Carl Christenson and Kenneth and his family lived there until about 1968. Carl took over his brother Chris's homestead. He married Mildred Middleton in 1923. They had Ken, Vergie, Marjorie, Alma, Lloyd and Barbra. Mildred died in August of 194- at the time of Barbra's birth. Lloyd now lives across the road north from where his dad lived.

Alf Swears who had the quarter directly south of Carl Mark Hermiston, came to East Bay in about 1895. They moved from Nebraska by team and covered wagon. They had five children when they came. Mary, Nell, Jernia, Jim and Robert. Tommy and Amelia were born later. They built a sod shack at first, then a log house.

The first Post Office in East Bay was at Bill Coutts and it opened, in 1899, by the lake. From 1913-1933, Mark Hermiston took over and it stayed in that location until it closed in 1968. Then they started a small store in part of their kitchen, as well as the Post Office. For forty years Bill Coutts drove the mail with horses from Makinak. He also hauled a lot of freight and passengers.

The Mr. and Mrs. Booth family moved in about the same time. They had six sons and two daughters. Henry, George, John, Wesley, Art and Andy. Bella and Janie. Also Mr. Booths mother (Isabell). The father died shortly after they moved from Treherne.

Henry homesteaded the quarter directly north of Herbert Brooks, George had the one north of it and John took the one east of him and Mrs. M. Booth had the S.E. 1/4 of section 24.

Andy Crawford and wife and family moved in about 1896. They homesteaded the S.W. 1/4 of 22. Bill Crawford the N.W. 1/4 of 23 and George the S.W. 1/4 of 34. and Jim the S.E. 1/4 of 21. There were two daughters, Hattie who married a man from Rosetown, Saskatchewan and May who married Walter Radley and homesteaded on S.W. of 33 where Edgar Hudson now lives. George married Flossy Cook from Million district. Bill married a Clyde girl from Dauphin.

Tom Heckford homesteaded the N.W. 1/4 of 12 before 1908. They had two boys, Roy and Austin. I think they left around 1914. Walter Vickerman and Annette obtained that land later from the Municipality. Mike Bodnar now lives there. Jim

Hewitt homesteaded the S.W. quarter of 12. Hector McFaden had the S.E. quarter of 12. Wilfred Hudson owned it a short time. Edgar broke most of the land. Then Wilf sold it to Jerry Hopfner who still owns it.

I think Warrens came in about 1898 or 1900. I believe they came from around Eden. Dick Warren moved to the Million district where they ran the Post Office and store.

Jim Hewitt was not married. He left around 1914 and moved to Gilbert Plains to farm. He was 103 years old when he died.

D. McIntyre was on N.E. 1/4 of 12-26-16 and Whitesides, neither stayed long.

McGeorges also came in around this time. Longs came then to S.W. 13-26-16 built a house and moved out the fall of 1910. H.S. Middleton wife Etta and daughter Mildred spent the first summer in a tent on S.E. 13-26-16 and in the fall moved into Longs house on S.W. 13-26-16.

In May of 1909, Albert E. Hudson homesteaded the N.E. 1/4 13-26-16. He worked out farming part of each year, at times around Ochre River until he got enough land cleared and broke to get title. It took three days to make the trip to Makinak, to claim his homestead. He married Vivian Brooks and farmed this land until his son Edward took it over in October of 1957.

John Robinson, and his wife Ellen came in 1911 and filed on N.E. 1/4 of 25. Son Fred filed on N.W. 1/4 of 25. Their family was John Jr., Fred, Howard, Edward and Dorothy who never moved here as she was married previous to the move. Evelyn and Mary. John Jr. married Ethel Zywna, Howard married Gwen Golden, Edward married Joy Durham, Evelyn married Sid Stacey, and Mary married Percy Durham.

Sid Stacey homesteaded the S.W. 1/4 of 25 and his brother in law Donavan took up the S.E. 1/4 of 25 for a very short time.

In 1912 or 1913, Ed Robinson, his wife and family moved on to N.E. 12-26-16. Their family consisted of six boys and two girls. Fred, Hugh, Jim, Randolph, Ross, Charlie, Dorothy and May.

Fred married Nellie Hermiston. Hugh married Flo. Randolph married Janet McLeod. Ross married May McLeod, Dorothy married Henry from Shergrove. May married Simon Whalen. The old Blue Bell school, that was made of logs, was on this farm. The first East Bay school was a log shack on the Numa Coste homestead S.E. 1/4 of 14.

Madosé La Plante, wife and family lived on the ridge S.W. 1/4 of 27. His son Bill took N.W. of 2. Their daughter Florence married Hugh Crozier.

Mrs. La Plante was a sister to Mrs. Andy Crawford. They were there before 1909. Mr. and Mrs. Pete Durg had the S.E. 1/4 of 27. Dave Masters had the N.E. 1/4 of 27.

Tom Parsons and his dad, Tom Sr., who was a well educated man, lived on S.E. 1/4 of 22. Later George and Theresa Claves lived there. They had three sons, Charles, Rene and Albert. Charles presently lives there.

J. Furlong lived for sometime on the N.E. 1/4 of 22. They left after 1910. A family came by the name of Mr. and Mrs. Bradle. They had two sons. He really drove his horses fast. Dad would get a ride with him to the Post Office.

Jim Rychman had homesteaded the N.W. 1/4 of 23, but left in 1915. Art Booth had the S.W. 1/4 of 23. Ernie Lane had the N.E. 1/4 of 23 and Bill Reese the S.E. quarter. They were both bachelors. Bill didn't stay long but Ernie stayed for a number of years.

John Thomas and son, John, homesteaded the west 1/2 of 30. George Botfield had the N.E. quarter of same. They were there before 1908. The Thomas's came from Nebraska. In 1917 they bought a grey car which was pretty nice for those days. He took my mother, my sister and me for a ride. In the early 1930's they were stacking hay when John Sr. fell off the stack and broke his neck. After that John Jr. built a sod shack.

Later Bill Mudrey got the N.W. quarter and his brother Mike got the S.W. quarter and his brother Mike got the S.W. quarter.

Jim and wife Dolly Mallon had the N.W. quarter of 1. Frank and Bertha Belling were on S.W. quarter of 1. They had one son Frank and two daughters, Doris and Lily.

H.S. Middleton homesteaded the N.E. quarter and cleared a small amount, but lived on S.W. 13-26-16. He then sold it to Inger Albertson.

Wes Booth lived on N.W. 1/4 of 1 some years before Mallons came in. He married a girl from Plumas (Amy Heywood). They had three sons, Norman, Wilbert and John and one daughter Eva. Wes had double pneumonia and was very sick for a long time and was never able to work much after. Later the family moved to Swan River.

There was a small fraction of land west of section 1 where Mr. A. Birnie lived.

Harry Hindle, his wife and family, came about 1913 or 1914, and lived on the north side of the correction line. They had four girls, Lizzie, Bessie, Nellie and Minnie.

Tom Rushton lived on the quarter north of Hindle. Tom and his wife had four children, Tom Jr., Ella, Else and Hector. Tommy was killed in the

Second World War. Tom Jr. homesteaded was where Buster Turnbull now lives.

Ted Taylor lived north of Rushton.

Tom Taylor lived on the Hindle quarter after they left. They had two boys, Orval and Roger and one girl Elaine. It was sometime in the twenties that Tom Taylor moved there. He married Mary Zondlo. His brother Ted married Geven Brown. I think they had four sons.

Vivian Brooks and Albert Hudson were married on October 28, 1919 and had a family of twelve. Seven boys and five girls. Alice Helena, Herbert Thomas, Edward Lloyd, Nora Elizabeth, Laura Gwendolyn, Wilfred Llewellyn, Mabel Ernestine, George Ralph, Edgar Norman, Elva Ethel, Howard Henry and Ernest Albert. There were some pretty hard times, especially in the 1930's. Hogs were selling at two cents per pound, eggs at three cents per dozen and cream at twelve cents a pound. We always had enough to eat and clothes to wear. We lived in a one room shack for a few years before we built on another room. A few years later we made another extension for a kitchen. In 1931, we bought the S.W. 1/4 on 18 from the Municipality for \$280.00. It had a house, barn and chicken house. Rob Hermiston had this quarter before that. We moved the buildings over to our home quarter 13-26-16, with sleighs and horses.

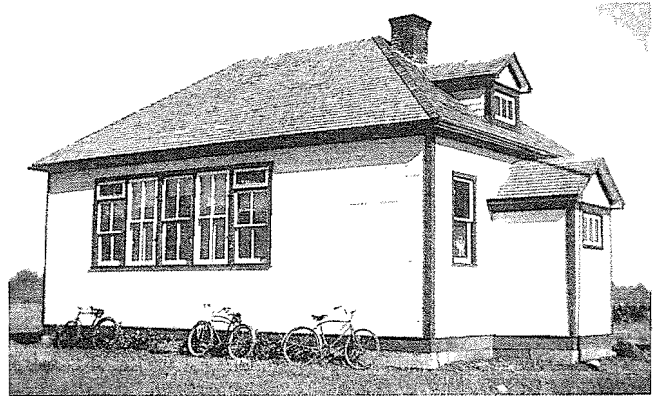
In 1929, we bought a four door 1927 model T Ford. We paid \$500.00 for it and drove it every year for twenty-three years, with very little repairs to it.

We sold the chassis to Guy Linton and he used the motor to pump water from the lake on his strawberries.

Blue Bell

The school district, No. 930, formed in 1898, and the school building was constructed by Louis Lardinois who was a cabinet maker by trade. He came from Belgium where he did the finishing work inside the rail road cars. It was a log building situated on SE 14-26-16.

In 1909 Ellis Middleton taught at the second school in East Bay. In 1915, Mrs. A. Birnie was secretary of the school board. Vivian Brooks was employed by the school board and each morning she had to start the fire for five cents a day. Her first pay check was \$1.50 and it was sure welcomed.



Christena Hermiston

B. T. Tucker

DEALER IN
FARM IMPLEMENTS AND LUMBER

Ste. Rose du Lac, Man.

I hereby agree to build a School for Blue Bell S.D. Size of school 20x32x11 clear inside, built according to Department Plan #3. Saddle Roof, School complete, with 2 end transom windows, fitted with eave troughs, also conductor pipes.

Material to be used as per specifications tendered to trustees, including two out houses 5x5, also stable 14x20-6ft front -9ft rear, plank mangers 20ft long, no stalls, 2 ply lumber, shingled roof, 6x6 tamarac sills, one 8x10 -4lt window each end; all dimensions at 16 in. center in school, in other buildings, at 24 in. center. School to have 5 base center blocks, built -up beam to be 6x10, or its equivalent, 5/8 in V. Joint Finish inside, in place of Beaver Board.

\$400.00 to be paid after stable being built, and material housed therein. Balance to be paid, one-half upon half the work done, other half upon completion.

Lump sum price of entire contract to be \$1400.00 payable as afore said.

Building to be completed by July 1st 1917.

B. T. Tucker

BILL OF MATERIAL- BLUE BELL S.D.

1	Com. Rim Lock
2	Thumb Latches
2	Sets Butts 4 x 4 Bronzed
1	Set " 3 1/2 x 3 1/2
2	" 6 in. Hinges
7	Storm Sash Hangers, Not. Clg. 20 x 32
550 Ft	Beaver Board
200 Lin. Ft	2 in. Strip
10 Lbs.	Ff Nails
50 "	1 1/4 Shingle Nails
75 "	4 in. Spikes
200 "	2 1/2 Wire "
40 "	2 in. " "
25 "	2 1/2 in. ff "
36	Hat & Coat Hooks
7	Window Locks
18	Screen Buttons
2	Transom Fasteners
25 Sacks	Cement
1 Bbl.	Lime
675	Bricks
15 Ft	Gutter Trough #28 Galv. Iron
2	Conductor Pipes 12 ft 28 G.
4	Elbows
2	Shoes
30 Ft	Flashing 28 G.
1	Elbow for F. Air inlet

4 Pcs.	2 x 6 - 16	Sills
25 "	2 x 6 - 20	"
25 "	2 x 8 - 20	Joists
25 "	2 x 6 - 20	Upper Joists
40 "	2 x 4 - 16	Studs
50 "	2 x 4 - 14	"
85 "	2 x 4 - 12	"
200 Lin. Ft	2 x 2	"
2000 Ft	8 or 10 in. <i>Shiplap</i>	#3 Boards
4000 "	#1 & 2	Cedar Shiplap
900 "	#1 B.C.	B.G. Fir Flooring
1500 "	#1 B.C.	Spruce Nov. Siding
600 "	1 x 4	#1 & 2 V. Jt Fir
250 "	Cove	
250 "	1/4 Round	
80 "	Picture Mould	
200 "	2 in. Bed Mould	
125 "	Window Step	
125 "	Parting Step	
24 "	6 in. Window Steel	
100 "	Wainscot Cap	
1000 Lin. Ft	#1 Shingles	
200 Lin. Ft	1 x 5	Casing
1 Pc.	2 x 10 - 8	Oak
16 Pcs.	1 x 6 - 16	#2 Com.
18 "	1 x 12 - 16	"
12 "	1 x 8 - 16	"
1 Pc.	2 x 8 - 20	Sel. Dim.
4 "	2 x 8 - 16	"
3	Windows 14 x 28 - 4 Lts.	
2	" 14 x 28 - 4 "	
	With Transom	
2	Windows 12 x 20 - 4 Lts.	
1	Sash 10 x 18 3 "	
2	" 10 x 12 1 "	
3	Storm Sash 14 x 28	
2	" 14 x 28	
2	" 12 x 20 4 Lts.	
5	Screens for Transoms	

The Fur Farm

In 1930, Jean and Steny (Bednarz) Berthaudin settled in the East Bay area by the Lake Dauphin. There they raised mink and foxes. In the late forties, they quit raising foxes as they were less profitable. Added to the minks that were brought from Crane River, where they previously resided, were others imported from Quebec and the United States. They expanded until they had a viable fur farm with mink in a wide range of colors. Jean travelled over a wide area purchasing horses and cattle for mink feed. They also fished year round for mink feed. The mink were pelted out for the last time in late 1970's.

Local News

December 20, 1921 election for council in the small community of East Bay. Mr. Caiver was elected by a large majority: Mr. Huddlestone was elected Reeve.

Mr. and Mrs. McGeorge were at the polling station to vote and looking out of the window they saw smoke in the direction of their house and hurried home finding the house burnt to the ground. All the contents including his wheat crop were destroyed. The property was insured.

"December 21, 1921 a Christmas tree and party at the school. A big crowd turned up and spent a very pleasant evening. Mr. Middleton was chairman. The children gave several recitations and songs and reflected great credit on their teacher. Miss Murray, who had evidently spared no effort to bring them out and they all seemed to enjoy themselves and did their best. A dance followed the entertainment; Miss Murray is leaving here and going to Magnet next term.

January 5, 1922, Christmas and New Year's was spent very quietly up here; sleighing was good but most people had their home party and did not go out. Times were hard, crops were not good, plenty of straw but little wheat and prices were low, make us economize more than we did years ago. Still we struggle on, waiting for the long promised railway connections. What a day that will be when we hear the whistle of our own train. I should think there would be a picnic or general holiday.

Our taxes last year were three times what they used to be and lots of homesteaders here and up north have not sufficient wheat to pay their taxes and threshing accounts and talk of pulling out. Do not do so, hang on, the coming year, 1922 will be brighter; prices of what the farmer has to buy will readjust themselves and all will be well. We have good land and can grow anything. All that has kept

this district back in the past had been the poor roads and long distances to haul what produce we have had to sell.

Our mailman, Bruce Whalen, met with an accident on Thursday 4th, on his trip from East Bay back to Million. Turning at Crawford's corner the team upset the sleigh throwing Bruce and Bob Warren out of the sleigh. The team ran away and smashed the mailman's cutter all to pieces, scattering the mail bags at various places along the road. The horses continued on up to La Plants', ran into the yard there and made for the stable. A poplar tree stopped them one on each side. They broke the pole and harness. Bruce and Bob landed on a soft spot and were not much the worse for their upset." <excerpts Dauphin Herald>

Family History

Berthaudin History

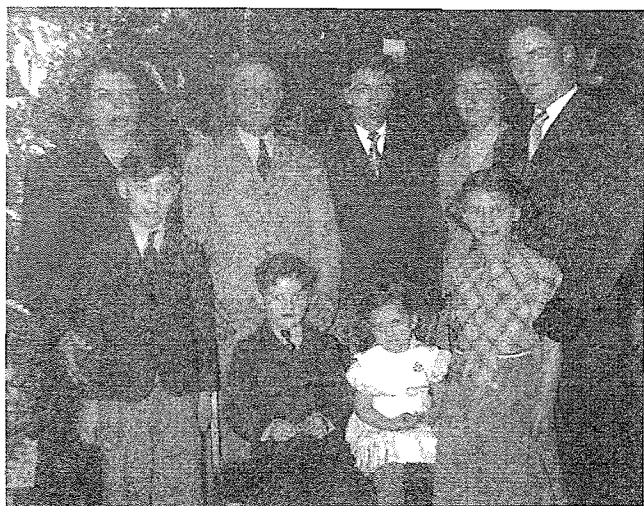
Jean Louis Thevenon-Berthaudin (1885-1985) was born in Savoie, France. He first came across to Canada in 1902, then returned to France, only to come back to Montreal in 1906. There he worked in a bake shop which he eventually owned. Due to ill health he sold his shop and went West, doing a variety of jobs outdoors.

In 1912, Jean and two friends worked on the CNR at Yellowhead Pass, staying at a camp near Frazer River. When illness broke up the camp he went east to Sperling, Manitoba. There he spent a season on a farm plowing with a gang plow pulled by a steam engine. After Sperling, Jean went to the Ste. Rose area as it had a French name. He worked in this area for about one and a half years. During that time he learned about ranching. He started his own cattle ranch in Crane River with a hundred head of cattle.

In 1925, he expanded his ranch to include mink and later, fox. The idea began with a mother and five kits that he captured in a hollow log. To these he added three or four litters (with mothers) by paying the Indians \$25.00 a litter to catch them unharmed.

Jean was one of the first people to have a car in the Lawrence area. He bought his first one (a new Model 'A') for \$1015.00 at Allard's Garage in Ste. Rose, in the late 20's. Even though he had never driven before, he drove the new car all the way back to Crane River (not leaving second gear for eight of those miles).

In the spring of 1930, he married Steny



Jean-Louise & Steny Berthaudin

Bednarz. Steny Jean Bednarz (1907 - 1989) was born at Butler, Pennsylvania and moved with her family to Canada in 1912. (See Jacob Bednarz) After Jean and Steny were married they established their home in the East Bay area by Lake Dauphin, choosing that area because it enabled them to fish year round for mink feed. The house that they moved into and that is still being used, originated in Magnet and was moved there by a steam traction engine.

At East Bay they became less involved with cattle and concentrated on raising mink and fox. In the late forties, they quit raising foxes as they were less profitable and long-haired fur went out of style. Added to the mink that were brought from Crane River were others imported from Quebec and the United States. They expanded until they had a viable fur farm with mink in a wide range of colors. Jean travelled over a wide area purchasing horses and cattle for mink feed. He became known as the "East Bay Minkman". Later he published a pamphlet on how to raise mink. The mink were pelted out for the last time in the late 1970's.

In the 1940's, because sugar was rationed, Jean and Steny raised bees for honey. They also had a big garden and started on an orchard. Steny seemed to have a knack for grafting fruit trees. Her later successes would eventually produce trees with several types of apples.

By the early 1950's, Jean and Steny expanded into grain farming. Rich pasture land was now being cleared for grain production. Jean did not like the machinery, so Steny, who loved it, took it over. She cleared land for themselves and many of the neighbours. They built some of the roads in East Bay that are still being used.

Education was important to both Steny and Jean. They were both extremely proud when two of their daughters got University degrees. They had four boys (Frank, John, Ernest and Marcel) and three girls (Valentine, Eugenie, and Elaine). The girls left home to seek employment after completing their education. The boys, in turn, worked a year or so on the farm after completing their education. All the boys but one decided that farming was not their calling and left home to seek other careers.

Jean Louis Berthaudin passed away at the age of 99 in 1985.

Steny (Bednarz) Berthaudin passed away at the age of 82 in 1989.

Valentine (February 14, 1931) married John (Mac) Sealy on March 30, 1959. They had two daughters, Maxine (October 11, 1960) and Teresa (June 4, 1967). Val is now a retired teacher and lives with Mac close to their children in Consort, Alberta. Maxine married Ken Anderson and has two step children of her own.

Frank (November 1, 1932) married Theresa Pineau on July 28, 1953. They had two sons: Andre (June 19, 1954) and Marc (January 5, 1958). Theresa died of cancer in 1978. Frank, a draftsman, married Geraldine and is living in Vancouver.

John (June 13, 1938) married Margaret Linton on June 29, 1964. They have three children: Angela, John and Cheryl. Angela married Shawn Prysiadniuk, lives in Winnipeg and has a son, Alexander (May 26, 1995). She is employed by



John & Margaret Berthaudin, Angela, John & Cheryl

Investors Group and works at their head office. John is working on the farm with his father and Cheryl is an auditor for Comark Corp. in Winnipeg.

Ernest (October 1942 - April 15, 1994) married Thelma Telfer and had two sons: Randy (October 4, 1965) and Rene (November 1, 1968). They later separated and he married Ivy and had two more sons: Sean (March 1, 1975) and Ryan (May 1, 1978). Ernest passed away due to cancer on April 15, 1994 in Vancouver, where he, as a hair stylist, and his family had been living.

Eugenie (August 9, 1944) married Russell Wychreschuk on July 4, 1971. Eugenie is a teacher in Winnipeg and resides in Beausejour. She and Russell have four children: Jeremy (July 16, 1977), Alena (November 7, 1979), Liane (July 6, 1981) and Mandy (January 24, 1984).

Marcel (April 24, 1947) married Wanda Brandson on August 30, 1968. They had three children: Shane (March 10, 1969), Tanis (December 7, 1971) and Justin (September 16, 1976). Marcel is employed at the mine in Leaf Rapids.

Elaine (March 30, 1950) married Warren Jackson and is living in Spencerville, Ontario. She is working at the Bell Telephone head office in Ottawa.

Charles Blackmon

Charles Blackmon (October 1867 - December 21, 1915) was born in Owen Sound, Ontario. He married Isabella Stewart (1880 - 1953) in Owen Sound. They came to Ochre River district in 1900 and farmed south west of town. They had five sons and five daughters. Charles was killed December 21, 1915 in a sawing accident.

Isabella raised her family on the farm. Her son, Melville, took over the farm and she lived with him until he married Allie Britsky. At this time he built a house for them and Isabella had a small house at the corner of the quarter. Her house was moved to Ochre River in 1950 and she resided there until her death.

Her eldest son, Charles Russell (February 21, 1899 - July 12, 1988) worked for Thackers and Blairs before joining 226 Canadian Scottish Battalion on May 30, 1916, to help support his four brothers and five sisters. He served in England, France, Belgium and Germany and was discharged May 31, 1919.

On returning, he worked for Abe Schapf drilling wells in Lawrence Municipality. He married Agnes Cynthia Amelia Jane Hermiston (June 10, 1902-July 29, 1989) on August 29, 1921. They lived at East Bay (1921-1925) where they farmed for approxi-

mately three years until the Government seized their land and padlocked the granaries. As they couldn't keep up with the inflated price of the land, the Government gave this land to immigrants at a fraction of the cost that the War Veterans were expected to pay. They moved to Rorketon (1925 - 1932) and Amelia and Russell delivered freight and mail with a Model T. The next move was to Winnipeg until 1935. They had 5 children then.

They moved back to East Bay (1935-48) and farmed. The Blackmon house was built in the spring of 1942.

In 1936, Dad supervised building of the Methley Highway going north to Rorketon. Over 100 men worked on that gang and almost as many teams, plowing the roads, using scrapers and picking stones.

On November 11, 1948, the Blackmons had a farm sale on NW 1/4 18-26-15, 21 years after the Hermiston sale. They then made their home in Creighton, Saskatchewan.

In the spring, Dad was hired by Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting as a Security Guard and he worked in that position until his retirement in 1964. While in Creighton, he served on Council and was Deputy Mayor for a number of years.

They moved to Ste. Rose in May of 1986 and both passed away there.

Children Of Amelia & Russell Blackmon

Thomas Frederick (January 7, 1922 - June 17, 1941) married Anita Lily Smith (May 15, 1925 - November 17, 1964).

Their children:

Arlene married Mervin Kuzemczak. They live in Sioux Lookout, Ont. They have two sons, two daughters, and two grandchildren.

Dennis married Randi Arni. They live in B.C. and have two sons.

Barry - deceased 1969.

Blaine married Glenda Hamilton (divorced). He lives in British Columbia and has one son.

Rick married Darlene Mukoski. They live in British Columbia and have one son and one daughter.

Allan married Susanne. They live in British Columbia and have three daughters.

Muriel Ellen (May 5, 1924 -) married Lester Johnston 1944.

Their children:

Gary married Irene Fierstine. Gary deceased 1985. They have one daughter, three sons, and four grandchildren.

Judy married Wayne Bagnall. They live in British Columbia.

Shelley deceased 1971.

Susan married Fred Eastman and lives in British Columbia. They have one daughter and four sons.

Clarence Herbert (November 27, 1925 October 22, 1973) married Edna Campbell on July 23, 1953.

Their children:

Heather married David Livingston July 31, 1992.

Denise Elaine deceased December 15, 1974.

Cheryl Dawn

Harold Russell (November 20, 1929 -) Lives in British Columbia. He married Esther Marie Lucas (July 11, 1934 - October 6, 1951)

Their children:

Cynthia married Bill Horvath. They live in Mission, British Columbia and have three sons.

Raymond married Nola Loewen. They live in Langley, British Columbia. They have two daughters and one son.

Marcia married Brian Boyle. They live in Vancouver, British Columbia. They have two daughters and one granddaughter.

Shane married Pamela Nicholson. They live in Langley, British Columbia. They have one daughter and four sons.

Lisa married Bill Cross. They live in Langley, British Columbia and have one daughter and two sons.

Raymond Keith (February 27, 1931 -) married Constance Jean Burwood (March 5, 1936 -) on July 30, 1954. They live at Ochre River.

Their children:

Wesley Keith married Katherine Mary Schapf July 10, 1976. They live in Brandon and have a daughter and a son.

Frances Luanne lives in Winnipeg.

Gregory Wade married Barbara Louise Kolosinski. They live in Alexander, Manitoba and have three sons, one daughter and one granddaughter.

Kevin Robert lives in Flin Flon. He has one son.

Corry Darran lives in Alberta.

Anita Shirley lives in Flin Flon and has one daughter.

Charles Alexander Blackmon

Charles was born in Holland Twp, County of Grey (Owen Sound) Ontario August 17, 1897. His father was Francis Joseph Blackmon and his moth-

er was the former Sarah Elizabeth Stewart. They moved to the Ochre River area in 1898. This was before the CNR was built through that area so they arrived by horses and wagon. Frank Blackmon worked on the construction of the railway and after it was built became the foreman of the CNR "section gang". Charlie worked on the CNR section crew for a short time before joining the army and returned to that job after discharge. Charlie and family moved to Rorketon in 1926 when he became foreman of the CNR section crew and lived there until 1936 when they moved back to Ochre River when Charlie became foreman of the CNR crew there.

Charlie enlisted March 18, 1916 in the Battalion at Dauphin. He served as a Private in Belgium and France in the 16th British and First Canadian Brigades. He was wounded and sent to a hospital in Manchester, and later, returned to France where he was gassed at Vimy Ridge. He was discharged in Winnipeg on March 29, 1919.

Mary Gertrude (Blackmon)

1887-1982

Charles Blackmon was married to Mary Gertrude (known as Gertie) Stelfox. Gertie was born and raised in Manchester, England and was a nurse in the military hospital where Charlie was treated for his injuries. They were married in Manchester on January 16, 1919.

Charlie and Gertie had two sons.

Lawerence William was born May 20, 1922. He enlisted in the RCAF in April of 1941, received his Pilots' Wings at St. Hubert, Quebec and then served in the British Commonwealth Air Training Program as a Flying Instructor at No. 10 SFTS Dauphin and as an Instructor and Flight Commander at No. 17 SFTS Souris. He was discharged with rank of Flight Lieutenant in 1945. He married Evelyn Grace Harvey of Ochre River in 1942 and they have four children.

Their second son, Reginald Charles, was born Dec. 22, 1930, married Merle E. Andrews of Darlingford, Manitoba and they have three children.

The Booth Family

Henry Booth was born of Irish parents in 1848. He married Mary Jane Owens in Bobcaygeon, Ontario in 1873. Their three eldest sons, Henry Edward, George Allen and William John were born in Ontario. About 1879 or 1880, Henry and Mary Jane moved their family from Fenelon Falls, Ontario, to Hope County, Michigan. While there, Isabella Adelaide, Thomas Wesley and Sarah Jane

were born. About 1888, the family moved to Treherne, Manitoba where James Arthur and Andrew Stanley were born.

In the spring of 1895, Henry and sons Henry and George went to East Bay by ox team. They picked out the SE 1/4 of 24-26-16, broke a little land, built a house and went back to Treherne for the winter. The family moved to East Bay in early spring in 1896. Henry's mother, Isabella, came on the first train to Ochre River and drove to East Bay with the family. Henry Booth, Sr. died in 1898 and is buried in Turtle River Cemetery. The homestead, SE24-26-16 was registered on Feb. 19, 1904 to Mrs. Mary Jane Booth who lived there until March 30, 1924 when she died and was buried in the Turtle River Cemetery. Isabella, Henry's mother, died March 14, 1901, and is also buried in the Turtle River Cemetery.

Henry Edward took up land around East Bay, but moved to Montana and spent the rest of his life between Montana and British Columbia. He died April, 1947 and is buried in British Columbia.

George Allen Booth owned the NE 1/4 of 24-26-16. He worked his farm in the summer and worked in the bush in the winter. Some years later, he moved to Ochre River where he died March 2, 1969. He is buried in the Turtle River Cemetery.

William John Booth (Jack) owned the SW 1/4 of 24-26-16. Jack was a good farmer. He always had a threshing machine and a car. He worked with the survey crew in Swan River Valley about 1898. He married Mary (Mamie) Anderson. They adopted two children, Daniel and Jessie. Later Jack and Mamie moved to Kelwood, and both are buried there.

Isabella Adelaide Booth married John Furlong about 1898 and they had nine children: Wesley, Sarah, Mary, William, Margaret, Julia, Gladys, Jean and James. They moved quite often around the Turtle River district. After the death of her husband, Bella moved to Ochre River. She died in St. Paul's Home in Dauphin and is buried in the Turtle River Cemetery.

Thomas Wesley Booth moved with the family to East Bay and attended the old log schoolhouse on the NE 1/4 of 12-26-16 for a few years. He filed on a homestead at Million about 1905-06, and let it go later on. Wes moved to Plumas in April, 1909, and married Amy Haywood. Their son, Norman, was born there in July, 1910. Wes and Amy moved to East Bay in December, 1911, and lived on the NE 1/4 of 24-26-16 where John was born in April, 1915, and Evangeline Hazel in October, 1922. Norman, Wilbert and John attended Bluebell School. The

family moved from the lake home to George Booth's quarter and lived there until they moved to Laurier on March 31, 1928. In 1935 they moved to Minitonas. Wes and Amy had four children, Norman, Wilbert, John and Eva. Wes died on Aug. 19, 1952 and Amy on March 17, 1980. Both are buried in the Minitonas Cemetery.

Sarah Jane Booth went to school at Bluebell, worked out some, then married Thomas Scott. They farmed at Million and had three children, John, Gerald and Elsie.

James Arthur and Andrew Stanley (Art and Andy) farmed the old homestead for a long time. Art homesteaded the SW 1/4 of 23-26-16 and he and Andy leased the east half of 23-26-16 owned by Ernie Lanes, a bachelor. Later they bought the Numa Coste land by the lake. In 1955 they moved to an acreage in Ochre River. Art died on Sept. 4, 1975, and Andy on April 19, 1987. Both are buried in the Turtle River Cemetery.

History of James and Mary Coutts

Mary Coutts was born in Scotland in 1887 to Christina and Mark Hermiston. When she was three years old, her family came to the United States to homestead. Her dad had worked on a farm in the old country and decided he wanted to own land for himself. They stayed in the United States for about six years, but things did not go so well. They could not sell their farm produce and they wanted to live under the British flag.

In about early May, 1893, her family and an uncle decided to immigrate to Canada. They sold their cows for forty dollars each and left their oats and barley in a granary because they could not sell them. With two covered wagons, a four horse team hitched to each, a buggy tied behind one of them, and a democrat behind the other, and five young children, (the oldest was nine) they started the long trek through brush, trails and wilderness for Canada. Their original destination was Alberta.

They had some interesting and at times, frightening experiences along the way. They travelled many miles a day and lived out of their covered wagons. They cooked their food and prepared their meals and bought their supplies whenever they could. At night their wagons were turned into sleeping abodes and their horses were hobbled and turned out to pasture. They carried oats for feed for their teams and when they stopped to rest, they fed them in nose bags and watered them wherever water was found.

They were warned to watch their horses carefully through the Dakotas in case someone should try

to steal them. One morning they awoke to discover that someone had unhobbled all their horses and the horses were nowhere to be found. The men borrowed a couple of saddle horses and, leaving the children and their mother with the wagons, set out to search for them.

While the men were gone, those left behind looked in the surrounding area. The men came upon some tracks made by a number of horses and were able to follow them. Finally they caught up with their teams and brought them back. It was a happy sight seeing the men and horses come into camp later on in the day.

They came to a river and had to ford it because there was no bridge. They traversed a floating bog and travelled little marked trails, passing by Brandon, Riding Mountain, Kelwood and McCreary. Three months after they began the journey, they arrived at Ochre River. They camped north of Ochre River where it was open for homesteaders and the men went to investigate. They squatted on a half section, went to Dauphin to fill out the necessary papers, paid their ten dollars each, and acquired 320 acres of land between them.

They bought two heifers with calves and set off through the bush to the place that was to be their Canadian home. There were only four neighbours in the community. They came to help the new neighbours build a one-room log house, and a staple of wild birds in the area, an abundance of wild fruit and mosquitoes by the droves. They had to build smudges to keep them away from the cattle and out of the house. Flies were very plentiful but they discovered a method to keep them under control in the house. Mary's mother would fill a jar with home made lye soap suds. Then she cut a hole in a piece of bread, put jam on the underside and place it over the top of the jar. The flies attracted by the jam would go through the hole and fall into the soap suds.

There was no school for three years, but as more people moved into the neighbourhood, a school was built out of logs, about one and a half miles south of their farm.

They cleared the land, grew a good garden, got more cows and things began to prosper. The girls helped to milk 18 cows and, when school opened, they rode to school, the four of them, on one horse.

In 1913, Mary married James Coutts. His parents, Jane and Bill Howe, were also early pioneers of the East Bay area. They were married at Mary's home, had supper there and then went on to the farm.

James had a good mixed farm. They raised



Jim & Mary Coutts

among other things, chickens, ducks and geese. Mary and James continued farming in this area for many years. They raised a family of six children: James, Alice, Earl, Rod, Jean, and Mary. They all attended school at Blue Bell School in East Bay.

James passed away in 1943. Mary stayed on the farm for two more years and then sold it and moved to Riding Mountain where she lived for 28 years. In 1972, she moved to the East View Lodge in Neepawa. She lived there until she passed away in November, 1973.

Jim, the oldest son of the family, married Olivine Bauldic from Makinak. They had four children; Wayne is married and living in Saskatoon; Lloyd is deceased; Audrey married and is living in Vernon; and Douglas married and is living in Calgary. There are five grandchildren. Jim passed in August of 1993. His wife, Olivine, currently lives in Roblin where they had made their home since 1957.

Alice married Chester Waddell from Carman. They have three children; Gerry is married and living in Calgary, Barbara married and is living in Winnipeg; Thelma married and is living in Swan River. They have four grandchildren. Alice and Chester currently live in Carman.

Rod married Dodie Caverly. They have retired and now live in Creston. They had six children, four daughters and two sons. Caroline is married and lives in the Kelwood area; Larry lives in Grande Prairie, Diana is married and lives in Hayes Lake, Alberta Cindy is married and lives in Creston, Ellen Rae is married and lives in Elkhorn, Alan is

deceased. Rod and Dodie have twelve grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

Mary married Jim Padden and moved to Genoa City, Wisconsin. They had three sons, Greg, Brad and Kirk. Mary and Jim are both deceased.

Jean, the second youngest of the family is also deceased.

Earl married Louise Parish from Methley. They have retired and now live in Roblin. They have three



Earl & Louise Coutts

sons; Keith married and lives in Wanless, Barry, married and lives in Red Deer, Raymond married and lives in Creighton. They have eight grandchildren and one great-grandson.

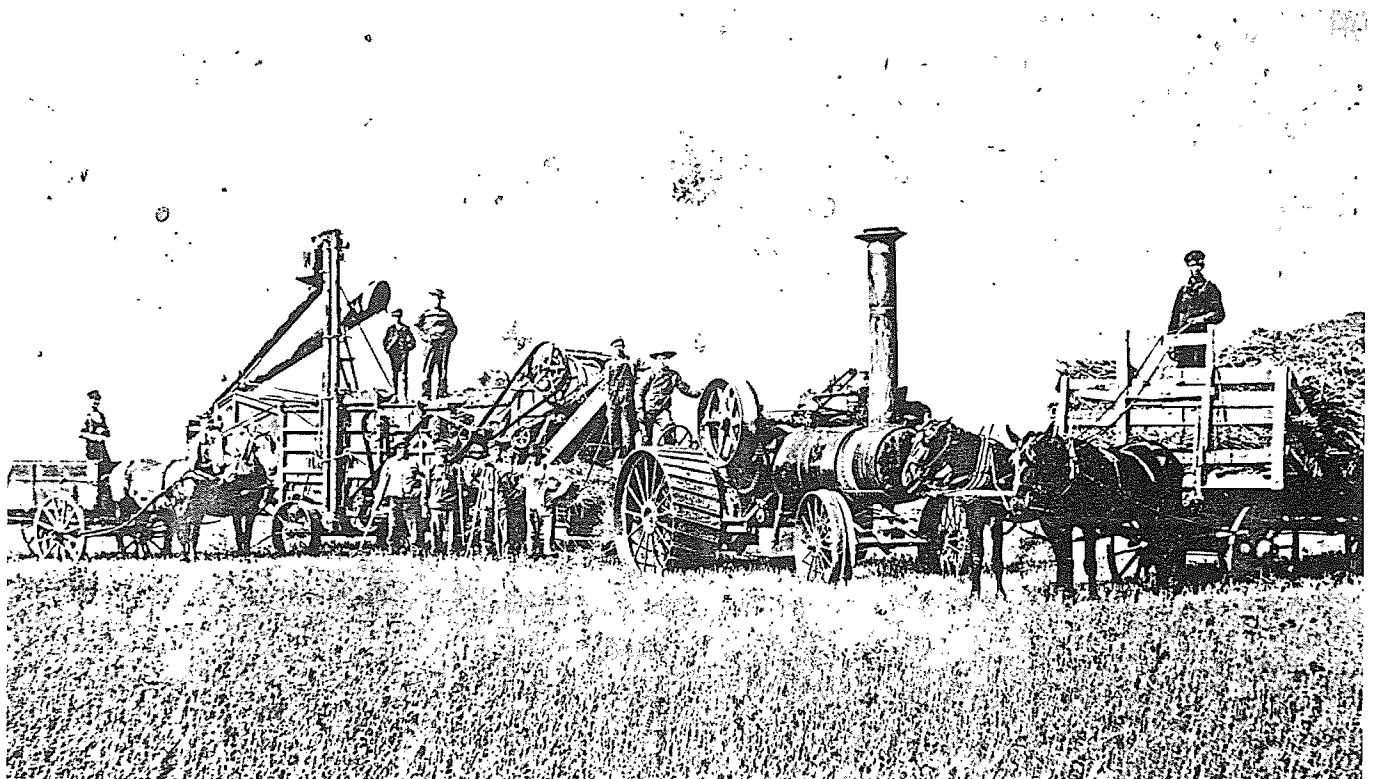
Earl and Louise Coutts

Earl was born at East Bay on February 25, 1918. His parents were James and Mary Coutts. Louise was born at Hamiota, on July 12, 1917. At the age of five, she moved with her family to Methley. Louise's parents were Fred and Rebecca Parish.

Earl and Louise were married on June 17, 1941 in the United Church at Ochre River. They started their married life in Methley. Their first son, Keith, was born in the hospital at Ste. Rose in December 1943.

Earl enlisted in the army and when he was sent to Sidney, Louise and Keith went with him. They lived there for a year and then went to Prince Rupert for five months. When Earl was sent overseas, Louise and Keith returned to Methley. They later moved to Forrest, Manitoba with Louise's parents.

Earl returned home from overseas after the war and in the spring of 1946 he moved his family to Riding Mountain. They purchased a home on an acre of land and started a poultry business with 500 laying hens. Earl was later employed by the CNR at Riding Mountain.



Threshing in the early 1900's

While living in Riding Mountain, two more sons were born, Barry in December 1946 and Raymond in November 1949.

In the fall of 1952, after Earl recovered from a serious accident on the C.N. tracks, they moved their family to Creighton, Saskatchewan. Earl was employed with the Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Company in the neighbouring community of Flin Flon. A few years later they purchased land at Wanless, Manitoba and operated a market garden and u-pick fruit operation.

Keith, Barry and Raymond all completed their education in Creighton and Flin Flon schools. They were always very active in sports and were a great help to their parents at the Wanless farm.

Earl retired from the mining company in the spring of 1978, after twenty-seven years of employment. In the fall of 1979, Earl and Louise sold their market garden business to their son, Keith, and his wife, Pat, and moved to Roblin.

Earl and Louise are currently living in Roblin where they spend many hours working in their yard and in the garden. Louise also enjoys quilting and Earl enjoys playing pool.

Keith and Pat have developed the farm at Wanless into a very successful greenhouse operation called Coutts Greenhouses. They have three children: Darin living and working in The Pas, Pamela, living in Wanless and working in The Pas, and Kevin, living and working in Wanless. They also have one grandson, Corey James, born February 1994.

Their son Barry and his wife Meryl live in Red Deer. Barry works for Trans Alta Utilities and Meryl works at Red Deer College. They have two children: Laura living and working in Calgary and Troy living in Red Deer.

The youngest of the family, Ray, lives in Creighton, Saskatchewan where he owns and operates Coutt's Convenience Centre. His wife, Lois, works at Northlands College. They have three children. Tim is married and assists his dad in the management of the convenience store. Scott works as an aircraft maintenance engineer in La Ronge, Saskatchewan. Their daughter, Angela, is a student at Red Deer College in Red Deer, Alberta studying Theatre Arts.

Earl George Crawford **submitted by Marilyn Mauthe**

Earl Crawford was born on December 2, 1913 to George and Flossie Crawford. He had three brothers and two sisters; Ray, Harry, Stan, Grace and Muriel.

Earl grew up in East Bay and served with the Royal Winnipeg Rifles during W.W. II. He was stationed in Germany, Holland, France and England where he met and married his wife Marjorie J. Smith on April 27, 1945 in Brighton, England.

After Earl came home, followed by Marjorie more than a year later they resided in East Bay, farming, for a number of years.

Their children were:

Marilyn Florence, Keith William, Melvyn George, Debora Jean, and Kevin Philip.

Marilyn was born on October 16, 1947, at Ste. Rose du Lac. She married Charles Mauthe, and have two children, Darren and Adrien. Darren and his wife have a daughter, Cindy.

Keith was born on June 21, 1951, also at Ste. Rose. Keith and his wife Dora, have three children, Pamela, Jeffrey and Timothe. Pamela and her husband, Alan Murray, have one son, Ryan Sean.

Melvyn was born on May 17, 1954 at Neepawa. Melvyn and his wife Gloria have one daughter, Joanne.

Debora, was born on April 26, 1958, in Neepawa. Debora and her husband, Larry Friesen have three children, Patrick, Benjamin, and Michael.

Kevin, the youngest, was born on September 10, 1963, also in Neepawa. Kevin and his wife Cindy are parents of Tara, Tien and David.

In 1952, Earl and Mary moved from East Bay to Neepawa where he spent several years working at the Neepawa Salt Plant.

After spending a few years in McCreary, Minnedosa and Brandon they settled in Douglas where he worked as Sergeant of Commissionaires at Shilo Army Base. He went onto Glory in May of 1985.

Dad is remembered for his music, having played violin and the big base fiddle; he never missed an opportunity to play for us kids and we never failed to get a tune out of him.

He was not a great traveller and liked to be at home with his children and grand children.

We are proud to have been his children. His wife, (our mother), Marjorie now resides in Riondel, British Columbia, Marilyn and Charles are in Sparwood, British Columbia, Keith and Dora are in Medicine Hat, Alberta, Deb and Larry are in Sparwood, and Kevin and Cindy are in Sparwood. Melvyn passed away in 1978, his wife Gloria resides in Brandon.

I want to thank the History Book Committee for bringing back such warm and wonderful memories of the old place.

Memories of how it took so long to get from Neepawa to Ste. Rose. After all, we were only children. Memories of the old farm and Gramma Crawford (Flossie) and how aunts, uncles and cousins all met there for holidays, the old ice house, the huge lake, which really was just a watering hole where uncle Harry used to go for ice with the horses and the stone boat, the dandelion wine and that nasty old gobbler that always chased us. I don't remember teasing him.

So many memories, again. Thank you!

Ernest Rae Crawford

Ernest was born July 28, 1922 at Million, Manitoba, the third of six children of George and Flossie (Cook) Crawford of East Bay.

Rae was baptised Sept. 19, 1933 by Minister W.K. Donogh, registered at Ochre River United Church.

Rae left the family farm to work for the Boyds at Ninga. There he met Vivian Brown.

He volunteered for the army, serving overseas from 1943- 1945. On June 12, 1946 in Killarney he married his pre-war sweetheart, Vivian Brown.

Rae and Vivian farmed near Killarney until 1975, raising five daughters: Barbara (Drewry) of Carwright, Jean of Killarney, Carolyn (Grift) of Brandon, Judy (Bronson) of Warren and Betty (Winterhalt) of Winnipeg. Their pride and joy were their ten grandchildren.

He was an avid hunter and continued his love of this sport with his sons-in-law.

Dad's passion for music and the excellent dancing abilities of both Rae and Viv led the family to a dance somewhere in the area nearly every Friday night. He called many a square dance.

In 1975 Rae and Viv sold the farm and retired to Killarney where Rae built his own home. Viv died of cancer in 1977. Rae continued to drive school bus as he had done for thirty years.

Ten years later in 1987 he married to Phyllis Bullee of Brandon and moved to Brandon. He continued to drive a school bus.

In June 1993 Rae died of cancer leaving his family with a great sense of loss and a multitude of beautiful memories.

Christena and Mark Hermiston

Mary Christena Turnbull was born April 4, 1866 in Jedburgh, Roxboroughshire, Scotland.

Mark Hermiston was born March 23, 1864, at Yetholm, Roxburyshire, Scotland. He died September 2, 1938.



Hermiston Family, Mark, Christina, Amelia, Mary, & Jim

Christena and Mark married January 10, 1886. They journeyed to the United States.

In July of 1898 Mark and family arrived in Manitoba at the Lakeview stopping place, on the south east edge of Lake Dauphin, run by John and Allie Waite (now the Cull farm). Mark Hermiston bought 2 cows with calves, a heifer and a steer, from John Waite and set out around the lakeshore to their "new home", a sod shanty. The Booths, Numo Coste's, Warrens and McKnights were living there already and they all helped build the shanty. There, another son and daughter were born to Christena and Mark.

They were promised a school if they would take a homestead in the East Bay area. This materialized several years later. Their two eldest daughters said the first school was held in a log building at Coste's.

The Hermistons farmed NW1/4 18-26-15 until their sale on Friday, February 15, 1927. They moved to British Columbia where Christena passed away 2 months later. Mark spent some time in Saskatchewan with his sons on their farms. He died at Mozart, Saskatchewan and was buried in Ocean View Cemetery in Vancouver along side his wife.

Children of Christena and Mark Hermiston

1. Mary Cockburn Hermiston (December 25, 1886 - November 8 1973) was born in Scotland. She married James George Coutts (March 21, 1871 - August 1943) on June 18, 1913.

2. Helen (Nellie) Young Hermiston (October 28, 1890 - March 29, 1967) was born in Scotland. She married John Frederick Robinson (September 10, 1883 - March 29, 1952) on Feb. 23, 1915.

3. Jemima (Jemia) Hermiston (November 28, 1892 - September 1984) was born in the United

States. She married Sid Charles Myers (January 23, 1884 - ?) on April 8, 1915.

4. William James Hermiston (April 7, 1894 - May 7, 1973) Was born in the United States. He married Alma Elizabeth Ek on December 10, 1919.

5. Anna Jane Hermiston was born June 20, 1896 in the United States. She was buried at Lake Park, Iowa.

6. John Robert Hermiston (October 13, 1896 -) was born in the United States. He married Violet Elizabeth Whalen (August 13, 1904 -)

7. Thomas Andrew Hermiston (September 19, 1898 - March 19, 1973) was born at East Bay. He married Marjorie Poole in 1925.



Tom & Mark Hermiston

8. Agnes Cynthia Amelie Jane Hermiston (June 8, 1902 - July 29, 1989) was born at East Bay. She married Charles Russell Blackmon (February 21, 1899 - July 12, 1988) on August 29, 1921.

Jim and Rob served in World War 1. They farmed in the East Bay area on their return. Accompanied by Tom, they moved to Saskatchewan farming in Wadena, Wynyard, and eventually Mozart. Many of their descendants still live in these areas today.

William James and Alma (Ek) Hermiston

William James Hermiston, eldest son of Mark and Christena Hermiston, was born April 7, 1894 in Minnesota, U.S.A. He moved with the family to East Bay in 1898.

On his return from overseas after WWI, he homesteaded in the East Bay area. When overseas, he was wounded in action and spent some time in hospital in England.

Alma Ek was born in Makinak. She worked as a telephone operator after she completed her schooling.

Jim and Alma were married December 10, 1919 in Winnipeg. They homesteaded in the East Bay area. Five of their children, Ada Christina (Teny), William Fredrick (Bill), Olive Elizabeth, John Thomas and Dorothy Eileen, were born at East Bay.

In 1928, they moved to the Harvard district in Saskatchewan to farm. Four more children, Muriel Evelyn, Gordon Mark, Verna Rose and Hazel Doreen, were born.

In 1957, Jim and Alma retired to Wynyard where they passed away, Jim in 1973, Alma in 1979.

Teny married Wilfred Imbeau, who passed away in 1969. They had a son Gary (his wife - April King). Their son is Shawn. Later Teny married Irwin Hounscome who passed away in 1976 in Toronto. Teny moved to Wynyard in 1982 and in 1994 moved to Ottawa to live with her son and daughter-in-law.

Bill married Norma Magnusson. They have three children Donna, Linda and Dale. They have farmed a number of years near Wynyard.

Olive married Gunnar Goodman and they reside in Swift Current, Saskatchewan. Gunnar passed away in 1990. They had three children, Barry, Donnie and Barbara. Donnie is deceased.

John married Marjorie Robinson from Lucky Lake. They have three children, Lila, Dennis and Gail. John and Marj live in Wynyard.

Eileen married Magnus Melsted. They farmed in the Margo district. They had ten children, Harvey, Yvonne, Valarie, Patty, Lorna, Judy, Brain, twins Lorne and Laurie, and Karen. Magnus passed away in 1995.

Muriel married Harold Stephanson of Elfros. They have five children, Mark, Doug, Dianne, Gordon and Lyn.

Gordon married Rose Pichorka from Wynyard. They farmed the home farm. They have three children, Terry married to Veronica Zemlak, Jodee married to Mark Walkowski, they have a son, James, and daughter Melanie.

Verna married Frank Dickie from Swift Current. They have three children, Ian Trent (deceased), Kent and Joy.

Hazel married Harold Hogaboam from Swift Current. They have four children, Bill married to Dee, they have three children, Rick married to Lyne, Brenda and Susan.

Thomas Andrew Hermiston (1898 - 1973) submitted by Kenneth R. Hermiston.

Thomas Andrew Hermiston was born September 19, 1898 in the East Bay district of

Lawrence Municipality to Mark and Tena (Turnbull) Hermiston.

His parents, together with siblings Mary, Nellie, Jim, Jemia, and Robert came to the district in 1898, from Jackson County, Minnesota where they had farmed after arriving there from Jedburgh, Scotland, in 1892. Tom's younger sister, Amelia, was also born at East Bay in 1902. Thomas (Tom) grew up on his father's homestead located on NW1/4 18-26-15 in the East Bay district and attended public school at Blue Bell School.

Tom's parents ran the country Post Office out of their home for many years, boarded the teachers, and provided a stopping off place for people travelling through the district. Tom, after he grew up, provided a livery service, using horses and then an automobile. He also farmed with his dad.

Marjorie Poole, a teacher from Dauphin, came to teach at Blue Bell in April, 1912. She boarded at the Hermistons, and met Tom there. They were married November 3, 1925 in Brandon.

Tom and Marjorie farmed with his parents until April 1927. Together with his brother Robert and wife Vi, they moved their livestock and household

effects to Mozart, Saskatchewan where they purchased land 5 miles south of that village and 1/2 mile east, in the Haglof district.

The two brothers purchased a half section of land together, and the first summer the two families lived in the house located on one quarter section. In the fall, Tom moved a piece of the house onto the other quarter and built two additional rooms onto it. They also built a small barn which was replaced with a large hip-roofed barn in 1934.

Tom & Marjorie had two sons, Kenneth Ralph, born October 17, 1927, and Robert Stewart born March 19, 1934. The youngest son "Bobby" died of measles and pneumonia in August 1936.

The two brothers farmed together until 1940, purchasing or renting additional land as time went on. They separated their farming operations in 1940. Tom and Marjorie continued to farm until they sold the farm in 1962. They retired in Wynyard, Saskatchewan.

During their farming years the brothers also ran a threshing outfit and did custom threshing for people in the community. Their second outfit was owned jointly with their brother Jim Hermiston who had also moved to the Mozart area in 1928 to farm in the Harvard district. Threshing was terminated in the mid 1940's and a combine was purchased.

Due to numerous farming hardships: frost 1928, drought in the 30's, stem rust in '38, plus the effects of the Great Depression, it was 17 years before that farm land was paid for.

Tom Hermiston passed away March 19, 1973; Marjorie passed away April 24, 1986. They are buried at the Haglof Church Cemetery in the district where they farmed.

Tom & Marjorie Hermiston's son Kenneth grew up in the Haglof district attending public school at Haglof School and completing high school at the Mozart High School.

After completing school in 1946, Ken worked at grain elevator repairs during that summer. While working at the Mozart CN Railway Station during the winter, he learned telegraphy and administration. He spent the next 14 years working for the CPR in Saskatchewan.

In 1961 he started to work for Consumer Co-Operative System, working as Public Relations. He transferred to Federated Co-operatives in 1968, first as Co-op Relations Department Manager, then Personnel Manager in their Regina Region, followed by work as General Manager of retail Co-ops at Outlook, Saskatchewan and Wetaskiwin, Alberta. He then transferred to Neepawa, Manitoba where he



Thomas Andrew & Marjorie Hermiston

managed the Neepawa-Gladstone Co-operative Ltd., from 1981 until his retirement in March 1988.

Ken Hermiston married Dorothy England of Provost, Alberta in Aug. 1948. They have a family of 4: Wenda Marjorie, David Kenneth, Heather Lorraine and Lynanne Karol.

Wendy (divorced) and her son Kenneth live in Regina; David, his wife Myrna and their son Aaron live at Rosetown, Saskatchewan. Their daughter Lisa has completed her education at the University of Saskatchewan and teaches school at Grand Centre, Alberta. Heather, her husband Perry Miller and their son Chad and daughter Randi live in Regina. Lynanne, her husband Dale Avison and their daughters Amie and Jennifer live at Humboldt, Sask.

Ken and Dorothy have retired at Neepawa, Manitoba. Ken is active in community organizations and is presently serving his third 3-year term on the Town Council. Dorothy keeps busy with church and Rotary Inner-Wheel activities. They own a summer cottage at Fishing Lake near Foam Lake, Saskatchewan where they enjoy many good times with all their family members during the summer months.

Albert and Vivian Hudson

Our father Albert (Bert) was born May 5, 1884 at Staffordshire England. He came to Canada to the Kenton district in 1906. In 1909, he moved to East Bay, where he homesteaded NE 1/4 13-26-16.

He married Vivian Brooks Oct. 28, 1919. She was born in Bracebridge, Ontario, September 15, 1905, to Almeda and Herbert Brooks who came west in 1907 and moved to East Bay in the spring of 1909.

Dad farmed in East Bay until the fall of 1957. In the early years, with a team of horses, he hauled mail from East Bay to the Million and Freedale districts. He looked after the East Bay Post Office for a number of years in his own house. They moved to Dauphin in 1957 where Mom was employed at the hospital for a few years. They spent many hours working with A.R.C. Industries and enjoyed their retirement, curling, bowling and playing cards with their many friends. Mom made many quilts for all her family, Dad also knit an afghan for each of his children. They had a family of twelve, seven boys and five girls.

Alice married Richard Hogarth and farmed in Plumas until retiring to Gladstone. They had a family of six children: Allen, Charlie, Herb, Norman, Margaret and Bruce. Richard passed away March 6, 1994.



F: Bert, Mr. & Mrs. A. E. Hudson & Alice B: Ethel, Ralph, Edgar, Nora, Ernie, Edward, Mabel, Laura

Bert (Herbert) married Phyllis Jackson and farmed in East Bay until moving to Ste. Rose in the summer of 1975. Bert served in the Second World War. They had a family of eight children: Joyce, Delbert, Orval, Shirley, Doreen, Rhona, Brenda and Wendy.

Phyllis passed away in October, 1985. Bert presently lives in Ste. Rose.

Edward married Jean Robinson and lived in Methley before moving to the Million district. In 1957, they moved to East Bay where they took over his dad's farm and Post Office. Edward was in the Second World War.

Ed and Jean had a family of nine children: Ellen, Delphie, Lloyd, Dennis, Llewellyn, William, Lonnie, Vivian and Robert. Llewellyn passed away at an early age and Edward passed away in July, 1977. Jean presently lives in Ochre River.

Nora married Al Kubicek and lives at Victoria, British Columbia. They had three children: Blair, Daryl and Gail. Nora was also with the Armed Forces during the war. After the death of her husband she married Bill Smart and they live at Mill Bay, British Columbia.

Laura married Harold Green. They lived at Wakopa, Manitoba before moving to Brandon. They had four children: Glen, Eldon, Diana and Norma. Harold passed away in December 1981 and Laura passed away in November 1982.

Wilfred married Emma Trombly and lived in Lynn Lake. They had two boys, Blair and Donnie. After Emma passed away, Wilfred married Louise Towley Smith. She had two children, Harold and Dale. Wilf and Lou are enjoying their retirement in Dauphin.

Mabel married Harry Wells and they live in Brandon. They have a family of five girls: Darlene, Linda, Tanis, Penny and Tammy.

Ralph presently lives at Dauphin where he goes to A.R.C. Industries every school day. He enjoys bowling and likes to make mats.

Edgar married Gertrude Preston and farmed in the East Bay district for six years. They moved to the Ross Robinson farm in Million. In the fall of 1961 they went to Lynn Lake where Edgar worked for the mine until the spring of 1962. That fall they moved to the Walter Radley farm where they presently live.

Ethel married Rudy Hominick and lived in Brandon before moving to Dauphin, then to Victoria, British Columbia. They presently live at The Pas. They have four children: Robin, Bradly, Mark and Lisa.

Howard passed away as an infant.

Ernie lives in The Pas where he is employed at the Bus Depot.

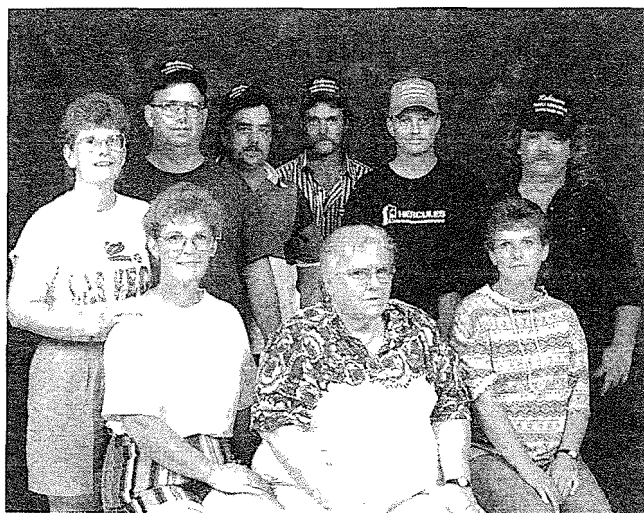
Dad passed away at the age of 96 on Jan. 12, 1981.

Mom passed away at the age of 83 on Aug. 9, 1989.

Edward Lloyd Hudson **submitted by Delphie Tucker**

Edward Lloyd Hudson was born July 28, 1923. He was one of twelve children born to Albert & Vivian Hudson. Edward attended the Blue Bell School.

He enlisted in the Army on September 3, 1942, at the age of 19, with the Royal Winnipeg Rifles. He went overseas with his company, "The Lake Superior Regiment". He served in France, Germany and Holland. He was wounded August 5, 1944 and recuperated in Holland. He was discharged to return to civilian life in February, 1946. He was awarded a



Ellen, Lloyd, Dennis, Robert, Lonnie, William, Delphie, Jean, & Vivian Hudson

1935-45 Star, France and Germany Star, Defence Medal, and a Canadian Volunteer Service Medal and Clasp.

Edward married Jean Robinson (daughter of John and Annie Rogan-Robinson) on March 28, 1950. They lived at the old Carey place from 1950 until June 1953. Edward worked for the farmers in the area. Ellen and Delphie were born while living there. They then moved to John Robinson's place, 4 1/2 miles west of Methley. Here is where Lloyd was born. In 1955, they moved to Million. Edward and Jean raised a few cattle but mostly Edward worked away at oil rigs in Saskatchewan. Dennis was born in May 1956 at Grandpa and Grandma Hudson's house. From Million they moved to East Bay to his parents' farm in 1957. Llewellyn, William, Lonnie, Vivian and Robert were born here. From 1957 to 1975, Edward farmed and worked away as a carpenter to supplement the income. While living in East Bay, they also looked after the Post Office for many years. Together they raised a family of three girls and five boys. In 1975 the farm was sold and the family moved to Dauphin. Edward died on July 24, 1977 and is resting peacefully in the Magnet Cemetery beside his son Llewellyn John who died February 11, 1964.

Jean now resides at the Sunny Bay Apartments in Ochre River and visits often with her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Delphie Hudson Tucker

I was born September 1, 1952, at Ste. Rose, the second eldest of Edward and Jean Hudson. I received my education at Blue Bell School and my high school education at the Ste. Rose Collegiate. After school I was employed at the Dauphin Telephone Office until my marriage on April 27, 1973 to Robert Tucker. I worked at the Gendreau Personal Care Home. On February 1, 1980, I was employed by the Ste. Rose Caisse Populaire as a teller and am still working there.

Robert and I have two children. Tammy Jean was born September 1, 1974. Tammy completed a two year course in Child Care in June 1995. She is now living in The Pas and working in a Day Care Centre there.

Our son, Jody Robert, was born January 13, 1977. He is now completing Grade 12 at the Ste. Rose Collegiate. He also works part time for his father.

Robert owns and operates Ste. Rose Sand and Gravel and Ste. Rose Concrete. We live on our small acreage south of Ste. Rose.

Lonnie Edward Hudson

I was born on March 18, 1960 in Ste. Rose. My parents are Edward and Jean Hudson. Growing up in East Bay, I received my education at Blue Bell School and in Ste. Rose. After the family moved to Dauphin, I attended high school at the DRCSS.

I married Judy Blackshaw in Dec. of 1978 in Ste. Rose. I was employed at the time by Blackwood's Beverages in Dauphin. A short time later, I moved to The Pas to train as an airplane mechanic. Here I was employed at Lamb Air until they closed their doors in 1981. Fortunately I was able to gain employment at Manitoba Forestry Resources (MANFOR) which is now owned by Repap Manitoba. I have worked in the Pulp and Paper Division there for the past 14 years.

Judy and I have two daughters. Jennifer Mae was born May 9, 1979 in Ste. Rose. She is presently in Grade 11 at Margaret Barbour Collegiate Institute. She has a part time job and is active in many sports. She plays hockey in The Pas Minor League and is also on the NorMan Flames Midget Girls team which consists of girls from several towns in the north. During the summer she plays in the Slow Pitch League in The Pas.

Amy Lou Ann was born in The Pas on July 25, 1983. She is in Grade 7 this year. She plays hockey in the Pee Wee House League in The Pas Minor Hockey as well as on the NorMan Pee Wee Girls team.

Herbert (Bert) Hudson

submitted by Joyce (Hudson) Preston

Herbert Hudson of East Bay and Phyllis Jackson of Methley were married June 29, 1946. For a short time they farmed "on the ridge" one half mile east of the present Terry Smith residence. They lived on NE16-27-16 (East Bay) for the majority of their farming years. They raised eight children - two boys and six girls. Bert and Phyllis retired in Ste. Rose in June, 1975. Son Orval and family took over the farm until 1988, then moved to Brandon, Mb. Daughter Joyce married John Preston and they are farming in the Magnet area. The other children left the R.M. after school.

Location of other children in 1996:

Delbert - Winnipeg

Shirley - Dartmouth, Nova Scotia

Doreen - Dauphin

Rhona - Birch River

Brenda - Winnipeg

Wendy - Brandon

Gilbert and Sadie Jackson

submitted by daughters Ila and Verna

In 1933, Gilbert and Sadie and their children moved from Mowbray, Manitoba in the Pembina Hills near the United States border to the East Bay-Methley area. He bought the John Powell ranch. The home fraction was located on the shore of Lake Dauphin, approximately three to four miles northwest of the present site of Methley Beach.

They travelled from Pembina Mountains by Kaleida, north 244, Lavenham Bridge, crossed over to 34 and west through Gladstone, Plumas, Arden Ridge, McCreary, Ste. Rose, across the swamp trail to Lake Dauphin and their new home at last.

There were six daughters and one son; all attended the Blue Bell School in the East Bay district except the eldest, Verna.

Son Earl bought the quarter north of the home place. He never married. He died in a house fire November 18, 1973.

Verna joined the forces in 1943, later married and lives in Winnipeg.

Margaret married, lived in Winnipeg for some time then moved to Calgary where she still resides.

Ila married Elmer MacMillan. They farmed in the Turtle River District and presently reside in Ste. Rose.

Mearle and Phyllis went to Toronto to do war work in February 1944, making parts for shells in an ammunition plant until May 1945.

Mearle married and lives in Toronto.

Phyllis married Bert Hudson and farmed in the East Bay District. She passed away in October, 1985.

The youngest daughter, Doreen, lived in Winnipeg for a time, married and is presently living in a town near Toronto.

Gilbert passed away in 1953 at Ste. Rose Hospital. The burial took place at Mowbray in the "Jackson Cemetery".

Sadie moved to Winnipeg and lived with her oldest daughter Verna until her death in July, 1984 at the age of 96.

The home fraction is now owned by Douglas Robinson of Winnipeg and a summer resident in the East Bay district.

To the west of the Gilbert Jackson family was a Mr. Barker and a son on a small fraction. Next west fraction belonged to Mr Kindred. Later a Mr. and Mrs. Guy Linton and a son lived here. They had a small fruit farm. Next fraction west were Mellons, then Mr. and Mrs. Berthaudin with a mink ranch.

To the east of them, Mr. and Mrs. Marchand ranched with Dick Talsman as the hired hand. A Mr.

and Mrs. Dufault and daughter. Down the south shore from Marchands lived Gravalines, a brother and sister with a ranch hand. Mr. and Mrs. Bill Mackentyre and Bert and Ruby Wishart, a brother and sister, ranched near the Turtle River.

Edward Johnstone **submitted by Laura Scott**

Edward was born January 23, 1924 at Bluff Creek, Manitoba. His parents were Tom and Annie Johnstone.

Edward had one older brother, Joseph, who died of pneumonia in 1925. He has one younger brother, William (Bill), who lives at Prince Albert, Saskatchewan.

Edward received his education at Bluff Creek and Alonsa, Manitoba. In 1942 he joined the Air Force. He was discharged in 1945. He went to work on construction in northern British Columbia and the Yukon until 1953 when he came home to take over his father's farm. He farmed and ranched until 1987 when he sold his farm and retired to the Lawrence Municipality where he bought an acreage on NE 30-26-15W in the East Bay District.

Werner and Christine Luke

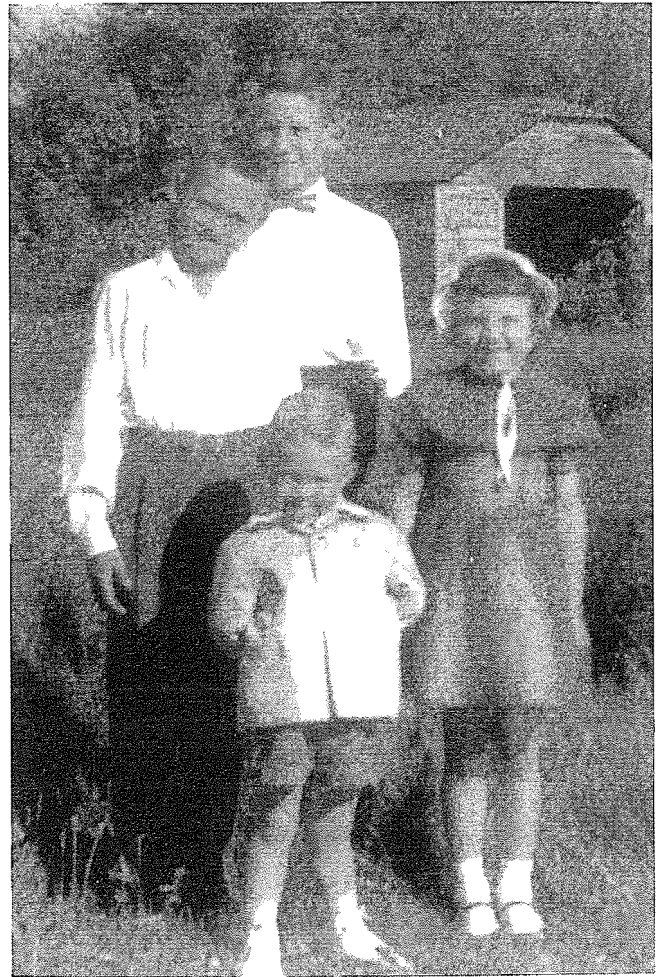
Werner John Luke was born in Wilmont, Saskatchewan. His dad and mother, John and Apolonia Luke purchased the homestead of Howard Robinson. They moved from Saskatchewan to the Magnet area in May 1946. Werner farmed with his parents and two brothers, Johnny and Fred. Werner



Mr & Mrs Werner Luke

purchased a quarter of land the following year. This property, which had an existing vacant log house, was owned by Art and Andy Booth and located in the East Bay district.

On October 25, 1948, Werner married Christine Hueser of Pilger, Saskatchewan. They resided with his parents on the farm until the fall of 1949, then moved to the East Bay District, living in the log house built by Jack Booth. There they continued mixed farming and raised their family of four children: Donald, Bernard, Dianne and Murvin.



Christine & Werner Luke family. Bernie, Donald, Murvin and Dianne

In 1960, Christine found employment at the Ste. Rose General Hospital, first in the cleaning department, X-ray department and later as Ward Clerk. In 1961, Werner started to drive a school bus for the Turtle River School Division. It became Werner's second career for many years to come.

Werner and Christine lived in the log house with their family until a tornado passed through the area in 1966. After establishing a new home in September of the same year, the log house was

destroyed, and with it a part of history was lost. They continued to reside on the farm until they retired to Ste. Rose in 1986. Their son and his wife took over the farm.

Donald John Luke was born on September 11, 1949 in the Ste. Rose General Hospital. Donald began his education at Blue Bell School, situated half a mile from his home and continued on to the Ste. Rose Collegiate Institute. Following his Grade 12 Graduation, he embarked on numerous careers. In February 1973, Donald married Joan Slimmon. They have three sons: Terrance, Darryl and Bryan. Donald is presently employed by the village of Ste. Rose and Joan continues her career as an LPN at the Ste. Rose General Hospital. Donald, Joan and family all share a love for hockey.

Bernard Leo Luke was born on March 6, 1951 in Ste. Rose, Manitoba. Bernie also began his education at the Blue Bell School, continuing on to the SRCI. Following graduation, Bernie completed his Carpentry Course at Red River Community College. He married Adrienne Eftoda in November, 1971. They have two daughters, Karey and Nicole. Bernie is presently living in Flin Flon and works as a Supervisor of construction projects. Since 1991, Adrienne and their two daughters have been residing in Ste. Rose.

Dianne Alvina Luke was born on January 27, 1954 in Ste. Rose. She started her education at Blue Bell School. Dianne received her Grade 8 in Ste. Rose Elementary School and went on to finish her education at the SRCI.

At the age of seventeen, she moved to the nurses' residence in Ste. Rose, working part time at the hospital while taking her grade 12. Following graduation she enrolled in the St. Boniface School of Nursing. She graduated in the afternoon of July 27, 1973, with her LPN degree and she exchanged marriage vows with Donald Karl McKinnon the same evening. They have three children: Ian, Kristofer and Leigh. They now reside in Ste. Rose, Manitoba.

Murvin Anthony Luke was born on April 25, 1957. He was enrolled at Blue Bell School and continued on to Ste. Rose Elementary and SRCI. Murvin enjoyed motorcycles and cars. Following his education, Murvin was employed by various companies and eventually took over the family farm. He married Sally Bator in July 1980. Sally is currently employed with Homecare. They have two daughters, Tanya and Kimberly.

Middleton/Christensen

Harvey and Etta (Ellis) Middleton and their daughter Mildred, came to the R. M. of Lawrence

from Missouri in 1909 and settled on a farm in the East Bay district. Etta taught for a while at the second school in East Bay which was located on the Robinson farm. She also taught at Lonely Lake.

After the death of their daughter, they moved to Ste. Rose and later to Ochre River. Harvey passed away in 1947 and Etta in 1953.

Mildred Middleton was born October 2, 1900, in Missouri and attended school there and in East Bay. She stayed at the Convent in Ste. Rose while going to high school. She married Carl Christensen December 11, 1923. Mildred passed away August, 1942.

Carl Christensen was born in Denmark, January 11, 1889. He came to Canada via the United States. After working on farms in North Dakota for a few years, he moved to Manitoba and took up land east of where the C.N.R. track would run. His brother, Chris, homesteaded in the East Bay area. Chris returned to North Dakota to get married and remained to farm. Carl took up his homestead.

Besides clearing his own land, Carl cleared land for other settlers. He bought one of the first threshing machines in the area and had a regular threshing "run". Carl lived at East Bay for a few years after Mildred passed away, moving to a farm between Ochre River and Makinak in 1946.

In later years, he travelled extensively in the United States and Canada and visited many old friends from homesteading days. He also made a trip to Denmark in 1964, his first trip back in over 50 years. He returned to Canada in 1965 and lived at Methley until he passed away December 22, 1965.

Carl and Mildred had six children: Kenneth, Virginia, Marjorie, Alma, Lloyd and Barbara.

Kenneth Christensen was born August 28, 1924 at East Bay and attended the Blue Bell School. After helping his dad on the farm for a few years, he worked at various jobs, mostly driving trucks, in Manitoba and British Columbia. Ken and his family lived at East Bay for a few years while he farmed their land by Lake Dauphin.

Retired in Abbotsford, British Columbia, he is kept busy repairing small motors. He also teaches square dancing and works as a volunteer for the Legion.

Ken married Lorraine Coombs June 20, 1953. They have four children: Keith, Laurie, Greg and Mark.

Lorraine has remarried and lives in Abbotsford.

Keith Christensen was born in Winnipeg on April 24, 1955 and attended schools in East Bay, Ste. Rose and Dauphin, in Manitoba, and schools in

British Columbia. After graduating from High School he joined the Air Force. He served at various postings in Canada and spent several years in Germany. Keith married Pam Proudfoot in Ottawa. They have two children: Jason, born September 21, 1984 and Eric, born August 14, 1987. Pam and the boys live in Edmonton. Keith is a Warrant Officer and is posted in Ottawa.

Laurie Christensen was born on March 12, 1958 at Ste. Rose and educated at schools in Manitoba and British Columbia. She joined the Air Force after graduating from the D.R.C.S.S. in Dauphin and served until retiring to marry Robert DeLong, also a member of the Armed Forces. Laurie and Rob have two daughters, Stacey and Tracie. They make their home in Ottawa, Ontario.

Gregory Christensen was born August 5, 1959 in Winnipeg and educated at schools in Manitoba and British Columbia. He graduated from the D.R.C.S.S. in Dauphin, then joined the Air Force. He trained as a Supply Technician and later as a Physical Education Instructor. He married Shannon Coughlin June 16, 1990, in Chilliwack. Made Master Corporal in 1990, Greg is posted to Edmonton and he and his family live on the base there. Greg and Shannon have two children: Tyler, born June 23, 1992 and Caitlin, born July 31, 1994.

Mark Christensen was born in Ste. Rose on February 2, 1963 and educated at schools in Manitoba and British Columbia. He lives near Ottawa now, and his daughters, Christina and Danielle, live with their mother in Abbotsford.

Virginia Christensen was born July 17, 1927, at East Bay and educated at East Bay and in Winnipeg. She worked at Eaton's in Dauphin and Winnipeg prior to her marriage and at Simpson's and the hospital while living in Terrace, British Columbia. In later years, she worked at Talpash's store and also at the Ste. Rose General Hospital. She married Donald McKinnon December 15, 1945, in Winnipeg.

Donald McKinnon was born at Magnet, March 4, 1922, to Dougal and Mary McKinnon. He attended the Magnet School and remembers having to sit on a nail keg as there were not enough seats for the more than fifty students. He farmed at Methley until 1992 when he moved to Ste. Rose.

Donald and Virgie have two children: Donna and Karl.

Donna McKinnon was born September 28, 1946 at Ste. Rose. She attended Blue Bell and Dane McCarthy schools in Manitoba, and schools in Terrace, British Columbia and graduated from Ste. Rose High School. She taught at Chatfield,

Poplarfield and Inwood schools, becoming Principal of Inwood School in 1986, and is Principal of Ochre River School at present. In the summer of 1986 and again in 1987, she spent two weeks in Antigua, British West Indies, as part of an O.C.O.D. team bringing advanced teaching methods to Antiguan teachers, unable, otherwise, to further their education. Donna married Ronald Jaremy July 30, 1966 at Dauphin.

Ron was born July 10, 1941, to Dorothy and John Jaremy. He attended schools at Chatfield and Teulon and obtained a diploma in Dairying at the University of Manitoba. He worked as butter maker and truck driver for the family business (Chatfield Creamery) until it closed in 1976. He worked at MacLeod's in Teulon and Charison's Turkey Farms at Gunton before he and Donna moved to an acreage in the Ochre River district.

They have two daughters: Shannon born June 30, 1969 and Kelly born March 16, 1972. The girls live in Winnipeg.

Karl McKinnon was born May 15, 1948, at Ste. Rose and went to Dane McCarthy School in Manitoba and schools in Terrace. He graduated from high school at Ste. Rose in 1966 and worked in construction and farmed before starting his business, Old Swiss Motors, at Teulon in 1973. After selling the business in 1985, he and his family moved to Ste. Rose and he farmed in the Methley district until he began his present business, Mountain Machinery, a construction company located in Dauphin.

He married Dianne Luke July 27, 1973 in Winnipeg. Dianne graduated as a Licenced Practical Nurse on the morning of her wedding. She nursed at Hunter Memorial Hospital, Teulon. She quit nursing to devote herself full time to the business and to raising their family. Dianne and Karl live in Ste. Rose with their family: Ian, Kris and Leigh.

Marjorie Christensen was born December 11, 1929 at East Bay and went to Blue Bell School. She worked in Brandon, Winnipeg, Port Arthur (later Thunder Bay), Squamish and William's Lake, British Columbia. She married Edward McLean on December 19, 1950, at Winnipeg. Ed was a fireman for the C.N.R. at the time and he worked in Manitoba and Ontario. They moved to Squamish, British Columbia in 1956 and Ed went to work for the P.G.E. railroad (later B.C. Rail). He began as a fireman and later became an engineer. He worked out of William's Lake, British Columbia and Lilooet. Ed passed away while on vacation in Manitoba in 1977. Marje returned to William's Lake

and raised their two sons, Daryl and Micheal, there. She is now retired and devotes much of her time to volunteer work and babysitting.

Daryl lives in Prince George, British Columbia. Michael, his wife Marnie, and their son, Tyler, live in William's Lake.

Alma Christensen was born October 19, 1932 at Ochre River and was educated at East Bay, Ochre River, Makinak and Winnipeg, and obtained her Master of Education degree from Simon Fraser University in British Columbia. After working in offices in Winnipeg and Vancouver, she went to work on the Norwegian ship Falkanger, where she met her future husband, Purser and Radio Operator, Einar Smerdal. They were married in Norway July 7, 1956. After living at Seattle and Aberdeen, Washington, for ten years, they returned to Canada and Einar established a forwarding company, Summit Shipping, in Vancouver. Alma had a children's clothing store at Abbotsford and later she taught at the Senior Secondary School in Mission, British Columbia for eleven years. Alma and Einar are retired and live in Surrey. They have one son Kraige.

Kraige works for a towing company and lives in Squamish, British Columbia. His wife, Bev, and their two children, Alexandra and Rebecca live in Kamloops.

Lloyd Christensen was born on the Christensen farm on April 26, 1935. He attended schools at East Bay, Ochre River and Makinak and later worked as a farmer's helper. He worked in the construction and trucking industries in Manitoba, Alberta and British Columbia until 1961 when he and his family moved to Virden where he drove a truck for the C.N.R. He was transferred to Winnipeg in January, 1963, and he and his family lived there until April of that year, when they moved to Ochre River. Their half-section had previously been rented out and Lloyd decided to farm the land himself. He bought his father's farm in 1964 and moved his family to East Bay. He and his son Darren still farm there.

On July 8, 1966, a tornado went through the old homestead, tearing down all the old buildings, including the big red barn where many barn dances had been held when Lloyd was a child. The Christensen family moved back to Ochre River and lived there for a year while their new home was being built across the road, north of the old homestead.

As well as serving as councilor in Ward five in the seventies, Lloyd has been a Manitoba Pool Board member and delegate for many years. He served as president of the Ste. Rose Curling Club for

a term and was a member of the Kinsmen Club and the Legion. He coached hockey for seventeen years when his sons played in the Minor League. Lloyd married Myrtle Gilroy on March 20, 1959, in Ochre River, Manitoba.

Myrtle was born to Ida and Robert Gilroy in Ochre River March 3, 1940, and attended school at Turtle River and Ochre River. She worked for the Ste. Rose Hospital and then for the Bank of Commerce in Dauphin until March, 1959, and after the children were older, she returned to the work force on June 11, 1974 at the Royal Bank in Ste. Rose. In the fall of 1986, she was hired as assistant to Glen Cummings, M.L.A. for the Ste. Rose Constituency and maintains his office in Ste. Rose at the present time. Lloyd and Myrtle have three children: Charlene, Ronald and Darren.

Charlene Christensen was born in the Dauphin Hospital on January 13, 1960. She attended the Ochre River School and Ste. Rose School graduating from Ste. Rose High School in 1978. After graduating from the University of Manitoba with a Bachelor of Education degree in May, 1982, she worked for the Royal Bank part-time and taught school on a substitute basis while taking French language courses at the University of St. Boniface. She spent two summers in Quebec taking more French language courses after which she was hired by the Lakeshore School Division to teach French at Inwood School, 1985/86. She began teaching in the St. James School Division in the fall of 1986. In 1991, Charlene obtained her pre-master's degree in Psychology. She is presently employed as Student Counsellor at Linwood School in the St. James School Division. Charlene married Donald Hardie in Winnipeg on October 22, 1988.

Don was born August 11, 1958, in Winnipeg, to Vern and Doreen Hardie. Don's family moved to Swan River and he attended school there. After graduating from high school, he enrolled at the University of Manitoba and obtained a Bachelor of Commerce degree in May, 1982. He was employed by the Royal Bank in Winnipeg after graduation and he continues to work there at this time. Don and Charlene have one son: Michael Donald, born November 28, 1993.

Ronald Christensen was born in the Dauphin Hospital on August 18, 1962. He attended school in Ste. Rose and graduated from high school in 1981. Ron farmed with his dad until 1986 when he left to attend Assiniboine College in Dauphin and in 1987/88 he attended Assiniboine College in Brandon, graduating with a diploma in Applied Agriculture (Agri-business). He was hired by

Cargill in May 1987, and worked as assistant-manager at Lethbridge and Lacombe, Alberta. He was transferred to Elm Creek, Manitoba in August, 1991, and to Dugald in April, 1993, where he is assistant Manager at present. Ron married Diane Tkachyk in Carman on July 22, 1995.

Diane was born on November 23, 1966, to Matt and Doris Tkachyk of Elm Creek, Manitoba. Diane attended school in the area and, after graduating from high school, she attended the University of Manitoba obtaining a Bachelor of Education degree. She taught in the Toronto area for three years. Diane returned to Manitoba where she taught in several schools as substitute teacher. She is presently employed at Graphic Packaging. Ron and Diane live in St. Vital.

Darren Christensen was born in the Dauphin Hospital on August 15, 1967. He attended school in Ste. Rose and graduated from Grade 12 in 1985. Since graduation he has been farming with his dad for six months of the year and during the rest of the year he works on oil rigs in Alberta and British Columbia. Darren and his dad are partners in the family farm.

Barbara Christensen was born August 14, 1942, at the Ste. Rose Hospital. As her Mother had passed away at the time of her birth, Mamie and Norman Woodhall offered to care for Barbara and she was later adopted by them. She was educated at schools in Alberta and British Columbia. After graduating from high school in Nanaimo, British Columbia, she joined the Canadian Armed Forces and served nearly three years before moving to California. She and her husband, Kent Jacobsen, still live in California. They have two children: Randy and Melinda.

Ploschak Story 1906-1981 **submitted by Alice Drebnisky**

In 1905, Steve Ploschak, who had just completed his compulsory army training, returned home and married Theodosia Shewchyshyn. Together they decided to start their new life in the New World.

She received a parting gift of a valuable set of coral beads. That was to be her insurance against total poverty should she find life in the New Land unbearable, she was to sell those beads and use the money to buy passage for their return to their homeland. Mother never did sell those beads.

Joseph and Matrona Ploschak and their twelve year old daughter, Michalena decided to immigrate to Canada with Steve, Joseph's brotherans Theodosia. Karl, Joseph's bachelor brother, decided to go along also.

In the spring of 1906, Steve and Theodosia,

Joseph and Matrona Ploschak, Michalena and Uncle Karl. They took that first step forward into the vast unknown - a journey from which there was no return other than in thought and cherished memories.

In her heart she knew that Steve who was detained at the Port of Hamburg, would be joining them before too long.

Upon arrival relatives and friends would offer to share their accommodations and hospitality. All were eager to obtain first hand information from the newcomers about what was happening back home.

After Steve was detained at the Port of Hamburg, he picked up odd jobs and saved his earnings to pay for food and other incidental expenses of travel. In a few months he too set sail for Canada and arrived at Checkow on November 8th.

The first year there was much work to be done in preparation for the long, hard winter ahead. A small plastered log hut with a sod roof would be their dwelling place. That first winter was much longer and more severe than they had ever experienced.

August 10, 1910, Theodosia gave birth to her third child, a son, "Billy". Steve was delighted but that joy was short lived. An epidemic of whooping cough swept through the settlement that winter taking Billy with it. The sorrow was excruciating. Many had suffered similar losses.

Michalena was now a young lady and strongly attracted to a very talented violinist, Anthony Owchar. He was a popular musician, in great demand to play at weddings, dances and house parties. The pay was not great but music was his life. He and Michalena were married. They had two sons, Bill and Dan.

In 1915 Steve decided to embark on a new venture. With all these girls maybe a general store would be easier to operate than a farm. A building which had been used as a summer kitchen was converted into a store. It was stocked with basic supplies. He phased out the business three years later.

Life in Manitoba is another chapter in the history of the Ploschak family but it was here that their last child was born - another girl - Alice. Steve's sister had died and he was asked to come and take the two orphaned boys. Steve immediately left and returned with Bill and Dan ages five and three. They became permanent members of the Ploschak family.

Matrona Ploschak, in her role as midwife delivered many babies into this world. She also understood the medicinal value of certain herbs. She died in 1925 and is buried in the Parish Cemetery at Toutes Aides.

Joseph Ploschak, though small in stature possessed an ingenious ability to solve problems and was resourceful. He constructed a little mill for grinding his own snuff from home grown tobacco. He was a blacksmith, a shoe maker, a "Mr. Fix it", an extremely resourceful person whose specialty was making something out of nothing. He died in November of 1938 and is buried beside his wife in the Toutes Aides cemetery.

Steve Ploschak died December 18, 1932.

Theodosia Ploschak died January 18, 1971.

Both are buried in the parish cemetery of the Ukrainian Catholic Church at Toutes Aides. Between them lies their beloved son Michael who died at fourteen years of age on July 11, 1932.

Though gone from the face of this earth to their well earned rest, their life blood and hopefully their courage, fortitude and adventurous spirit flows through.

The Lines of Descent Of Steve and Theodosia Ploschak

Eva - married William Rehaluk - a retired railroad foreman living in Dauphin. They have four children.

Michael - B.A., B.Ed. married Rose Ratushny B.A. Spec. in Special Ed. - both teachers now retired and living in the Bahamas. Their two children, Beverly and Robert are attending University in Toronto and Guelph Ont.

Mary - married to Adam Juce B.A., B.Ed., both teachers in Dauphin. They have two sons, Brian L.L.B. practising Law in Brandon, David B.A. teaching in Dauphin.

Jean - A steno, married Harry Chornoboy B.A., B.Ed. Superintendent of School, Virden, Manitoba. They have two sons. Harold B.A., married to Jo Ann Unruh B.A., both employees of a bank in Calgary. Douglas B.A., taking Master's Degree in Commerce at London, Ontario.

William - accountant, employed by Department of Education in Accounting Department of Manitoba Teachers' R. Fund, married to Gloria Pich, B.A., B.Ed. - teacher in Winnipeg.

Mary - married to Philip Rehaluk - retired farmer, living on original farm at East Bay, Manitoba. They have two daughters.

Sylvia - B. Ped., teacher married to Walter Bohonos B.A., B.Ed., Principal of Collegiate in Portage la Prairie, Manitoba.

Elaine - B.Sc., Home Ec. Post Graduate in Dietetics, married to Mario Perreault B.A., L.L.B. practising law in Winnipeg. They have three children in school; Dawn-Lynn, Kerry Ann, and Blayze.

William - deceased in infancy, influenza - no medical care available.

Eileen - married Jack Halko - employed by INCO at Sudbury, and now retired.

Stephany - taught school and nursed, married to Michael Mudray, who recently retired from employment at Canadian Forces Base Portage la Prairie. They have two sons.

Michael - Male Psychiatric Nurse Graduate. Now operates an Electronic Shop in Brandon. Married to Elizabeth Newton, Psychiatric Nurse Graduate. They have one daughter, Tara.

Barry - Certified Mechanical Engineer, Air Canada and Landau - Fine Tuning Department, married to Ann Lroeker, Beautician Diploma. They have two children, Trisha and Colin.

Michael - deceased 1932 at 14 years of age, (pneumonia) at the Dauphin General Hospital.

Alice - married to Anthony J. Drebnisky, B.A., B.Ed., both retired teachers - living in Dauphin, during summer and spends the winter to the Rio Grande Valley in Texas.

Descendants of Anthony Owchar and Michalena Ploschak

William - (Owchar) Ploschak - Building Contractor and Carpenter by trade, married to Lena Benyk - retired and living in Transcona. They have three children.

Peter - Operates the Modern Body Shop in Transcona, married to Jackie Cameron. They have two children, Shannon and Carrie.

Valerie - married to Eugene Derkacz, who works for the City of Calgary. Valerie employed by Telephone Tele-Communications.

Dennis - employed by Flyer Industries in Winnipeg, married to Betty Endsley. They have two children, Jodine and Jason.

Dan - (Owchar) Ploschak - married Susan Kuyp, employed by Manitoba Directory Service of Telephone System in Winnipeg. They have two children, Michael and Cindy.

Philip and Mary Rehaluk submitted by Sylvia Bohonos

In 1919, three families: the Michael Rehaluks, Steve Ploschaks and Harasym Barans were bound for East Bay, Manitoba where a quarter of a section was purchased for \$4,400.00 and wheat sold for four dollars per bushel.

In 1906 these three families had become neighbors near Preeceville, Saskatchewan. Why had they left their homesteads where they had worked laboriously to clear the land? Why had they left behind their newly formed friendships and an established

community? Their quarrel was with Jack Frost. For three consecutive years he was the ruination of what appeared to be beautiful harvests. The disgruntled families had decided to go "east" to seek their fortunes. Manitoba would be better!

Land, E 19-26-15 was purchased and shared by the Rehaluk and Ploschak families. The northern half of the section was obtained by the Ploschak family and the southern half of the section, where the school was located, was settled by the Rehaluk family. The Barans acquired a half section north of the Ploschak holdings. Once again the three families faced the arduous task of putting up new buildings, breaking new land and establishing new friendships in a new community.

Although the Rehaluk and Ploschak families had miles separating them, the marriage of the two eldest sons to the two eldest daughters created a bond that was to keep the two families together through the years. Michael and Theodosia shared a passion for reading and spent countless hours sharing their reading and their last years together in St. Paul's Nursing Home in Dauphin.

Philip began his farming career at an early age. In the spring of 1920 he was forced to leave school to prepare the land and sow the crop. His father had gone to Skownan to purchase logs for building purposes. While crossing Lake Manitoba, he was caught in a blizzard and severely froze both feet. Bill, the eldest had left home to seek his fortune. Thus, at fourteen, Philip was an instant farmer. When Paul and Dan were able to accept greater farming responsibility and Michael's feet had healed, Philip left home to earn money to help support the family. At the age of sixteen, while in the employ of Jack Thacker near Ochre River, he gained a respect and appreciation for farming. Employment was hard to find. Philip worked at various jobs, anything that would provide that much-needed nickel. Finally, in 1929, a steady job became available. Railroads were being built from The Pas to Churchill, Flin Flon and various northern points. This was steady employment for Philip. The work was strenuous, 200 hours of work in two weeks, twenty five cents an hour, no days off. Starting out by working at the most menial of tasks, shoveling gravel and laying ties and displaying much strength and energy Philip, never daunted, was prepared to face and succeed at any task. Philip rose to the position of manning the locomotive.

Bill purchased the southeast quarter, which Philip's father had given up when he left East Bay.

In the meantime, Mary was sharpening her farming skills. She enjoyed school, mathematics in



Mario & Elaine Perreault, Mary & Phillip Rehaluk, Sylvia & Walter Bohonos

particular, but she too had to leave school to take over the reins of the farm. With an ailing father unable to meet payments on the land, other debts, an aged grandfather, younger family members, they realized that purchasing cheaper land was imperative. Therefore a small downpayment on a quarter of land in the Toutes Aides area.

In 1931 Michael, Mary's brother, accidentally received an ear injury which resulted in mastoiditis. Michael passed away in July of 1932 and Steve, Mary's father, on the twenty-first of December of the same year.

Philip and Mary were married in October, 1933. Philip inherited an instant family, a mother-in-law, a grandfather-in-law, three sisters-in-law, two of Mary's cousins, land that was lost to debt, a house, some buildings and some farm animals.

Basil Tucker, an agent in charge of land sales, came upon the scene. With some sound advice from Mr. Tucker and a great deal of hard work from Philip and Mary, payment was made on the north half of 19-26-15. Together they owned three quarters of that section.

Education was highly regarded by Philip and Mary. Eileen and Stephany enjoyed wedding celebrations right on the farm site. For many years Mary's cousins, Bill and Dan, lived at the farm periodically.

The house was always a hive of activity! In August of 1937, the Cherwak family, Michael, Theodosia and daughter Maria, Mary's relatives from the Ukraine, arrived. After several months they moved to the property at Toutes Aides, which had been purchased initially for the Ploschak family's intended move. Another family sponsored to Canada were Steve and Claudia Ploschak, Mary's cousins. They arrived in 1947, just in time to cele-



Dawn Breckman (Perreault), Blayze Perreault, Kerry Perreault, Douglas Breckman, Rehaluks Grandchildren.

brate Christmas. Both Sonya and Iris were born while Steve and Claudia lived at the farm. They lived at the farm for seven years. The Pongracz family, Bert and Mary and their daughters, Joyce and Rose (Sylvia and Elaine's age) were welcomed guests for several weeks until their new home was completed. Apart from all the relatives in residence it was not uncommon to have a couple of hired men plus additional summer help in the bunkhouses. Cousins enjoyed coming to the farm for their summer holidays. Oh, yes! Teachers boarded at the farm, too.

Philip and Mary played an active role in the Catholic Church community. Mary's mother, Theodosia, was the church choir leader until Mary took over with her beautiful voice. Philip was fervently involved in the building of the St. Peter and Paul Church at Rorketon.

During the summer, ball games were the speciality, Dauphin, Neepawa, Brandon, and the circuit was followed. At the local picnics Philip played ball and in later years acted as umpire.

Both Philip and Mary curled. Philip, in particular, remembers key games, key shots and actual scores. Philip can spend an evening relating the winter of curling that he enjoyed with Harry Chornoboy.

Travel was enjoyed by the entire family. Their first car was a 1927 Ford, initially owned by the Ploschak family. Visiting with their relatives and visiting the homeland of their forefathers was an experience they cherish.

Despite some setbacks, two fires, the house and all contents, the machine shed with most of the machinery including a two ton truck, and some of Mother Nature's vengeful acts, Philip and Mary's fortunes flourished. Never ones to give up, each obstacle was a challenge.

Grain farming was not the only way to farm according to Philip. He loved his animals, particularly horses. Horses were shown at the Dauphin Fair and ribbons adorned the walls. Mix farming was carried on during most of their farming career. Both Mary and Philip were involved in the Farmers' Union. Mary became a member of the executive thus traveling to many districts provincially and federally. Over a period of approximately a dozen years, as chairman with United Grain Growers in Rorketon and Ste. Rose, Philip's involvement was a learning experience considered both valuable and interesting.

Both were community minded. Invitations to become involved were not required.

There was time during those busy years to raise two daughters, Sylvia and Elaine. Sylvia married Walter Bohonos and both pursued teaching careers. They have lived in Flin Flon, Brandon and presently reside in Portage la Prairie. Elaine, a dietitian, married Mario Perreault, a lawyer. Until the summer of 1994 they lived in Winnipeg where they raised three children, Dawn Lynn, their eldest, is married to Douglas Breckman. Both are presently employed in education with the Pine Creek School Division. Kerry Ann is a clinical dietitian working in the hospital at Red Lake, Ontario. Blayze, the youngest, is attending classes at the Health Sciences Center. Elaine and Mario have retired on an acreage in West St. Andrews.

In the fall of 1988 it was time for Philip and Mary to say good-bye to their old haunts and move to the city, Portage la Prairie. Memories of the final breakfast in the large old farm house are vivid.

In Portage, Philip and Mary never missed a beat. They chose a home in a pleasant neighborhood and immediately befriended all who were around. On bread baking days one could see either of them making deliveries of Mary's specialty. The Herman Prior Centre (a senior center) was frequented by both, Philip with a passion for pool and Mary enjoyed her cribbage games. Both loved to dance away their Friday afternoons. They embraced their new community and they were embraced in return by their newly-found friends. A remarkable feat for a couple aged eighty-two and eighty.

Unfortunately, Old Father Time has a way of sneaking up. In February 1994, Mary had a stroke. With God's help and Mary's fighting spirit and determination she has returned to better health. Her mind is clear; her memory is excellent and she is able to zip around with the use of her quad cane (and sometimes without the cane). Never one to give up she continues to improve her medical status. Philip,

after Mary's stroke, became the main care-giver. However, in May 1995 he suffered bouts of angina, underwent angio-plasty on August 28 and suffered a heart attack in September. This has slowed him down, a bit, but together at the ages of 89 and 87 they are determined to enjoy life. They still reside in their own home and Philip enjoys his car and games of pool. Their only complaint is heard on the days when no visitors had come. They still love to have people around.

John and Ethel Robinson

John Herbert Robinson Jr. was the eldest child of John Robinson and Ellen Hook who immigrated to Canada from England. John was born in 1890 in Pictou County, Nova Scotia, later moving to Grand Pre in the Annapolis Valley. In 1905 the family moved to Manitoba where they lived, for brief periods of time, in the Chater, Bradwardine and Oak River districts. In 1911 they moved to a farm in the East Bay district. The Robinson family by that time consisted of four sons: John, Fred, Edward and Howard and three daughters: Dorothy, Evelyn and Mary.

In 1942 John married Ethel Zywnina from Moose Bay. They had one son, Stanley and a daughter, Beverley. The children received their elementary schooling at Magnet, Bluebell and Coronation Schools and later attended high school in Rorketon.

John and Ethel farmed in the East Bay district until their retirement in 1972. They were keenly involved in all aspects of agriculture and horticulture, as were all the members of the Robinson family. Their farms and gardens reflected their hard work and love of the soil. They continued to live on the farm and enjoyed travelling and gardening until they moved to Kelowna in 1981. They were fortunate enough to spend some winters in Hawaii, Arizona, Texas and various parts of the United States as well as travel extensively throughout Canada.

In 1982, while visiting in Dauphin, John passed away at the age of 92. Ethel returned to B.C., spending some time in Kelowna, Abbotsford and White Rock before settling in Dauphin in 1984. She still enjoys gardening, church activities and her job at Wal-Mart where she gets to meet many old friends and acquaintances.



John & Ethel Robinson

Stanley joined the Royal Bank immediately after graduation and is still employed in their district office in Winnipeg, after managing branches in a number of towns throughout western and southern Manitoba. In 1968 he married Marie Sabeski of Angusville. They have two children, Christopher and Danielle. Marie, Christopher and Danielle are all employed with the City of Winnipeg Library Department and Danielle is also attending classes at the University of Manitoba.

Beverley moved to Thompson where she was employed with the Bank of Montreal for many years. In 1968 she married Paul Lewicki of Ethelbert. They continue to live in Thompson where Paul was employed with the Safety and Protection Department of Inco and Beverley worked in a number of administrative positions until their retirement in 1994. They now live in Gilbert Plains where they enjoy gardening and golfing.

The only surviving members of the original Robinson family are John's stepmother, Kate Robinson of Dauphin and the youngest sister, Mary Durham of Stony Mountain.

Freedale District

If you ask a stranger "Where is Freedale?" chances are they will look at you with a puzzled look, but never the less we are a dot. We were the first community in the area and later became part of the Lawrence Municipality.

Freedale was a school district, named after Mrs. Elizabeth Freed, who was well educated in the English language. In 1912, the first post office in the area opened in her home with her being the first postmistress. She also operated a store from the same building. The settlers, including those who came from what was to be known as the town of Rorketon, received their mail from Freedale. Mrs. Freed operated the post office until 1920. Mrs. Edith Payne became the next postmistress. In 1927 she



Settlers first home



Hen House in Freedale

resigned as the postmistress due to illness. April 1, 1927, Mr. Benton Hales took over until 1930 at which time the post office was closed and moved to Rorketon.

In 1918, Mr. Sladlebuer was a merchant and his business was located on NW 28-27-16.

In 1920, D.H. Pool had a butcher shop in Freedale situated SW 2-28-16.

Telephone

In 1938, when Roman Solomon moved to his farm in Freedale the pay telephone had already been installed in his house. Roman would collect the money from the customers and then send it to the phone company. They had the pay phone until 1968.

School

On May 8, 1919, the school, measuring twenty by twenty-eight feet, opened at last with Miss C. McQuarrie from Port Arthur, Ontario, in charge. It was regretful that schools often had to remain closed while a teacher was being sought. The school was used for church services, dances, concerts, and meetings. The school was later renovated. The windows were changed from facing east to facing the west. It is still standing and is used for community functions. The Freedale Community Club was organized in 1955. It took over the building and added a kitchen in 1972.

Teacher: Madeleine Pennarun (1942-1943)

Class List:

grade 7	George Robbins Annie Benyk Clifford Pont Walter Pont
grade 5	Wilfred Robbins
grade 4	Sammy Robbins Ella Robbins Peter Benyk Pearl Kachur
grade 3	Pearl Benyk Martin Gaffard

grade 1 Arthur Fleurie
 Marion Kachur

Teachers:

Miss Rodin	May 26, 1921
Miss H. Anderson	April 13, 1922
Pearl Nicole	Oct. 20, 1922
Doris Laycock	1945-1946
Eva Zamrykut	1948-1949
Hope Zachedniak	1952-1953
Martin Boyechko	1953-1954
Victoria Panagapka	1954-1955
Tony Semchyshyn	1955-1956
Elmer Beyak	1956-1957
Ernest Kolsun	1957-1958
Carmel Korotash	1958-1961
Barbara Pitura	1961-1963
James Woods	1964-1965
Magdaline McKinnon	1965-1967

There was a cottage near the school for the teacher. It burnt and a new one was built in 1958. It was then sold to Matt Mazier who moved it on the farm. It became his mother's home. It is still on the farm.

On May 29, 1919, the overseer of the Settlers Animal Committee was in Freedale, completing arrangements to send in another consignment of cows to the settlers.

On July 21, 1919, settlers to the north and south of Freedale received their consignment of cows, the third to arrive through the "Settlers Animal Act", or the "Winkler Cow Scheme" as it is commonly called. There were a lot of building, breaking and fencing being done at this time.

On July 17, 1919, the roads had improved with automobiles passing almost daily.

On July 17, 1919, Mr. L. Lafleur, the singer sewing machine salesman was pushing business in the Freedale area.

On December 4, 1919, it was a great hardship for the settlers to making the long trip into town in the cold weather with bad roads. The settlers patiently waited and hoped that the railway would be completed in a year.

May 26, 1921, it was decided to take full advantage of a dress making course offered by the Extension Service Department.<excerpt Dauphin Herald>

Oil King

excerpt Dauphin Herald

"On June 1920, "How oil was discovered in Freedale Manitoba". Allan McKay, an eighty year old man, was digging a well and discovered that the

water which seeped in at a depth of 47 feet was covered with black, foul-smelling scum. Being curious, he sent a sample to the Manitoba Agricultural College for analysis and the college requested large samples. In the mean time, some Winnipeg men, hearing of the incident, promptly went to Dauphin and filed oil claims on what they thought was the McKay farm. A mistake was made initially and they were in the wrong township.

Finding out their mistake later, they filed on the farm, as well as on several other farms in the same and adjoining townships. Others quickly followed and in a short time, nearly every farm in the district covering 40,000 acres in all, had oil lease filed on them without the owners knowing anything about the matter. Throughout the district in which the oil leases had been filed, only three farmers have oil rights on their own property. Many parties have been out to visit the scene of the first find and all declare that the prospects look good. Old oil prospectors are sure that there is oil in quantities in the district and systematic drilling will be started almost immediately. Since the first find on the McKay farm, two other wells have shown signs of oil. Farms in the district have filed up and soon the whole district as far north as Winnipegosis will be held for oil right.

On April 15, 1921, Mr. Allen McKay, the oil King, is leaving Freedale for his old home in Muskoka, Ontario. Mr. McKay has not made any money out of the oil find, but finds himself unable to run his farm any longer.

In 1923, settlers bought merchandise such as oil and coal- oil in bulk and shared the cost. It was much cheaper. This cooperative way of buying had been successful in other lines of purchase."

Library

"On February 8, 1923, the U.F.M. Library has arrived and any person wishing to get a book contact Mrs. J. Cook.

Mrs. Armson

Mrs. William Armson passed away on February 21, 1923. She was 71 years of age and was in poor health for sometime. On February 24, at 2:30 pm the funeral took place at her residence, two and a half miles north of Freedale. The service was conducted by Mr. G. Rorke. A large number of old friends came to pay their last respects to a dear old lady who in life set a grand example to all. Her body was laid to rest on the homestead close to the house where the deceased spent the last ten years of her life."<excerpt Dauphin Herald> Even today the

grave site is visible from the road as you drive by. It is a historical landmark.

Picnics

"On July 8, 1920, a union picnic was being arranged by the U.F.M. of Freedale and Orangemen, to be held at the new townsite at Mr. Geo Rorke's. We understand the new town is to be known by the name of Lawrence. The picnic will be held on July 12, 1920. As it is to promote the feeling of good citizenship and fraternity everybody is invited to come and help make a good time possible for all.

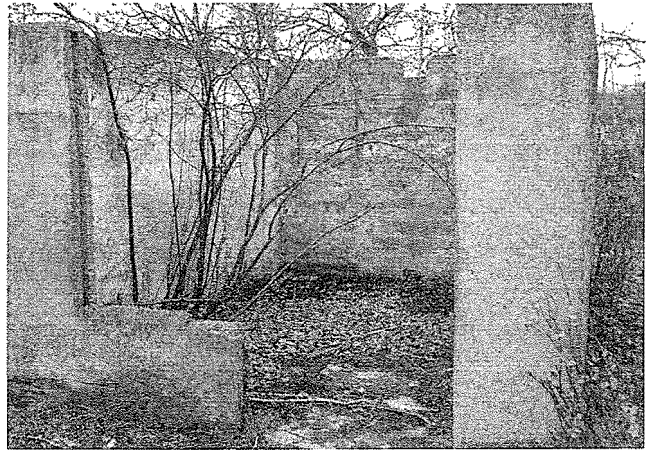
On July 8, 1920, the Freed brothers have lost another valuable horse, making it the second within a few weeks. There appears to be a high death rate among stock of all kinds.

On September 16, 1920, wheat yielded twenty to twenty-two bushels an acre.

Ice House

On April 12, 1923, ice has been packed for the use of the locals during the summer." <excerpt Dauphin Herald>

In the early 1900's, a small ice house, 6x10x8 erected on Mr. W. G. Lacey's farm, NW 10-28-16.



Ice Shed

The cement walls are still standing, as solid as the day the cement was poured, but the roof, door, and windows are missing. Some shrubs have grown inside the building. A few bricks are scattered around where once a proud family lived leaving us with a landmark.

Church

On July 2, 1920, Rev. C. M. Bater, of Makinak, on a recent Sunday at Freedale, addressed an audi-



Rorketon Picnic

ence that filled the school house, baptized seven young hopefuls and dispensed the sacrament. Altogether it was a strenuous day for Mr. Bater as he conducted similar offices and rights of the church at two other appointments. We are sure it was a blessing to those priviledged to attend. <excerpt Dauphin Herald> All the United Churches in the R.M. have amalgamated into a central church in Rorketon.

Although the population has decreased, there remains a strong community spirit.

Family Histories

Eric J. Ball

I was born on October 31, 1919 in a log cabin owned by Mr. and Mrs. Swaenepoel in Freedale. They later moved to Brandon. I am the eldest of seven children born to Albert James Ball and Marion Lord who at that time lived on SE 3-28-16W, next to my uncle, Sidney Ball, SW 3-28-16W. My six other siblings were born elsewhere, namely Neepawa, Salisbury, Arden.

Our father was one of five brothers who came to Canada in 1912 and settled in the Salisbury, Eden area. They worked mostly as farm hands. My father and Uncle Sid went back to England and fought in the first Great War. He was wounded three times and gassed once. Our Dad's family was large - twelve boys and three girls. One boy was killed in France during World War I. Most of his brothers and sisters lived to be 80 - 90 years old.

Our mother was Marion Lord and was born in Belfast, Ireland on July 21, 1899. Her twin sister, Hannah, had seven children as did my mother. She was 94 years old when she died. Their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Lord, of Neepawa had seven children. One boy, Jack Lord, was killed during the first Great War. Grandma and Grandpa Lord came to Freedale when I was a small baby and then again when I was about two and half years old. That was about the time my dad moved to farm at Eden. Incidentally, my father's date of birth was August 31, 1891, in South England.

Dad spoke often of the Lacey Brothers and was a good pal of Dave Payne. He met and served with Jack Payne in WWI. Jack was the father of Sheila Beyko through whom you tracked me down. He often mentions E.A. Burton and some of their war adventures. Of course, there were the Rorkes. I met Joy Rorke when they ran the Post Office and a store. My dad was a good friend of Dick Bowie and spoke



Mrs. Ball & Eric

of him often. I think Neil Bowie was his closet pal, though.

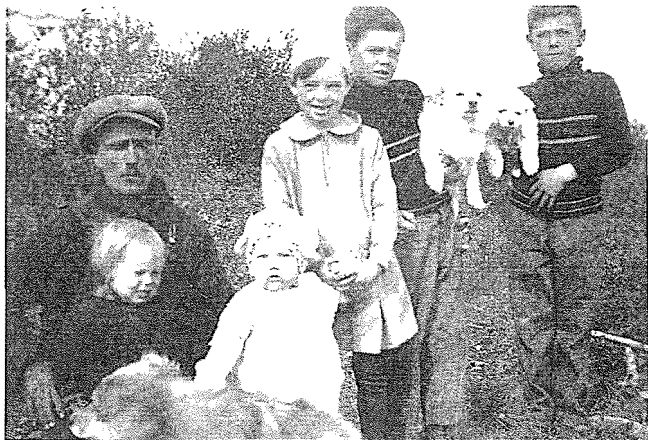
My dog saved my life. He led my parents to where I had wandered a good mile away and ended up in a swampy, mosquito-infested area.

My service record covered five years in the RCNVR. I joined in 1941 while we lived and farmed at Arden. I had to thumb a ride to Winnipeg. After Basic Training at HMCS Chippawa, Winnipeg, I was transferred to Halifax, where I chose to train as a submarine detector. For the next four and a half years I served on ships patrolling the North Sea and the Mediterranean for subs. I was transferred to a minesweeper, HMCS, Medicine Hat and continued my training in sub detection and also convoy patrols in the North Atlantic. It was aboard the frigate Cap De La Madeline, protecting a huge convoy in the North Atlantic, when we were attacked by at least seven German subs. It was a stormy rough sea and dark as night. The Captain had to alter course to prevent a ramming by a huge sub on the surface. I and others were washed from our depth charge stations. I damaged my spine and was taken below to the sick bay. I ended the war with the rank of Petty Officer HSD.

My brother Harold, served in the Navy also but as a stoker.

After the war, I worked for the Federal Government in Veteran's Affairs and from there to

the insurance industry and real estate. I am retired since 1974. I live in Transcona and Falcon Lake, and in Arizona during the winters.



Albert Ball Family, Eric, Harold, Verna, Colleen & Bruce

Bowie Brothers

submitted by Mrs. Elba Jean (Bowie)

Beyette youngest daughter of Neil and Florence Bowie

The first people to farm in Freedale area were T.R. Dick Bowie and Neil Bowie who filed for homesteads at Freedale, Manitoba, in 1910. T.R.



Archie Bowie cutting first crop on Laurie Wade's homestead



Bowie breaking land at Freedale

(Dick) Bowie homesteaded for a few years, then left and returned to Portage La Prairie where he continued his trade as a carpenter. Neil Bowie moved his family to Dauphin, Manitoba in 1926 where he continued to farm. Joy Begg stayed at the Bowie's to attend school in Freedale when her parents' house (Rorke) burned down.

The Freed / McFarlane Family

Isaac George Freed, son of Jesse and Sarah Freed, was born November 24, 1857 at Minden, Ontario. At an early age, he came west perhaps with two brothers. He took part in the North West Rebellion of 1885 and for this, a grateful government awarded him with a piece of land, namely the SW 22-15-16 quarter, in the Springhill District of Manitoba.

In approximately 1886 he married Elizabeth McFarlane, who was born on December 23, 1868 at McFarlane Farms near Belfast, Ireland. She was orphaned at an early age, and had been brought to Canada by her Aunt and Uncle, the Strains.

Isaac and Elizabeth had a family of seven sons and two daughters while farming at Springhill, Glencairn and lastly a few miles north of Lake Dauphin.

Homesteading was just opening up around Dauphin and Elizabeth recognized the need for a post office to serve the community. She was successful in obtaining a license and was given the honor of naming the post office, thus Freedale became a spot on the map. Sometime later, a school was built, and it also was named Freedale. Elizabeth operated a small store in conjunction with the post office. Groceries were brought in along with the mail from Ochre River. After the railroad to Rorketon was completed, the Freedale store and post office were closed.

All of the family left the district except our father, Cecil Allan Freed. Isaac passed away in 1926 and Elizabeth in 1945. They are buried at Hillside Cemetery, Portage la Prairie.

Cecil Allan Freed (born August 10, 1900 at Kelwood) married Janet Reeve Chambers (born June 4, 1905 in England) at Ochre River in 1923. They farmed in the Rural Municipality of Lawrence and had a family of four; a son Douglas who lived only a few days and three daughters: Dorothy, Evelyn and Violet. Violet was a lovely little child and had just started school when she developed pneumonia and died at the age of seven. She rests in the Ridgeway Cemetery at Rorketon.

Mother and Dad (Cecil and Janet) moved to a farm near Portage la Prairie in 1938, but they always felt Freedale and Rorketon were the best part of their lives. They had enjoyed so very much, their friends, the house parties and comradeship they all shared. They farmed at West Curtis until 1975, when they moved in to Portage la Prairie. Their home was always open to family and friends and they enjoyed their retirement.

Cecil passed away May 15, 1986 of pancreatic cancer and Janet on January 7, 1994 of congestive heart failure. They are remembered with love.

Dorothy married Charles Nelson and they farm near High Bluff. They have a family of three sons: Henry, George and Dave, and one foster son, John. Sadly, their daughter was stillborn. Dorothy inherited a love of learning, she taught school for many years and was loved and respected by her pupils. Now that she is retired she keeps quite busy with their Church, the Womens' Institute and the Horticultural Society. Their sons are all married, and Dorothy and Charlie are blessed with nine grandchildren and one great grandson.

Evelyn married Gordon Isaacs and they had a son, David Allan Isaacs. Gordon was killed in a truck/train accident in 1953, and in 1965 Evelyn married Ted Cook. Ted and David farm at High Bluff. David married Sandra McKellar from Hamilton, and they live near the farm. Ted and Evelyn reside in Portage la Prairie.

Lehmann Family

Bert Lehmann and his wife lived in the Freedale area west of Rorketon, next to John and Anne Didychuk's farm. Bert was the first farmer to take out a \$200.00 loan for a tractor from the Rorketon Credit Union, incorporated January 4, 1961.

They left Rorketon with their five children and moved to San Clara, Manitoba.

In 1973 they moved again, this time to Winnipeg.

One son, Cecil, married and had two girls, Christene and Cindy, as well as a son, Bert.

Another son, Erin, whose wife's name is Corrine, lives in Alberta. They had two daughters, Pamela and Melenie.

Their son Chester lives in Winnipeg and had four sons, Corey, Fabien, Travis and Leargo as well as two daughters, Tammy and Feleana.

Their only daughter, Fay, married and had two girls, Evelynne and Maryann, and one son, Greg.

Wayne is the only son still single.



Lehman Family; Rose, Cecil, Ervin, Chester, Wayne & Faye

Allan and Margaret McKay

Allan and Margaret McKay moved from a farm near Allensville, Ontario with their youngest daughter, Louise, to settle on a homestead SE 16-28-16W in the Freedale district around 1912. They had five other children, Mary Robina, Barbara, Margaret, Ann and Alex. Allen built a house and other farm buildings and made an attempt at farming. In 1915, their daughter, Louise married Elmer Forbes.

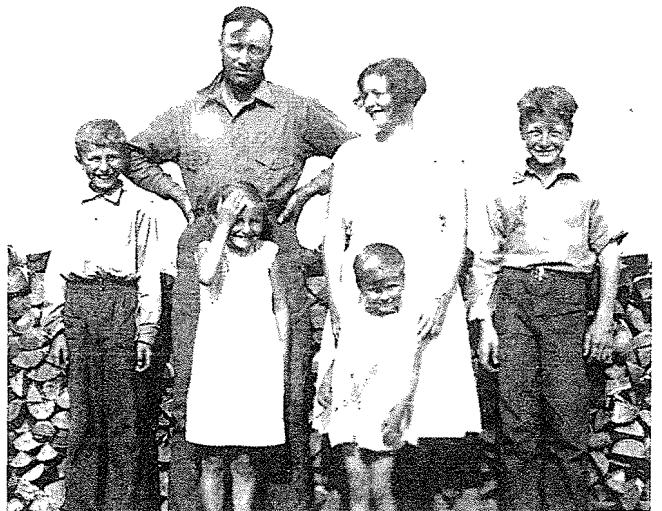
Allen and Margaret did not stay long on their farm and eventually returned (c.1930) to the Muskoka area of Ontario from whence they came.

John Payne Family

Lawrence Municipality - 1911 to 1939

submitted by Sheila Beyko

John (Jack) Payne was born in Dundas County, Ontario, in 1891. His mother was of Pennsylvania Dutch origin. Her name was Martha Feder. She was a Bible reading Methodist, "thou shalt not" with an iron will.



John Payne(Jack Jr.), John Payne(Jack Sr.), Bessie Payne, Edith Payne, Sheila Payne, William (Bill) Payne.



Allan and Margaret McKay

John's father was an irresponsible, exuberant, Irish labourer. They lived on a farm. Martha was likely the mainstay of the family.

About the turn of the century, William (Wild Bill) Payne left the farm and his family of four daughters and three sons and moved west. He claimed Martha refused to go with him. He settled in Ochre River, working on farms and in bush camps. He lived in a cabin in the woods on the John Rose farm until his death in the mid-thirties.

When I tell people that my grandpa was Wild Bill Payne, which distinguished him from Irish Bill Payne, they say, "Oh no. That can't be. He was a bachelor." Little do they know.

My father, Jack Payne, decided, at an early age, to follow his father west. He was a well-developed, fourteen year old and he worked in logging camps in the Riding Mountains. The only time his "pappy" acknowledged him was when Jack won a pool hall in a poker game. He was all set to become an entre-

preneur when his father reported him as being too young to be in a pool hall, let alone run one.

The Rose family became his home away from home. Such generous families were the only "social services" open to the homeless in that area.

He must have filed on a homestead in 1911.

While on leave, in England, he met Edith Frost who was working in an employment office in London. Their romance survived the war, and they were married in Winnipeg on April 10, 1920, when Edith arrived from England.

Jack and Edith had a spectacular honeymoon. They travelled by train to Ochre River. From there they loaded their worldly wealth, farm equipment and seed grain, in a high wheeled farm wagon drawn by horses, and proceeded to his homestead in Freedale.

The Paynes lived in a modest shack in the Freedale district from 1920 to 1927. Edith served as post mistress. Their first son, Bill, was born in

Ochre River, March 1921. In April of 1922 Jack was born in the same hospital. Both Bessie, in 1925, and Sheila, in 1928, were delivered at home with the help of a doctor.

Family pressures, and the need to move, caused Mom to relinquish her post mistress job to Ben Hales in 1927. The Payne family moved closer to Rorketon, to the Hutchinson farm, temporarily. Sheila was born there. Then the family moved to the Cecil district, buying the Rupanna farm, less than one quarter of a mile from the Cecil School.

By this time the depression had set in with a vengeance. Jack was unable to repay his soldier settlement loan with which he had bought seed, livestock, and farm machinery. He filed for bankruptcy. It was the early thirties, before the government forgave the soldiers their debts.

The Jack Payne family lived closest to the school, so usually had the honour of boarding the school teacher. Many of these young teachers became life long friends of our family. Marie Herron and Phyllis Mann were close to our hearts because they stayed in contact. Elizabeth Zaplitny, who not only taught me, but two of my children, now lives within a few blocks from me.

Brother Bill finished the grade eight program at age 12, but the only chance of getting to high school meant a boarding school. Instead, Bill worked for local farmers, and took harvest excursions via C.N.R. freight cars (riding the rods was a euphemism, since few had to risk their lives trying that precarious perch). Eventually Bill went to Ontario to work in bush camps. He was ill and was taken under the wing of a nurse who got him into an apprenticeship program in her family's factory. He trained as a steam fitter.

Brother Jack also went on harvest excursions via the freight trains. However, he was still in school, attempting to take high school by correspondence when father determined to move his family to a place with a high school. In 1938, Jack Payne sold his farm in Rorketon, and moved his family to Arden, which had a small high school. Actually, we stayed in Ernest Wilson's shack for the winter and didn't get to move until April 10, 1939, Mom and Dad's 19th wedding anniversary.

The move proved to be futile, since by that time Bill was away to Ontario, and Jack refused to go back to school. Both boys were recruited into the Army as soon as their age permitted.

Both Bess and Sheila did finish high school and went on to become teachers.

Jack and Edith Payne had nineteen grandchildren. Brother Bill did his utmost to preserve the

family name. He had five sons, besides two daughters. Brother Jack had one son and four daughters.

Bessie had one son and two daughters. She died in Gladstone early in 1995. Jack had passed away three years previously, and brother Bill died in December of 1994.

Jack Payne Sr. died in 1962, and his wife Edith passed away in 1984. They are buried in the Arden Cemetery, with Bessie's ashes between them.

The only surviving member of Jack Payne's children is Sheila Beyko of Dauphin. I have two sons and two daughters.

Isaac and Margaret Radcliffe submitted by Ethel Didychuk

In the fall of 1912, Isaac and Margaret Radcliffe left their comfortable home and employment in Huntsville, Ontario and answered the call "Go west, young man, go west" to homestead in the bush about fifty miles north of Makinak. The first winter they lived with Margaret's sister, her husband and family who had moved there earlier. Right away Isaac got himself a sawmill. He and his brother-in-law Charlie cut logs and sawed lumber for themselves and others. Isaac sawed enough lumber to build all the buildings needed on the farm.

My mother's parents had also come homesteading and lived two miles from us.

My two younger sisters were born in Dauphin. Dad drove Mom to Dauphin where she stayed at the home of a midwife until the baby was born and ready to come home. Mary was born on March 12. Grace was born November 1.

The school we were to attend was not built until 1916, so Laura was already ten years old before she started school. I was only five so did not attend until the next year.

Dad and Uncle Charlie bought a steam engine and threshing machine and did custom work for neighbours, threshing and breaking land. This helped out with family finances.

If cattle prices had been good, my dad may have never left the farm, but working so hard and getting no-where really discouraged him. In 1924, he followed Uncle Charlie who had left a year earlier for Sioux Lookout, Ontario where he worked in a lumber mill. From then on, Dad worked part-time away but always came home to spend a holiday on his homestead. Dad passed away in 1954 at the age of 79.

Although Dad was away most of the time, Mother stayed on and kept the "Home fires burning" until her last child left. Then she moved into Rorketon, the town that had grown up in the mean-

time. She remained there until she had a stroke in 1960 which left her paralysed on one side. She took turns living with her children until 1966 when her granddaughter, who was a nurse in Kamloops, got her into a nursing home there. She remained in this nursing home until 1978 when she passed away at the age of 95.

Laura, the oldest of our family, went to work at an early age. Her first jobs were helping farmers' wives in their home. She went to Winnipeg where she worked for a while, then on to Fort William. From there she went north to Red Lake and Uchi Lake where she met and married Jim McKay. They moved to Red Lake where she still lives. Jim passed away in 1992. They had one daughter, Geraldine, who became a registered nurse and nursed in Red Lake until she married Ken Gaje. They moved to British Columbia where Ken worked in different mines, ending up in Nanaimo where he became ill with "Lou Gherig's Disease". Gerry nursed him through the whole course of his illness, even after he became completely paralysed, until he died in 1978.

They had four daughters, now grown; two are married, one has two little boys. Laura manages to make the trip to Campbell River (where Gerry now lives) once or twice a year, but always returns to Red Lake where she lives in a seniors' home.

When Jack grew up, he went to work at several different jobs, returning home often for a holiday. He married Polly Dutchak in 1936. They lived at East Bay and at Freedale, then moved to Prince George, where he did carpentry work. Later they moved to Pine Valley, a suburb of William's Lake where he built a comfortable home in a lovely spot to spend their retirement years. Polly still lives there but Jack passed away in 1988. They had two daughters. One lives in Kamloops and one in Armstrong.

Ethel worked on the family farm and worked part-time in the Rorketon Post Office until she married Bill Didychuk in 1937. They farmed in the Freedale district for nineteen years, then moved to Lynn Lake, where Bill worked for Sheritt Gordon Mines and Ethel worked as a seamstress for the Hudson Bay Store and for Eastern Clothing. They had a cabin built at Manipogo, on the west side of Lake Manitoba where they spent a month every summer. They retired there in 1975, but they spent only the summers there and their winters in Dauphin. In 1985, they moved to the Kinsmen Villa in Dauphin. Bill passed away in 1988. Ethel still lives in Kinsmen Villa.

Mary stayed with Mom until Mom moved into Rorketon, when Mary married Mike Storozinski. They farmed in the Edillen district until 1975 when

they sold their farm and moved to Dauphin. Mike passed away in 1978. Mary now lives in the Kinsmen Villa. They raised three children. Raymond, the oldest, is now the town engineer for Dauphin. Dennis is principal of Grandview Collegiate. Ruth and her husband Tony own the Aboriginal Funeral Parlor in Winnipeg.

Grace was a stenographer in Winnipeg until she married Bob Boyle and they moved to Amherst, New Brunswick where Bob was in the army. After the war, they lived in several places where Bob was parts manager for a car dealership. Lastly, they moved to Dawson Creek, British Columbia, where Grace still lives. Bob passed away in 1976. They raised one son, Don, who worked for many years on the "Dew Line". Then he married and settled down in Dawson Creek where he does carpentry work. They raised two children, a boy and a girl.

Hector Robbins History

Hector Burril Robbins was born in Hastings County, Ontario on November 16, 1904 to William and Matilda (Loney) Robbins. He came to Manitoba at an early age with his family and settled in the Belmont-Ninette area. Hector was the youngest of nine children: William Jr., Albert, Sarah, Pearl, Lucinda, Mary, Alma, Jane and Hector.

Henrietta (Etta) (Eggleton) Robbins was born in Killarney on January 9, 1910 to Walter and Amelia (Anderson) Eggleton. She and her siblings were all raised in that area. They are, in birth order: "William" John, Robert "Clarence", "George" Henry David, Susan L. "Nora", Henrietta, Wilfred "Norman", Raymond and "Mary" Ann. They are all deceased except for Etta and Mary.

Hector and Etta were married on September 14, 1929 and lived in Killarney, Manitoba for the first two years of their marriage. They then moved to the Freedale district where they farmed for the next sixty years. Hector was also employed by the Manitoba Hydro for several years.

Hector and Etta raised eight children, six of their own: Wilfred, Ella, Thelma, Allen, Evelyn, and Ronald. They also raised in addition to their own family, a son John, from Hector's first marriage, as well as Ella's son, Wayne King, from her first marriage.

Hector and Etta's children and descendants in birth order are:

- 1) John Hector Robbins born July 10, 1925; married Jean (Brown) November 29, 1948. John and Jean had six children. Their first three children died as infants.

- 1) Terry Melvin – born October 31, 1949, died March 23, 1950
 - 2) Linda Jane – born November 13, 1950, died November 13, 1950
 - 3) Dorothy Jean – born November 13, 1950, died November 16, 1950
 - 4) Larry Berle – born December 13, 1951, married Hazel (Innes) on January 19, 1979. They had one son:
 - 1) Terrance John born October 1, 1982
Larry, Hazel and family live in Airdrie, Alberta.
 - 5) Kenneth John – born May 27, 1955, married Dona Marie (Livingston) on May 22, 1981. They had two children:
 - 1) Kenneth Allen born April 14, 1981
 - 2) Richard John born January 16, 1983
Kenneth, Dona and family live in Calgary.
 - 6) Deborah Louise (Robbins), born August 6, 1960, married Graham Ackeral on August 22, 1982. They had two daughters:
 - 1) Justina Nicole (Tina) born June 28, 1983
 - 2) Diana born June 30, 1986
Deborah and Graham divorced in 1986. Debbie then married Denis Zahn on August 14, 1993. They have one daughter:
 - 3) Miranda Jean born October 9, 1990
Deborah, Denis and family live in Clairmont, Alberta.
- John and Jean lived in various points in Canada throughout the 42 years of their marriage. At the time of John's passing on June 17, 1991, they were living in Penticton, British Columbia. Jean is still living there.
- 2) Wilfred Hector Robbins born August 24, 1932; married Rita (Dumas) on November 16, 1951. They had two children:
 - 1) Grant Wilfred (Tim), born April 19, 1953, married Linda (Thier) on June 23, 1973. They had 2 children:
 - 1) Clinton Shane born April 9, 1975
 - 2) Brandy Lee born June 25, 1976
Tim, Linda and family live in Nipigon Ontario.
 - 2) Dana Miles, born May 27, 1960; married Catherine (Pace) on August 13, 1983. They have adopted twin daughters:
 - 1) Dana Catherine born October 22, 1993
 - 2) Nicola Marie born October 22, 1993
They also adopted a son:
 - 3) Jakob Pace born fall 1995
Dana, Cathy and family live in Dundas, Ontario.
 - 3) Ella Henrietta (Robbins) born September 29, 1933; married Jean Paul (John) Marcoux on March 5, 1954. They had three children:
 - 1) Richard Kenneth, born July 28, 1955, married Susan (Fortier) on April 2, 1983. They had two children:
 - 1) Andrew Richard born February 11, 1988
 - 2) Sarah Louise born August 15, 1989
Richard, Susan and family live in Vaudreuil, Quebec.
 - 2) Deborah Ann (Marcoux), born on August 20, 1957, married David Rickerby on April 14, 1979. They have two children:
 - 1) Jessica Anne born June 23, 1982
 - 2) Glenn Jean Paul born December 5, 1984
Debbie and David divorced. Debbie then married Stephen McNally on February 7, 1994. Debbie, Steve and family live in Brockville, Ontario.
 - 3) Barbara Lynn (Marcoux) born March 5, 1960 married John Kelso on April 20, 1985. They have two children:
 - 1) Tyler Jon born November 21, 1986
 - 2) Mathew born December 25, 1990
Barbara, John and family live in Dun Robin, Ontario.
John and Ella live in Mallorytown, Ontario.
 - 4) Thelma Mary (Robbins) born April 27, 1940; married Wayne Sawatsky on November 17, 1958. They had three children:
 - 1) Roland Walter – born June 5, 1959, married Terry (Lund) on July 14, 1979. They have two children:
 - 1) Richard Wayne born June 14, 1980
 - 2) Jennifer Lynn born April 18, 1984
Roland, Terry and family live in Victoria.
 - 2) Donald Burrell – born June 20, 1961, married Kathy (Dewick) on July 1, 1983. They have two children:
 - 1) Shawntel Lynn born May 28, 1985
 - 2) Donald "Matthew" born September 26, 1986
Donald, Kathy and family live in Prince George, British Columbia.
 - 3) Holly Lee (Sawatsky) born February 3, 1966; married Kelly Watkinson on April 27, 1991. They have 2 children:
 - 1) Tierney Rae born November 1, 1992
 - 2) Maeghan Rose born July 20, 1994
 - 3) baby expected in May 1996
Holly, Kelly and family live in Walhachin, British Columbia.
 - Thelma and Wayne live in Quesnel, British Columbia.
 - 5) Allen Burl Robbins born July 2, 1943; married

Helen (Gibson) on June 13, 1970. They had 2 children:

1) Shannon Lee Helen born November 29, 1970.
Shannon has one son:

1) Joshua Allen Hector born February 6, 1995

2) Shaun Allen Hector born June 21, 1973

Allen and Helen separated. Allen lives in Rorketon, Manitoba, with Shaun, while Helen lives in Dominion City. Shannon and her son live in Dominion City as well.

6) Evelyn Matilda (Robbins) born December 25, 1945; married Keith Hopfner on July 25, 1964. They had 5 children:

1) Cynthia Louise Marie (Cindy) born November 30, 1964. Cynthia and her fiancée Wally Warkentin live in Winnipeg.

2) Brenda Lee Marie (Hopfner) born January 31, 1966; married Karl Krauter on May 30, 1992. They live in Winnipeg.

1) baby expected September, 1996.

3) Sheila Ann Marie (Hopfner) born on July 12, 1967; married Kendall Sigurdson on November 12, 1994. They live in Riverton, Manitoba.

4) Darryl Keith Joseph born on February 2, 1969; married Doris (Gamache) on August 19, 1995. They live in Ste. Rose du Lac.

5) Treena Ann Marie (Hopfner) born April 24, 1971; married Brian Dudar on July 23, 1994. They live in Ste. Rose du Lac.

1) baby expected in June, 1996.

Evelyn and Keith live in Ste. Rose du Lac.

7) Ronald George Robbins born May 15, 1950; married Claudette (Fortin) on May 4, 1974. They have 3 daughters:

1) Shelly Anne born July 4, 1975, married Kevin Sparrow on July 27, 1996, and live in Fairfax, Manitoba.

2) Angela Dawn born September 7, 1977. Angela lives in Brandon.

3) Tanya Georgette born June 28, 1980.

Ron, Claudette and family now own Hector and Etta's farm in the Freedale district.

8) Wayne Douglas King born August 14, 1950 to Albert and Ella King. He came to live with his grandparents Hector and Etta when he was three months old at the time of his parents' divorce. On July 8, 1972 he married Linda (Warkentin). They had one son:

1) Dean Wayne born April 12, 1976

Wayne and Linda live in Red Deer, Alberta, while Dean lives in Prince Rupert, British Columbia.

In 1991 both Hector and Etta moved into the Dr. Gendreau Personal Care Home in Ste. Rose du Lac.

On March 3, 1993 at the Ste. Rose General Hospital, Hector passed away at the age of 88 years. Etta is presently living in the home.

To date Hector and Etta have 53 descendants; six children, twenty-two grandchildren and twenty-five great-grandchildren (with three on the way).

Solomon Family History

Roman (one of 9 children) was born on the farm in the Horyn district on April 13, 1912. He was the son of Wasył (1894 - 1959) and Paraska (Kindzierski) (1877 - 1949). He attended a one-room school in Horyn. During his early years, he travelled throughout Canada, mostly the western part, seeking employment. This was during the depression of the 30's when jobs were scarce and hard to find. He returned home to his parents' farm and helped on the farmstead.



Irene Mandybura's Parents. Wasył Solomon & Pearl Parasyka

Roman met Rosalia (Rose) Kendzierski. They were married in Rorketon on November 25, 1938.

Rose was born in Winnipeg (one of 10 children) on December 28, 1915. She was the second daughter of Peter (1890-1982) and Mary (Payi) (1895-1969). She moved to Rorketon from Winnipeg with her family when she was three years old. She attended school in Rorketon. During her years before marrying Roman, Rose lived at home with her family, helping to maintain the homestead while her father was away working on the railroad.

Roman and Rose's, home a quarter of land purchased from D. Chambers was in the Freedale district, NE 33-27-16. The farm came with an old two-room house with a porch added on and a few out-buildings. They began farming with the little they had. The Second World War broke out and things were tougher than ever. Sugar was one of the items that was rationed. This made it very difficult during fruit canning time. Many ration coupons were exchanged. But, living on a farm with cows, pigs, chickens and sheep, they were ensured of having milk, eggs and meat on the table. The garden that Rose planted was always large and plentiful.

During the early 40's, four children were born to them: Elsie on April 13, 1940; Elizabeth (Betty) on February 17, 1942 and twins Peter and Mary on May 28, 1944.



Roman & Rose Solomon's Children, Peter, Mary Kachur, Betty Shushkewich & Elsie Galay

Roman had a threshing machine and he moved from farm to farm threshing grain. When Roman threshed his grain, Rose was very busy cooking great meals for the threshing gang. Lunch was carried out to the threshing site. All the neighbours pulled together and the threshing was usually completed in a day on each farm.

During the winter months, Roman commercial ice-fished on Lake Dauphin. He also trapped rabbits, weasels, and muskrats. In the summer, seneca

roots were dug and many kinds of berries were picked and preserved.

Roman and Rose built a large two-storey house in 1949. It was an exciting day when they moved in. An even more exciting day was when Hydro electric power was installed in 1953.

Roman and Rose's children attended Freedale District School which was one and three quarter miles from their home. This was a one-room school with grades 1 - 8 and later grade 9 was also taught. There were usually about twenty or so students a year in school. The teachers often boarded at one of the parents' homes during the school year.

The pay telephone for the Freedale district was also located at Roman and Rose's home.

Roman and Rose's family began getting larger. From 1958 and on, it just grew and grew.

Elsie married Walter Galay, from the Weiden district in 1958. They have four children: Jerry born in 1961; Marlene (Jose Vichina) born in 1962; Janet (Matt McCaughan) born in 1965 and Tracey (Don Addison) born in 1967. Elsie and Walter reside in Headingly. They have four grandsons: Brett and Brendon McCaughen and Justin and David Vichina.

Betty married Martin Shushkewich of Chatfield, Manitoba in 1960. They have five children: Kimberley (Perry Maruschak) born in 1961; Sheldon born in 1965; Trevor born in 1968; Jason born in 1974 and Shannon born in 1976. Martin passed away in 1990. Betty resides in Winnipeg and has three granddaughters: Kelly Marceniuk and Sasha and Karli Maruschak.

Mary married Gerald Kachur, of Lac du Bonnet, Manitoba in 1964. They have three children: Tamara (Michael Lussier) was born in 1967; Stacey born in 1971 and Jarett born in 1974. They reside in Lac du Bonnet. They have two grandsons: Matthew and Brett Lussier.

Peter married Elaine Giroux of Cornwall, Ontario in 1982. They have three children: Nicholas born in 1983; Chantal born in 1985 and Christopher born in 1986. They reside on the original farmstead in the Freedale district and go to school in Rorketon. They are involved in 4-H and Ukrainian dancing.

Rose passed away January 31, 1975 and Roman passed away on December 16, 1990.

Horyn District

Horyn School

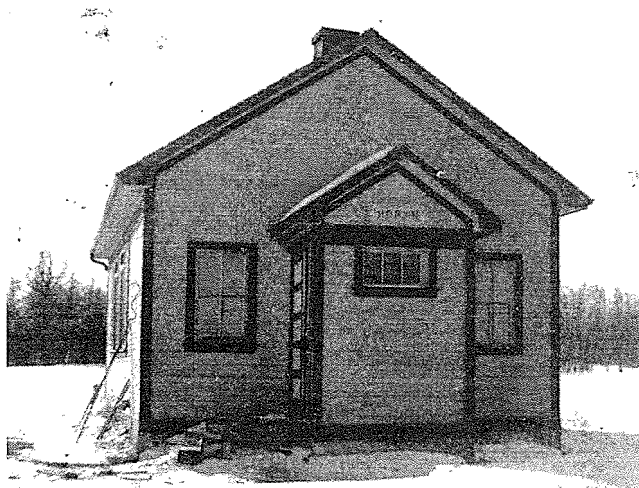
The district of Horyn was named after a homesteader by the name of Andrew Horyn. He was the only educated man in the area. The settlers would approach him for advice concerning documentation. He also initiated the building of the school and church.



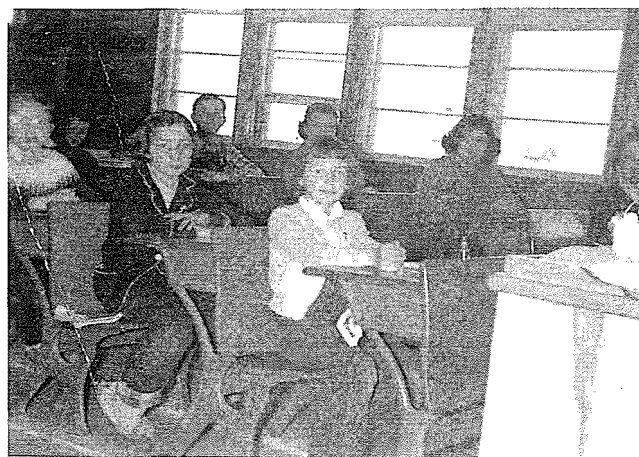
Andrew Horyn

In 1917, Mr. Ducharme constructed the Horyn School with a small teacherage beside it. The school was heated with a large round stove surrounded with protective metal sheeting. The school had large double desks. The school also was equipped with a library. In 1918, a grant of \$90.00 was allocated for the school.

For the year 1918, there were 36 students in attendance, seventeen boys and nineteen girls. The teacher was A.L. Rheane. Some of the other teachers were, Vera Hucaluk, Nestor Kawchuk, Melvin Solar, Ed Morreau, Elizabeth Kachur, Nellie Korotash, Borden Hawryluk, Norma Talpash,



Horyn School



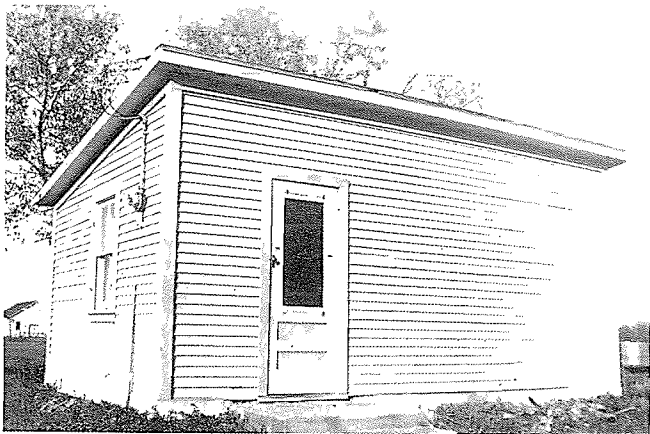
Horyn School B: Desmond Korotash, John Remniak, Elsie Solomon, Sylvia Zamrykut, and Eva Zamrykut.

Walter McLat, Rose Ratushny, Hazel Chunic, Matilda Lilyk, Fred Pulak, Pat Domaratycki, Mr. McKay, Mr. Muckein, Miss Tesley, Miss Mills, Mrs. Inkster, Mrs. Beyak, Mrs. Romaniuk, Mr. Coldwell, Margaret Drouillard and Adam Sedor.

The school was destroyed by fire in early 1951. Classes for the remainder of the year were held in



Horyn School



Horyn Teacherage

the hall. A new school was built and was ready in the fall when the students returned to class. Elizabeth Werbiski was the first teacher in the new school.

Hall

The first hall was purchased from Toutes-Aides and moved to NW 14-29-16. This building was used



Horyn Hall

until 1940 when it was moved to a new location SW 14-29-16. The parcel of land was donated by Michal Mandybura. It was then renovated and made larger. The logs and material were obtained locally. Ned Bonnett's sawmill cut the logs into lumber.

The hall had been used for a variety of social events. In the late 1970's the hall was sold for taxes and moved to Mr. Bill Galay's yard, SE 18-29-16.

Horyn Store

submitted by Irene Mandybura and John Remniak

In 1937-1938 Peter Hawryluk decided to build a grocery store and post office on the south west corner of SW 14-29-16. The logs that were used in the construction were obtained locally.

He was unable to obtain the signatures required by the postal system for the right to distribute the mail, therefore, the building remained a general store and meeting place until 1940 when Peter sold the business and moved to Amaranth.

Ukrainian Catholic Church

In 1925 because there was no building used as a church, the local residents decided to have a particular place for worship. There were Sunday prayer meetings held at a cross that was erected on NW 11-29-16. An offering of ten cents was customary for use in purchasing articles for a new church. During the winter prayer gatherings were held in alternate homes.

Andrew Horyn provided early religious leadership to the homesteaders.

In 1938 the local residents decided to construct a church. Before land could be obtained, the church had to be given a name usually after a saint. It became "St. John the Baptist" and was situated on NW 11-29-16.

The church was built by local volunteers with Bill Kenik from Sifton as the head carpenter. The logs were procured and hauled from Crane River.

The first mass was celebrated on July 7, 1940. The priest came from Sifton. After the railway was extended to Rorketon, the priest came by train once a month, on Fridays, and would stay with Mr. and Mrs. John Tymchuk.

In the late 1940's, a residence for the priest was constructed.

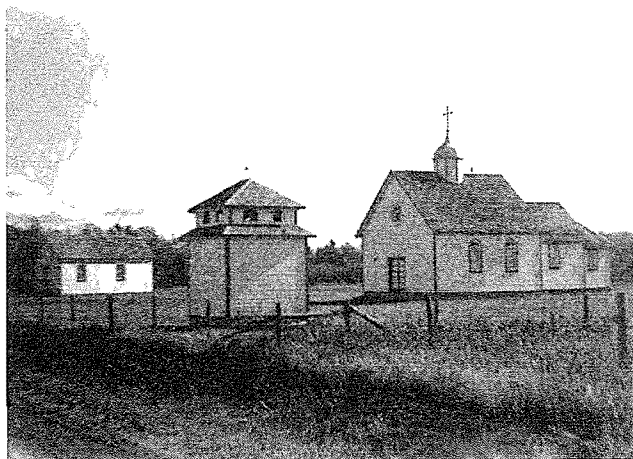
The following is a list of priests that have served the area through the years.

1940-1945 Father Myron Krywutshy

1945-1947 Father Michael Olenchuk

1947-1948 Father Michael Reshetucha

Father Michael Ferens



Horyn Church

1948-1951 Father John Lehky (first resident priest)
 1951-1957 Father Andrew Zayac
 1957-1965 Father John Sholdak
 1965-1967 Father Vladimir Luchkiw
 1967-1984 Father Andrew Zayac
 1984-1990 Father James Scharinger
 1990-1993 Father George Malik
 1993- present Father Ted Reznowski

Application for homestead entry

March 21, 1906	Cecile Morriseau	NE 34-29-16
April 23, 1906	Anton Rymniak	SE 14-29-16
Aug. 7, 1906	Thomas Jones	SW 34-29-16
Oct. 19, 1906	Michal Ilkiw	NW 10-29-16
April 19, 1907	Wasył Solomon	NW 14-29-16
Nov. 27, 1907	Metro Jalowega	SE 16-29-16
June 16, 1908	George Scorpak	NE 10-29-16
July 2, 1909	Andy Horyn	NW 15-29-16
July 10, 1909	Ivan Solomon	SW 13-29-16
Oct. 28, 1909	Ilko Solomon	SW 23-29-16
Nov. 19, 1909	Iwan Tymczuk	SW 15-29-16
March 18, 1910	Ivan Kiszczuk	SE 22-29-16
Oct. 24, 1910	Pawlo Wityzyn	SW 22-29-16
Aug. 3, 1912	Jean Baptiste McKenzie	NW 34-29-16
Sept. 23, 1912	Michal Zamrykut	SW 10-29-16
Dec. 12, 1912	Petro Zamrykut	SE 15-29-16
March 25, 1913	Kyrylo Galowaty	NE 22-29-16
Feb. 24, 1915	Stephen Solomon	NW 13-29-16
April 9, 1915	Stefen Kindziersky	NE 15-29-26
Sept. 23, 1916	Dan Korotash	NW 27-29-16
Nov. 4, 1916	Lucien Ducharme	SE 13-29-16
Aug. 11, 1917	Ivar Husa	SE 10-29-16
Dec. 1, 1917	Joseph Ducharme	NE 12-29-16
April 29, 1918	Joseph Arthur Gelinas	SE 12-29-16
July 7, 1921	Thomas MacKay	NW 12-29-16

Nov. 18, 1921	Mike Remniak	NE 20-29-16
April 16, 1927	Mr. Yakowiw & Miss Shumuluki	SE 10-29-16
Nov. 14, 1928	John Guluwaty	SE 27-29-16
Dec. 27, 1928	John William Solomon	NE 14-29-16
Sept. 14, 1929	William Steve Solomon	NE 13-29-16

Official patents issued

May 2, 1912	Thomas Jones	SW 34-29-16
March 12, 1913	Cecile Morriseau	NE 34-29-16
April 25, 1913	Michal Mandybura	SW 14-29-16
March 2, 1916	Michal Ilkew	NW 10-29-16
April 27, 1916	Anton Rymniak	SE 14-29-16
	Iwan Tymczuk	SW 15-29-16
March 14, 1918	Andy Horyn	NW 15-29-16
Feb. 21, 1919	Petro Zamrykut	SE 15-29-16
Jan. 29, 1920	Ivan Solomon	SW 13-29-16
Feb. 9, 1920	Lucien Ducharme	SE 13-29-16
April 22, 1920	Ilko Solomon	SW 23-29-16
Nov. 22, 1920	Michal Zamrykut	SW 10-29-16
Dec. 13, 1920	Pawlo Wityzyn	SW 22-29-16
Jan. 5, 1921	George Scorpak	NE 10-29-16
March 3, 1921	Stephen Solomon	NW 12-29-16
May 17, 1921	Metro Jalowega	SE 16-29-16
	Kyrylo Galowaty	NE 22-29-16
Sept. 29, 1921	Joseph Ducharme	NE 12-29-16
Sept. 29, 1921	Joseph Arthur Gelinas	SE 12-29-16
Feb. 13, 1922	Wasył Solomon	NW 14-29-16
March 24, 1922	Dan Korotash	NW 27-29-16
Sept. 4, 1922	Ivan Kiszczuk	SE 22-29-16
Jan. 20, 1923	Ivar Husa	SE 10-29-16
June 13, 1923	Stefan Kindziersky	NE 15-29-16
Aug. 11, 1924	John Baptiste McKenzie	NW 34-29-16
Aug. 15, 1924	Thomas McKay	NW 12-29-16
Nov. 18, 1925	Mike Remniak	NE 20-29-16
Dec. 17, 1934	William Steve Solomon	NE 13-29-16
Jan. 18, 1936	John William Solomon	NE 14-29-16
March 20, 1939	John Guluwaty	SE 27-29-16
July 28, 1939	Peter Hawryluk	SW 14-29-16

Family History

William Galay

William Galay was born in 1893, in Austria, to Metro and Maria Galay. In 1901, Metro and Maria, both 34, left Austria on the ship Assyria, in

Hamburg, travelled to Halifax and then Winnipeg. At that time they had five children: Roman, 9; William, 7; Anastia, 4; Stephen, 2; and Daniel, 1. They eventually made their way to the Weiden district and took up a homestead.

In 1916 William married Anne Sliworsky at Winnipegosis. Annie was born in 1900, in the Western Ukraine in Pechania, Zalischeke, Borschiw, to Frank and Mary Sliworsky. She came to Canada in 1901 with her family, to the Gruber district, and then to the Meadowlands district. After her marriage to William Galay, they farmed in the Weiden district (a half a mile north of the original Galay homestead) where they raised a family of six children: Steve, born September 27, 1917; Mary, born June 29, 1920; Stella, born June 4, 1923; Paul, born August 14, 1925; Beatrice, born February 27, 1927 (See Paul Korotash); and Michael, born November 2, 1933.

They retired to Rorketon in 1964, leaving their two eldest sons, Steve and Paul, on the farm. Bill and Annie spent their summers on the farm. Bill continued to help with haying and Annie enjoyed her garden, cooking and canning. Bill enjoyed music and played the violin - a tradition his sons continued. William died October 15, 1976 at 83 years of age. Annie and Paul moved to Ste. Rose in 1976. Annie died February 5, 1982, at the age of 82 years.

Mary Galay (Zamrykut)

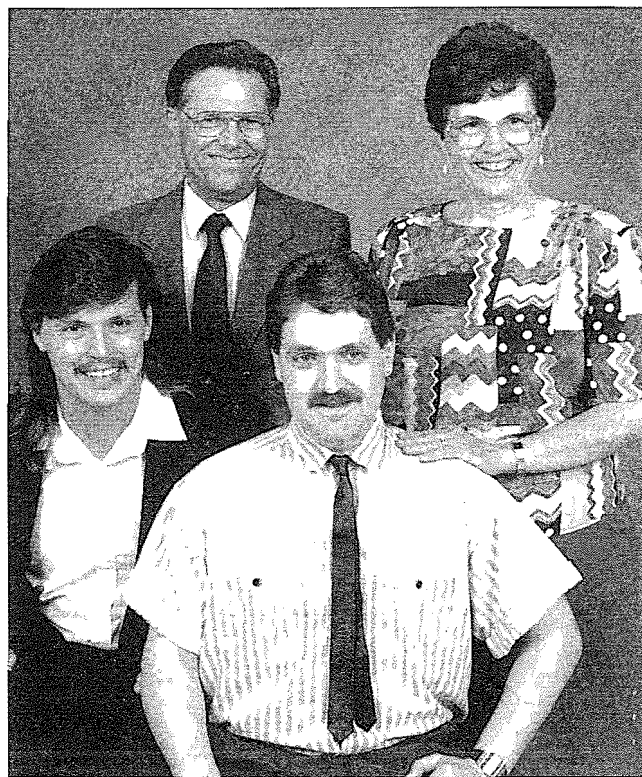
Mary Galay was born at Weiden June 29, 1920, eldest daughter of William and Annie Galay. Mary attended Weiden School and worked on the family farm. She married Bill Zamrykut of Horyn, and had one daughter, Sylvia. They lived in many towns in Manitoba and Saskatchewan as Bill worked for the CNR. They resided in McCreary for many years and retired to Dauphin. Mary died September 9, 1988 at 68 years of age. Sylvia died a few years after her mother. Bill continues to reside in Dauphin.

Mike Galay

Mike Galay was born in Weiden, November 2, 1933, the youngest of six children born to Annie and William Galay.

He attended Weiden and Rorketon Schools. He worked seasonally at the Chateau Lake Louise, Alberta, as Power House Operator between 1951-1955.

Mike married Stella Maksymchuk in Winnipeg on October 13, 1956. They moved to Sudbury, Ontario, in 1957. He worked for International



Mike and Stella with sons Alan and Wayne

Nickel as a miner for five years. They adopted their first son Alan in Sudbury, Ontario in June of 1961. They moved back to Winnipeg in 1962. They resided there until 1967. In May 1966, they adopted Wayne.

They lived briefly in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan and then moved to Edmonton, Alberta in 1969, where they now reside. Mike was employed as salesman, excavations foreman, as well as owner operator of Fast Food Restaurants. He is presently self-employed as a locksmith.

At the age of twelve, Mike played violin at dances and weddings around Rorketon. The music career involved playing on radio and television in Sudbury, Winnipeg and Edmonton. He recorded two L.P.s with the Interlake Polka Kings. He had his own band for five years in Edmonton.

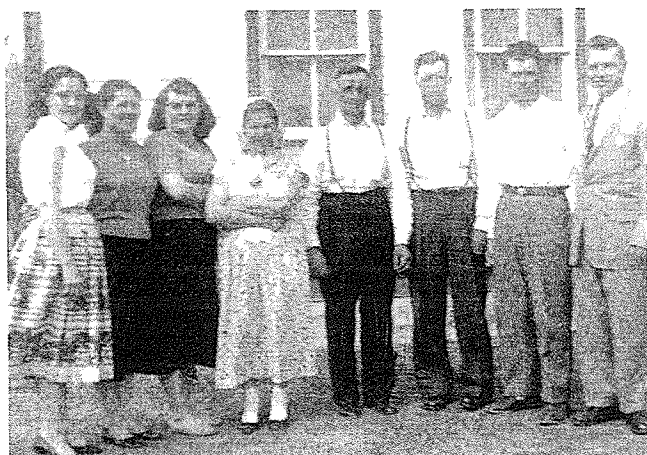
Paul Galay

Paul Galay was born at Weiden, August 14, 1925, to William and Annie Galay. Paul attended Weiden School and worked on the family farm. He also worked in northern Manitoba for a few months and in Neepawa during the harvest season for several years. He continued to farm with his brother Steve. Paul worked hard and was a perfectionist in his work. Paul enjoyed music and played the violin. In 1976, Paul semi-retired and moved to Ste. Rose

with his mother Annie. In 1984, Paul moved to Dauphin. He enjoyed his garden and helped his sister Beatrice (and family) during the hay season for several years. Paul died July 22, 1992 at 67 years of age.

Stella Galay (Tkach)

Stella Galay was born at Weiden June 4, 1923 to William and Annie Galay. Stella attended Weiden School and worked on the family farm. She also worked in Dauphin and Winnipeg. Stella married Fred Tkach of Weiden. They lived on the Tkach homestead for several years and then moved to Winnipeg, where Fred worked with the City of Winnipeg, until his retirement. Fred and Stella have one daughter Olga (husband Manfred Leighen) of Pinawa, Manitoba, their son Gerald (and wife Donna), of Baltimore, Maryland, and daughter Kimberly (and husband Allan Hutchinson) of Winnipeg. Fred and Stella also have one son Lawrence, wife Suzanne, and two grandchildren Jude and Beau of Coquitlam, British Columbia.



L-R: Beatrice, Stella, Mary, Annie, William, Steve, Paul, Michael Galay

Steve Galay

Steve Galay was born at Weiden on September 27, 1917, eldest son of William and Annie Galay. Steve attended Weiden School. When Steve was a young boy, a farm accident left him physically disabled. He worked on the family farm and also worked in Neepawa during the harvest season for several years. Steve continued to farm with his brother, Paul. He was the "mechanic" and kept all the machinery in perfect running condition. Steve also enjoyed music and played the harp. In 1971, Steve moved to Ste. Rose. He died December 9, 1973 at 56 years of age.

John and Annie Guluwaty

John Guluwaty was born in Austria on June 29, 1904, to Kyrylo and Katherina Guluwaty. At the age of seven, John came by ship, on August 13, 1911, to Montreal, Canada, accompanied by his mother Katherina and sister Paraska aged 10. They were met in Montreal by Kyrylo who had immigrated to Canada a year earlier. The family remained in Montreal for another year to earn enough money to move on to the Horyn district in Manitoba. When they arrived in the Horyn district in 1912, they homesteaded NE 22-29- 16W. They cleared land with axes and built their first home with logs and clay. Several years later, they were able to purchase two oxen which eventually enabled them to work the land and seed wheat.



John Guluwaty's parents Kyrylo and Katherina Guluwaty with Johns Grandmother, Oleksiw.

On November 13, 1930, John married Annie Sydor at Winnipegosis. Together they farmed on the homestead, living with John's parents until 1935, at which time they moved into their own log home on the same property. John and Annie were blessed with two children; Eva, born March 25, 1937, and Elsie born May 23, 1943.

The two families continued to live and work on the homestead. In 1951, Kyrylo died. In July of 1956, John helped his mother purchase a 4.2 acre



John & Annie Guluwaty

property in Rorketon, across from the school, so that she could retire to town. Unfortunately, Katherina died only six weeks later, in August of 1956.

John and Annie continued to farm. In 1956, John began working on the CN Extra Gang during the summer months. This job took him to Gillam, The Pas and other northern points. In 1965, John and Annie retired to the house in Rorketon where John's mother had resided. On November 20, 1987, John suffered a stroke and remained hospitalized, except for occasional weekends when he was taken home for family celebrations, anniversaries, Christmas, etc. Annie was often hired as head cook for weddings. She enjoyed needlework, quilting and bingo. She died suddenly on April 20, 1989. John passed away on July 11, 1993, at the Gendreau Home. John and Annie were lifetime members of St. John's Ukrainian Catholic Church in Horyn and were laid to rest in the Horyn Parish Cemetery.

Peter Hawryluk

submitted by Irene Mandybura and John Remniak

Pete Hawryluk came to Canada in 1929 and ended up in the Pine River area. He got a job working on the railway in the North for a number of years. In the meantime he realized that a part of the Mandybura family resided at Horyn on SW 14-29-16. He began to get acquainted with that portion of the Mandybura family and it was in 1933 that he married Jessie Mandybura. In 1934 Ann was born. Jessie stayed home while he continued working on the railway up north.

Bill (Wasył) Korotash

Bill Korotash was born on April 7, 1913, in Stuartburn. His parents were Dan and Lena Korotash. In 1917, his family moved to their homestead in Horyn. He attended Horyn School and helped on the family farm. Bill was the third child in a family of eight children; thus, he was very busy helping his parents on the farm. When Bill was a young man, he spent many autumns in southern Manitoba harvesting crops.

Bill was a very important member of Paul and Beatrice's family, and like a third parent to Doreen. Bill enjoyed the outdoors, especially hunting, and visiting with his family.

Bill enjoyed farming until January, 1989, when he required hip replacements, followed by a long rehabilitation period. Bill had only been home two weeks, when he died suddenly on June 24, 1989 at 76 years of age. Bill is buried beside his mother in the Horyn Cemetery.



Nellie, brother Bill and Mary

Nellie Korotash

Nellie Korotash was born in Horyn, Manitoba on September 11, 1919 to parents Daniel and Lena Korotash. She attended Horyn School and worked on the family homestead with her family.

Nellie married Bill Korotash from Inwood, Manitoba in the mid 40's, and continued to farm in Horyn. They have two sons born during this time, Daniel and Desmond.

In the late 1950's, they moved to Hay River, Northwest Territories where the boys completed their education. Bill was employed with the Coast Guard, and Nellie at the local general store.

Daniel, wife Marilyn and son Wayne continue to live in Hay River. Daniel and Wayne are employed with the Coast Guard. Desmond, an RCMP officer,



Dave, Hnat, Pearl, Deanne, Linda and JoAnn Korotash

spent many years in northern stations. He and his wife Chris now reside in Ottawa, Ontario and are both with the RCMP.

Bill passed away in 1987. Nellie continues to live in Hay River, enjoying time with family and friends. She especially enjoys doing crafts and has many handmade treasures. Although life has taken Nellie and her family far away, they have made many trips "home" to visit family and friends.

Hnat Korotash

Hnat Korotash was born on November 22, 1915. He married Pearl Didychuk on September 27, 1940. They lived in Rorketon for the first part of their marriage. They had a family of four, David, Deanna, Linda and JoAnne. They moved to Hay River, Northwest Territories in 1955 where Hnat worked at the Fisheries and Airport and Pearl worked at the Hudson Bay Store. They retired to Peace River in 1978 and still reside there.

Danyl Korotash

Danyl was born in 1873. He arrived in Canada in 1905 from the Austrian village of Bilche Zolta, district of Borchiv. His ship arrived in Halifax. From Halifax he travelled by train to Winnipeg. Staying with friends, he found work and saved until he was able to send for his wife, Wasylena and son Dmetro. They arrived in 1907 and lived wherever Danyl was able to find work. They spent some time in East Selkirk, rented in Winnipeg then finally moved to Stuartburn.

In 1916, Danyl had heard that homesteads were available and made an application, in August, for a

NW quarter section of land in the district of Horyn. This application was approved and Danyl, Wasylena and a family of five children moved to the homestead on March 1, 1917. When they arrived, there were no buildings on the homestead, so they spent a few months in a tent. In July 1917, they moved into their new two storey house.

Though they settled on inferior land, the family worked hard to develop their acreage. The progress was slow and at times depressing, but with perseverance and endurance, they were able to carve a fairly comfortable living.

Danyl and Wasylena raised eight children: Dmetro, Mary, Bill, Mike, Hnat, Nellie, Peter and Dave. They instilled good values and attitudes in their children.

Danyl had a great voice and loved to sing delightful folk songs. So, at social gatherings, if you saw a crowd of people and heard them singing, you knew that Danyl was at the centre of the group. They were a close, warm and giving family.

Dmetro Korotash

My father, Dmetro Korotash, eldest son of Danyl and Wasylena Korotash, arrived in Canada in 1907. Father was eighteen years old when the family moved to Horyn in 1917. Together they worked the land. During the winter months, father took other jobs to help supplement the family income. In



Metro & Helen Korotash

1922, Dmetro married Helen, daughter of Anton and Mary Remniak.

In 1926, Father purchased his own farm a mile away from his parents. After a few years, he had some cultivated acreage, horses, cattle, and sheep. During the winter, he would fish on Lake Manitoba, at Twin Islands, with his brothers, Mike and Bill. As the children became of school age, it became difficult during the winter months. The nearest school was four miles away.

Education was very important to my parents. In 1941, the farm was sold. A lot with a few buildings was purchased from Peter Talpash.

My family moved to Rorketon late in the fall of that same year. The building was converted into a General Store and was stocked with groceries and dry goods. This was much better, as school was only a couple of blocks away. Mother looked after the store, and father worked for Nick Werbiski as a beer waiter at the hotel.

In 1945, he opened a store in Crane River. An old small building was purchased from Harry Ducharme. After a few years, he built a two storey building with living quarters on the second level. Later, a pool room was added to the building and gas pumps installed. He also purchased his first car, a model T Ford we called "Tin Lizzy", to bring in his freight from Rorketon. How he loved that car! They operated both stores for a few years, slowly phasing out the one in Rorketon.

In 1949, my mother passed away and the family remained in Rorketon until 1955. Then Father and the youngest children, Carmel, Caroline and Mavis moved to Flin Flon where they completed their grades 6-8. They stayed with sister Eva for a while and when sister Rosemond joined them, they rented an apartment. My sister Nellie, now married and teaching in Crane River, took over the store and managed it with her husband. In 1958 Father returned to Crane River. He was joined by sister Rosemond. Brother Carmel was teaching at Freedale. Together they managed the business. Nellie and her family started a cattle ranch nearby. Caroline and Mavis moved to Winnipeg to complete their schooling.

In 1960 Rosemond returned to Rorketon. She had taken a hair dressing course and opened up her own shop in the house in Rorketon, calling it Helen's Beauty Shop. In 1963 she closed the shop and went back to Crane River. Carmel left to teach in Riverton, Manitoba. Shortly after our lot was sold and the building dismantled making room for what is the Rorketon Post Office today.

In 1967, the store in Crane River was sold to

Ernie Lemay and father retired to his cabin on the lake. In 1982 Dmetro passed away in Winnipeg.

There were nine children in our family.

Ann, an accountant, is now retired and living in Winnipeg.

Nellie (deceased) married Albert Bilodeau of Laurier, taught school for a while, and raised three children; Lionel, Debbie and Donna. She lived in Ste. Rose du Lac.

Ben (deceased) married Jacqueline Burke of London, Ontario, raised four children: Richi, Darry, Terry and Sherri. All are living in Winnipeg.

Eva (Sue) married John Perpeluk of Rorketon, worked as a store clerk in the family store in Flin Flon and raised four children, Randy, Danny, Lynn and Carol Mavis.

Rosemond, a hairdresser, married Robert Bells and is living in Oregon, U.S.A. They have one daughter, Doddie.

Eileen, a supervisor of J.D. products, married Harold Charach. They are living in Richmond, British Columbia. They have one son, Hartley.

Carmel, a teacher (now retired), married Maureen Freeborn of Wellwood. They have one daughter, Shona, and are living in Montrose, British Columbia.

Caroline, a bookkeeper, married Brian Kite of New Zealand and they are living in Wellington, New Zealand.

Mavis, a flight attendant, is also in management of flight services for Air Canada. She lives in Calgary.

Mike Korotash

Mike was born in Vita in 1914, to Dan and Vasylena Korotash. He was around six years old when they moved to the Horyn district in 1920. While their home was being built, they lived in a huge tent. When he was twenty-seven years old, he married Anne Zamrykut in 1941. Anne's parents, Mike and Anne Zamrykut, came from the Ukraine to settle in Horyn.

Mike and Anne farmed for fifteen years then moved to Rorketon. Mike went to work for CNR until 1978.

Due to illness he was forced to retire early. He passed away in July of 1989. His wife Ann still lives in Rorketon.

They have three daughters. Norma married Walter Kowbuz and lives in Dauphin. They have two children: Angel living in Winnipeg and Devin in Calgary. Elsie married Ed Robbins and they live in Winnipeg. Their one daughter, Tina, married Kelly Antonyshen and they have two sons, Jene and

Harley. Youngest daughter Violet married Hans Schriever and they live in Barrhead, Alberta.

Paul Korotash

Paul Korotash was born October 18, 1923, on the family homestead in Horyn, to Dan and Lena Korotash. He attended Horyn School until Grade 8, at which time he quit to join the workforce. Over the next years Paul worked at several jobs, fishing with his brother-in-law, Mike Talpash, farm labourer for the Reynolds family in Carberry and Philip Rehaluk in East Bay.

In 1942, Paul and his sister, Nellie, ventured off to Hamilton, Ontario, with only enough money for the trip. They were later joined by his brothers Peter and Hnat, and his family. Paul lived there for two years, working for the Steel Company of Canada. He earned forty-two cents per hour shovelling coal, ore, etc. out of ships. The hours were long and the work was hard, but Paul felt fortunate to be employed.



Paul Korotash Family: Beatrice, Paul, Doreen, Brice & Glen

In 1944, Paul returned to Rorketon and took over the family farm. He lived with his parents and farmed with his brother, Bill. On November 11, 1948, Paul married Beatrice Galay of Weiden.

Beatrice attended Weiden School and worked on the family farm. When she was sixteen years old, she went to work in Dauphin at the Rampton Dairy Farm for one summer and the Grange Cafe, with sis-

ter Stella, for one and a half years. She then returned to help her parents on the family farm since her brothers, Paul and Steve, worked out for the summers. Beatrice shared her father's love of and talent for music; she plays the accordion and violin.

Beatrice and Paul lived on the Korotash homestead with his brother Bill. Paul and Beatrice have one daughter, Doreen, born August 12, 1964. Beatrice worked with Paul on the farm. They continue to live on the family farm and are currently semi-retired, enjoying farm life and their family.

Doreen Korotash (Shewchuk)

Doreen loved the outdoors and animals and could always be found trailing her parents, Paul and Beatrice, or Uncle Bill. She attended Rorketon School, graduating in June, 1981. Doreen moved to Brandon and attended Brandon University, receiving a Bachelor of Science and Math Major and Teacher Certification. Doreen loved the farm and spent all her summers on the hay meadow.

On June 29, 1985, Doreen married Glenn Shewchuk of Meadow Portage. Glenn was an Electrical Technician with Manitoba Hydro which required extensive travelling in south-western Manitoba. He was involved with the family farm. Doreen taught one year (1985- 86) in Grandview School, teaching Business Education. From September 1986 to April 1987, Doreen attended University of Manitoba, completing a Pre-Masters in Special Education.

Doreen returned to Rorketon and has been employed at Rorketon School, since September, 1987, teaching Business Education and Resource. Glenn left Manitoba Hydro in 1990 to farm full-time. Glenn and Doreen have one son, Bryce, born May 5, 1994. They continue to enjoy living on the family farm with her parents.

Peter Korotash

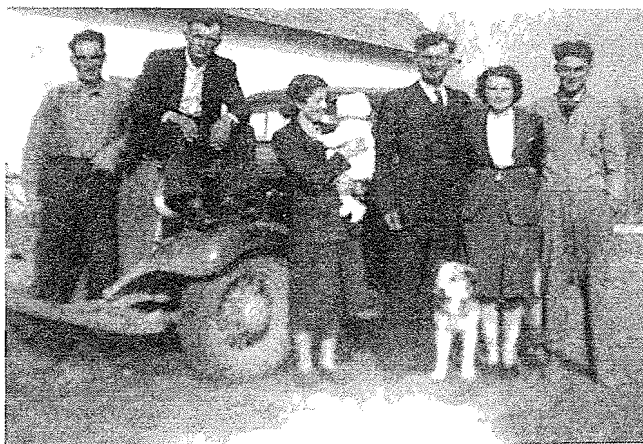
Peter, the second youngest of the family, was born on May 22, 1922. He attended Horyn School, and took grades 9 and 10 by correspondence. In 1949, he went to Winnipeg to take an electrical course and upgraded himself to grade 11 as well.

In 1950, he married Mary Zaplitny of Oak Brae, daughter of John and Carrie.

They resided in Rorketon until 1957. Mary taught school and Peter was the local electrician.

In 1957, they moved to Lynn Lake where Mary taught school and Pete worked as an electrician for the Sheritt Gordon Mining Company.

In the spring of 1961, they moved back to the farm in Oak Brae.



L-R: Mike Talpash, Mike Korotash, Ann Korotash, holding Norma, Bill Korotash, Nellie Korotash and Russell Talpash.

That same spring, their first son, Peter John, arrived and two years later, along came their second son, Perry Dean. The next twenty years went by in a busy, happy blur of farming, teaching, wiring and raising a family.

In 1982, Peter Jr. married Sylvia Basaraba, daughter of Mike and Ann. They spent several years in Winnipeg where Peter became a journeyman electrician and Sylvia worked in the Bank of Nova Scotia. They now live in Prince George where Peter works as a Communications Technologist for the University of British Columbia. Sylvia is a full time homemaker, looking after the family which now includes Meghan and Jason.

In 1985 Perry married Glenda Biletski, daughter

of Nick and Sylvia. While living in Winnipeg for several years, following in his fathers footsteps, he apprenticed and became a journeyman electrician. Glenda worked at Safeway. Now they have moved back to Oak Brae and while Glenda works at home, Perry is out being the local electrician. Their family now includes, Shayne, Ashley and Tyson.

Pete and Mary have retired on the family farm at Oak Brae and are enjoying their golden years among family and friends.

Mary and William Osadchuk

Mary Bilay married William Osadchuk in June, 1932. He had emigrated from Zalizhchek, Ukraine. "Bill" had relatives in Meadowlands and Winnipegosis. He worked as a farm- worker and fished on Lake Winnipegosis with his cousin, Nick Dubetski.

In 1933 William and Mary purchased 1/4 of section of land NE 31-29-16 in Meadowlands. Together they cleared the land. William supplemented their income by working on harvest gangs in Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

He entertained his children with stories about his experiences during that period of time, for example how he travelled on freight trains, coming home in the fall, with rain and sleet falling and no shelter on top of the freight cars. William also supplemented his income by training oxen for farm chores and working the land. He commented how stubborn the oxen were when they decided not to work.



Tom & Ann Shewchuk, Ann Tkachyk, William & Mary Osodchuk, Telka Bilay, Lena & Paul Halko, Marie Galay, and John Bilay



Osadchuk Family: Florence Turko, Pauline Helash, Mary Osadchuk, Kay Sraybash, Paul Osadchuk. (Missing Pete Bilay)

William and Mary raised five children. They retired in 1970 after selling the farm to Pete and Norma Bilay.

They resided in Winnipegosis until William passed away in August, 1984 at the age of 79 years. Mary resides in her home in Winnipegosis. Her pastime was knitting for her grandchildren and crocheting, until she stopped due to ill health.

Pete married Norma in 1958. They lived in Winnipeg where Pete worked in the construction trade and Norma was a cashier at Safeway. They moved to Meadowlands in 1970 and farmed until 1995, when they sold the land and retired to Winnipegosis.

Katherine (see Steve Sraybash)

Florence (see Walter Turko)

Pauline (see Harry Helash)

Paul

Walter and Florence (Osadchuk) Turko

Florence attended school in Rorketon and moved to Winnipeg where she was employed. In 1958, she married Walter Turko in Alonsa. While living in Winnipeg, Walter worked at Perth's and Florence was employed by Salisbury House. Four children were born to them: Theresa, Gordon, Brenda and Richard. In 1974, they purchased some land and settled in Rorketon, SE 25-28-16. They raised cattle and operated a small dairy. Walter was employed by the R.M. of Lawrence for several years. He worked as a caretaker for the Community Club. Walter spent a few years as a project leader for the Rorketon 4-H Club.

Florence was a project leader and later a main

leader for the 4-H Club. This is her 22nd year of 4-H as a volunteer and she is an executive board member for the United Church. Recently she worked as a clerk at Hanchar's Grocery. Florence and her sister Katherine cater at social functions in the Rorketon and Ste. Rose area. They have also enjoyed quilting for the last ten years.

Theresa graduated from Rorketon High School in 1981. During her school years she belonged to the local Glee Club, curled in a high school team and belonged to the Rorketon 4-H Club for eight years. While with the club she travelled to Jasper, Alberta, Brantford, Ontario and New Brunswick. Theresa attended University of Manitoba for four years, majoring in Human Ecology.

In 1988, Theresa married Norman Alksnis. Dillon was born in 1990. Theresa and Norman moved to Rorketon in 1992. Norman is currently employed in Thompson and R.M. of Lawrence. Theresa works in Rorketon for Social Services and Canada Post. Their second son, Kyle, was born in Rorketon in 1993. Theresa is a second generation 4-H project leader.

Gordon curled while in high school. He belonged to Rorketon 4-H Club for seven years. He travelled to New Brunswick while with 4-H. Gordon graduated from RCI in 1983 and furthered his studies at Red River Community College, taking an electrical course. Gordon is a journeyman now, having worked in Winnipeg, Sudbury, Thunder Bay, Brandon, Lloydminster and Limestone. Gordon resides in Winnipeg and Rorketon.

Brenda belonged to the Rorketon 4-H Club for eight years taking cooking, sewing, beading and crafts. She travelled to Brantford with the 4-H



Walter & Florence Turko w/children Brenda, Theresa, Gordon and Richard

exchange. Brenda graduated from Rorketon High School in 1983 and enrolled in RRCC in a cooking course. After graduation, she was employed at Golden Links and is currently working there.

Brenda married Thiau Al - Atiya in 1987, in Winnipeg. Brenda still sews clothing for her children and children of friends and family.

Thiau operates a business after having attended University and RRCC. He also works for Motor Coach Industries. Brenda and Thiau reside in Winnipeg and have two children, Dana and Adam.

Richard belonged to Rorketon 4-H Club for 10 years. He played junior hockey for four years. His hockey career ended when he broke his left leg. Curling was his favourite sport. He curled in Zone curling. Richard graduated in 1992. After one year of working, he was accepted to R.R.C.C. for a pipe-fitter course. Presently Richard works for Grinneel Fire Prevention. He resides in Winnipeg.

Pauline and Harry Helash

Pauline graduated from Winnipegosis and worked in Winnipeg. She married Harry Helash in 1964, in Fork River. Pauline taught Business Education at Winnipegosis Collegiate, became a vice - principal, and then accepted the position of principal. In 1995, Pauline resigned and moved to Lynn Lake to teach, where her husband is employed. They raised four children; Laura, Lyle, Darrell and Matthew.

Laura married Norman Richard. They have a daughter, Natalie, and live in St. Claude, Manitoba. Laura is a hair dresser.

Lyle attended Red River Community College, took cooking and worked in Gimli. He married Krista and they have three sons: Nick, Coley and Kyle.

Darrell farms and works seasonally in Thompson.

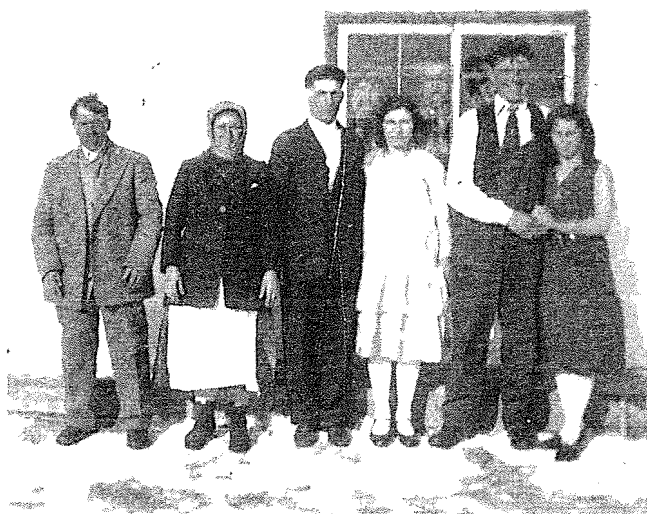
Matthew took auto-mechanic training at Assiniboine College in Brandon and is employed in Thompson.

Paul Osadchuk

Paul graduated from Winnipegosis and took an electrical course at Red River Community College. Paul married Joan in Winnipeg and they had a son, Courtenay. Paul and Joan moved to Winnipegosis and started Tween Lakes Electric. They moved to Kemano, British Columbia where Paul is employed at Alcan. Paul and Joan have separated. Paul resides in Kemano with his friend Karen.

The Anthony and Marie (Zamrykut) Remniak Family

On April 24th, 1901, 27 year old Anthony, his twenty year old wife, Marie, and his eighty year old father, Ivan, boarded the steam ocean vessel Assyria, docked at Hamburg, Germany. It was scheduled to sail to Halifax that day. They were only three of the four hundred sixty-four farmers, wives and children on the Assyria. After a twelve day journey, the Assyria arrived in Halifax on May 6, 1901. They boarded the train to continue their journey to Sifton.



Anthony and Marie Remniak w/daughter Ann & Eva w/companions

Upon their arrival, Anthony searched the area. Their final homesteading location in the Lawrence Municipality was six miles north of Rorketon SE 14-29-16. The entry for this homestead was issued to Anthony on April 23, 1906. A house was built by June 1, 1906 and the rest of his family joined him on May 1, 1907. After he made improvements to the land and it was inspected, he received official title on April 27, 1916.

On their journey from Sifton, great-grandfather Ivan, passed away.

They had 9 children, 6 girls and 3 boys. Their names were:

1. Mike 1902-1966 (Brookside Cemetery Winnipeg)
2. Beatrice 1903-1943 (Peter Didychuk) 1892-1980 (Toutes Aides Ukrainian Catholic Cemetery) William, Fred (Rorketon), Ann (Zadick), Eva (Trash)
3. Helen 1907-1949 (Dmetro Korotash) 1899-1982 (Rorketon Catholic Cemetery) Ann (Winnipeg), Nellie (Bilodeau), Ben, Eva (Perepeluk),

- Rosemond (Bells), Eileen (Charsh), Carmel, Caroline (Kite), Mavis
4. Nellie 1907- 1982 (Peter Glena) (Holy Family Cemetery Winnipeg) Mary (Sky) (Winnipeg), Alex, Mike, Tony, Billy, Eva (Kufley), John
 5. Ann 1910-1993 (Rorketon Catholic Cemetery) Nick Maksymchuk 1905- Mary (Werbiski) (Rorketon), Bill, Tony, Nick
 6. Eva 1911-1976 (Hnat Zamrykut) 1897-1975 (Horyn Ukrainian Catholic Cemetery) Olga (Mushaluk), Ann (Tanchuk) (Winnipeg), John, Fred, Nick, Sylvia (Hill), Mary (Shewchuk), Alex, Hnat, Tony, Jean (Zamrykut)
 7. Mary 1915- (Winnipeg) (Harry Chan) 1896-
 8. Bill 1918-1981 Mary (Tymchuk) 1916-1965 (Horyn Ukrainian Catholic Cemetery) John(Rorketon SE 14-29-16), Eva (Didychuk), Michael
 9. Metro 1923-1992 (Horyn Ukrainian Catholic Cemetery)

Anthony put up the hay for the season and in the fall went harvesting around the Minnedosa and Neepawa areas to earn the extra income needed for the family's existence. Steamers were used and the wages were a dollar a day for threshing helpers. While Grandfather was away, the older brothers and sisters looked after the home place clearing land to start a new field.

Clothes were washed in water from the ditches in the summer. They were beat with a device that looked like a cricket bat then dried by hanging them on shrubs. To iron, an article of clothing was wrapped around a rolling pin and this same genuine cricket bat with grooves on one side was moved back and forth over the rolling pin and article, like rolling out dough.

Their first water supply was a natural creek on the west half of SE 14-29-16 and later a shallow well.

Cattle were herded to Magnet or Ste. Rose where cattle buyers bought them. They were taken to the stockyard in Rorketon to be shipped by rail.

Butter and cheese were homemade. Cream was put in a butter churn carved out of a tree trunk. Cheese was made by storing milk in an open container until it soured, then brought to a boil on the wood stove, cooled, put in a 25 lb broadcloth bag, tied and placed on a outdoor table between two-twelve by twelve boards with a weight on top, such as a rock, to force out all the whey. Most of the meat was canned while the cabbage and cucumbers were preserved in oak barrels.

Anthony was born in 1866 while Marie was born in 1880. Marie was a sister to Michal and Petro

Zamrykut. Marie left us in 1937 while Anthony stayed with us a bit longer, until 1951. Both have been laid to rest peacefully at the Horyn Catholic Cemetery. The land where the present cemetery is located was donated by George Scorpak so the Ilkew and Mandybura families could bury their eleven children in 1916.

The Bill and Mary (Tymchuk) Remniak Family

submitted by John Remniak

Mary was born on December 12, 1915 while Bill was born on May 25, 1918. Bill's parents, Anthony and Marie Remniak, did not attend school. Bill started school when he was seven years of age. He walked three quarters of a mile to the Horyn School. Mary walked one and one-quarter miles. Bill was fourteen years of age when he completed grade six.



William & Mary Remniak

Year by year Grandfather was getting up in age so someone had to take over the family farm. The oldest child, Mike, left in the late 1930's to establish his fortune in the Herb Lake area, trapping, prospecting for gold and staking out claims. The next six children married and left home to establish their fortunes elsewhere. Bill was the next one to take over the family farm.

Bill and Mary were married at the Ste. Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Church at Toutes Aides on the 27th of October, 1939. For wedding gifts they received produce, mostly chickens.

The Second World War broke out and the Canadian Army was looking for young able bodied men. Bill passed the tests but because he had to look after their farm, he was excused from service.

To pasture their cattle they initiated the purchase of the quarter of land across the road NE 10-29-16. They increased their acreage for crops by clearing some forest in the north east corner of NE 10-29-16 as well as the south east corner of the homestead SE 14-29-16. The clearing was done by Mr. John Biletski with his caterpillar.

To supplement the family income, Bill and Mary became janitors at the Horyn School from 1951 to 1967.



Remniak Family; B: Bill, Michael & Mary, F: Eva & John

Bill, the handyman, made and donated the confessional and kneelers at the Horyn and Rorketon Ukrainian Catholic Churches. In 1950, he built a new home. Today, that house is at Christianson's Beach. Amazingly he took it upon himself to do this between his many chores. At the same time as the house was built, hydro came to our district. The home was wired and this brought many changes in lighting and the heating of the house. The telephone came somewhat later, in 1962. Father was the handyman while mother was the organizer. In 1962, when the telephone crews were working in our area, Mary was approached to serve lunch for the crew.

Three years after Bill and Mary were married they were blessed with John, the first of three bundles of joy. Two years later, Eva was born and Michael came twelve years later.

In 1962, I took a permit teaching job at Wekusko. The following year, I assumed a permit teaching job at Freedale School. After that year, I moved into Winnipeg to take my teacher training at the Teacher's College in Tuxedo. After the year of teacher training I acquired a teaching position at Prince Edward School in East Kildonan. In 1961, Mother fell critically ill and passed away. In 1966, I taught in Horyn. After that year, the country schools were consolidated and students were bused into Rorketon. I got a job teaching at Rorketon and have been there ever since.

In 1971, the Rorketon School obtained a secretary, Betty Safronetz. I married Betty on October 6, 1973. After being in the teaching profession for over thirty-one years, I took an early retirement and worked part time at Hanchar's Lucky Dollar Store. Stephanie was born on February 9, 1978. This year,



Stephanie, John & Betty Remniak



B: Nick Maksymchuk, Metro & Bill Remniak F: Ann Maksymchuk, Metro Korotash, Mary Chan & Nellie Glena

she is going to graduate from the Rorketon School with a grade 12 standing. We bought 4.4 acres from father's quarter, the south east corner of SE 14-29-16, and established our home six miles north of Rorketon.

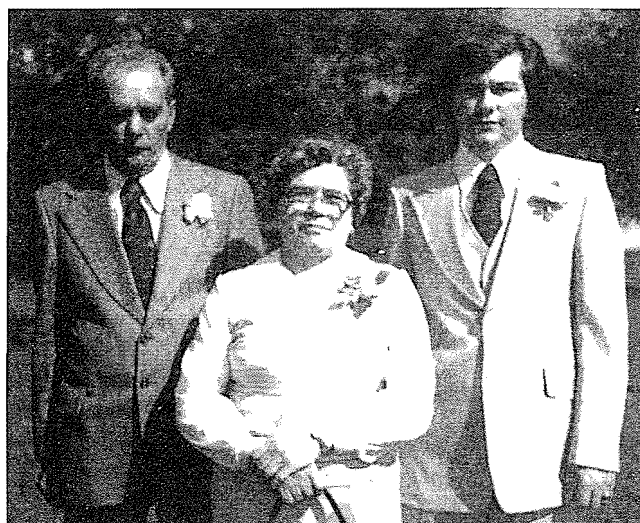
My sister met her future husband, Joe Didychuk, while he was visiting here, from Prince Rupert. They were married on July 20, 1968. After the wedding, they decided to make their home in Prince Rupert, British Columbia as Joe Didychuk had a permanent job at a restaurant. They have four children, Donia, Sonia, Tonja and Tammy. Today Joe is driving a taxi cab and Eva is working with the homecare program. The four girls have gone through the education system; all are employed with the oldest and third youngest being married and the two others with companions.

My younger brother, Michael, after high school graduation, found employment in Prince Rupert pulp mill. Later he worked at a service station, Three Way Motors, in Thompson. In 1978, he worked in Dauphin at McMunn and Yates. After a number of years in Dauphin, he took a transfer to Brandon where he is presently.

Mary died in 1965 and Bill in 1981. Both have been laid to rest peacefully at the Horyn Catholic Cemetery next to father's parents, Anthony and Marie Remniak.

Steve and Mary Solomon

Steve was born on January 20, 1913 in Horyn to John and Eva Solomon who came from the Ukraine in the early 1900's. He had four brothers, Mike, Fred, Bill and Pete and four sisters, Annie Hernie,



Steve, Mary, & Alvin Solomon

Mary Kerelation, Madaline Sedor and Irene Chuipka.

Mary was born in Horyn on February 15, 1916 to Mike and Anne Ilkew who came from the Ukraine in the early 1900's. She had three sisters, Pearl, Annie and Lena and three brothers, John, Bill and Pete.

They both attended Horyn School and attended Ukrainian School run by the sisters during the summer holidays. They learned to read and write in Ukrainian. The Ukrainian program included religious studies.

Steve went to work freighting and Mary got a job in Churchill for one year. In 1941, they were married and farmed on Steve's parents' place.

Elsie was born in 1944 and received her education in Horyn and Rorketon. She worked in Brandon and got married. Later she and her husband, Jim Wiggins, moved to Saskatoon, where they operated a restaurant. They have one daughter, Theresa, who is married. Alven was born in 1959 and went to



Jim & Elsie (Solomon) Wiggins & Mary Solomon

school in Rorketon until Grade 12. He followed his sister to Saskatoon. He is married to Christine Rugash and has one daughter, Marrisa. He is a chef.

In 1974, Steve and Mary retired from the farm and moved into Rorketon where they resided until 1992 when they moved into the Senior's Housing. Steve died on May 3, 1993. Both Steve and Mary were very devout church goers in Horyn and Rorketon. Mary was very sick in 1995 and unfortunately had one leg amputated but her strong spirit keeps her going and she enjoys visits from her friends and her family.

The Tymchuk Family History

In 1903, John (Ivan) Tymchuk (1888-1970), left Zdykywchiew, a Village (selo) in Ukraine, in search of freedom and land in Canada. At the time of immigration, Ukraine suffered from suppression of religion and politics, forced collectivization of agriculture, and expropriation of food. At the age of fifteen, Ivan left his family behind to seek "the land of promise". For the immigrants and first generation Canadians, assimilation was the key to good jobs and success, so English was the only language of instruction. Ivan taught himself how to read and write in Ukrainian and in the English language.

The fourteen day voyage across the Atlantic by boat ended in Halifax. The journey to Winnipeg was



Marie Tymchuk

made by train. In Winnipeg he was met by his uncle and went to live with him in Stuartburn. John found employment as a farm labourer in the United States. Through his sponsorship, his mother Maria (1863-1946) and three sisters, Paraska (Andrew Horyn), Anna (Mike Ilkew), and Alexandra (Mike Zamrykut) joined him in Canada in 1904.

In 1907, the Tymchuk family began homesteading in Horyn. Being distrustful of any type of government assistance, the family purchased the supplies needed to clear land and survive. A log dwelling chinked with clay and covered with a thatched roof was erected about a quarter mile north from the present yard. Later a permanent home was erected on SW 15-29-16. Ivan harvested wheat for



Back: Judy, Jamie, Liz, Corey, Connie, Sheldon, Edwin, Brad, Rhonda, Ed. Front: Adam, Amanda, Walter, Mike, Jean, Elsie, Stella.



Ivan & Katrina Tymchuk

more established farmers. For three months of work he netted \$25.00.

In 1912 at Toutes Aides, Ivan married Katerina Kischuk (1891-1966). They were blessed with eight children: Pearl (See Mike Solomon, Horyn), Anne (Tony Kochan, Toronto), Mary (See Bill Remniak, Horyn), Mike (See Jean Zamrykut) Lena (Felix Kaczmareck), Irene (Mike Zamrykut, Thunder Bay), Nellie (Ed Kolodiejchuk, Winnipeg) and Eva (Bill Ilkew, Hamilton). Pearl, Anne, Mary, Lena and Nellie are deceased. Their life together on the farm spanned fifty-four years.

On November 8, 1945, Ivan and Katerina's only son, Mike, married Jean Zamrykut and settled on the family farm. For seven years the family lived together and worked to expand the farm. Mike and Jean then moved to their own house. They have four children: Elsie, Stella, Walter and Adam.



Ivan & Katrina Tymchuk & Family R4 L-R: Mike Tymchuk, Mike Solomon, Bill Remniak, and Tony Kochan

Mike and Jean live on the family farm, but the operation of it has passed down to their youngest son, Adam. Adam along with his wife Judy (Inkster) and daughter Amanda have established their own home across the road from the original settlement.

Elsie and her husband, Edwin Hill, and their children, Sheldon and Connie, have made their home in Meadow Portage.

Stella and her husband, Edward Bretecher, and their children, Rhonda and Bradley, live in Winnipeg.

Walter and Elizabeth Tymchuk

Walter Tymchuk was born in 1952 to Mike and Jean (Zamrykut) Tymchuk of the Horyn district. He attended Horyn School for grades one through eight. In 1967 Walter attended Rorketon School for grades nine to twelve. In the winter of 1971 Walter worked for Midwest Diamond Drilling. Following this he moved to Winnipeg where he worked with his uncle in building construction and renovation. Walter enjoyed this type of work to such an extent that years later he was able to construct his own home through the knowledge gained at that job.

In May 1973, in Rorketon, Walter married Elizabeth Iwanchysko daughter of John and Annette (Werbiski) Iwanchysko of Rorketon. Liz completed Grade XI in Rorketon in 1969. In July 1969, she enrolled in an IBM Key Punch course at Success Commercial College. From January 1970 to May 1971 Liz was employed by the Manitoba Telephone System in the Data Processing Department and from May 1971 to September 1980 Liz worked for Canadian National Railway in the Data Processing Department. After their marriage, Walter obtained a job with Canada Post, first as a mail sorter then as a letter carrier. In 1976 the dream of becoming a teacher resurfaced and Walter enrolled at the University of Winnipeg to begin studies for his degree in Education. His determination to excel earned him three General Proficiency Scholarships and the Silver Medal for second highest in education at his graduation in May 1980. Graduation brought with it a job search. The place of employment was Waterhen. On July 31, 1980, Liz and Walter were blessed with the birth of their son Corey. Just two and a half weeks after Corey's birth the move was made to Waterhen. A teaching position at Rorketon School in 1981 necessitated another move. In July 1981, Walter began building the family home on the S1/2 of SE 16-29-16 in the Horyn district. In mid-September, Walter and Liz moved into their new home. In July 1981, Liz began a new career as the Secretary- Treasurer for the

Rural Municipality of Lawrence. In April 1985, Liz graduated with a certificate in Municipal Administration and with the Advance Certificate in April 1993.

Since January, 1995, Liz is treasurer of St. Anthony's Roman Catholic Church in Rorketon and from April 1993, to April 1996, she served as secretary for the Manitoba Municipal Administrators Association. In July 1982, Liz and Walter were blessed yet again, with the birth of their daughter Jaime. Walter taught full time at Rorketon School until 1993 when he became principal. In 1991, Walter and Liz purchased NW 10-29-16 and hobby farmed in their spare time. Walter has been treasurer of the Horyn Church since 1986. Curling and ice fishing are hobbies enjoyed by the family. In September, 1996 Corey will be beginning Grade XI and Jaime Grade IX in the Rorketon School.

Eva and Peter Zamrykut

Eva Guluwaty was born on March 25, 1937, to John and Annie Guluwaty at NE 22-29-16. Eva attended Horyn School until June, 1951, where she completed grade eight.

Eva married Peter Zamrykut, son of Mike and Alexandria Zamrykut, on May 16, 1953, at the Horyn Catholic Church with the reception in the Horyn Hall. Eva and Pete lived on Guluwaty's old homestead. They farmed with Eva's parents until John and Annie retired and moved in Rorketon in 1965. To supplement the farm income, Peter worked off the farm in 1962, first custom combining and later from 1978 to 1984 at Alex Bretecher's garage in Toutes Aides. In 1984, at age sixty-two, Peter retired to remain on the farm. On October 12, 1976,



Peter & Eva Zamrykut's 40th Anniversary B: Marcel, Boris, Elaine & David. Peter and Eva in front.

Eva began work as a store clerk at Hanchar's grocery in Rorketon. She remained at the job until the store was sold August 1996.

Eva and Peter have four children.

Mercil, born November 24, 1954, married Donna (Pearce) from Winnipeg. They have five children Shaun, Peter, Bobby, Crystal and Michael and reside in Dauphin.

Boris, born July 24, 1957, married Joan Paradis of Dauphin. They have three children Shawn, April and Kayla and they reside on a farm SE 10-29-16.

David born November 20, 1962, is single and resides with his parents on the family farm.

Elaine, born March 14, 1966, and partner Danny Timmerman, have two children, Amber and Dylan, and reside in Winnipeg.

Eva and Peter are enjoying retirement on the farm where they help their son carry on the family farming operation.

Eva and Peter make occasional trips to Winnipeg to visit their daughter and family, Eva's sister, Elsie and her husband Ron LeBlanche, their children, Jerome and Maria Timmerman and family and with Bradley Timmerman. Eva and Peter are members of the St. John's Catholic Church in Horyn.

Hnat and Eva Zamrykut

submitted by Anne Tanchak(Zamrykut)

Hnat Zamrykut was born in 1897, in the village of Tzukanu, in Ukraine. He emigrated to Canada in 1920 and worked on various farms to earn a living. Hnat later settled in the Horyn district where he met Eva Remniak, daughter of Anthony and Mary Remniak. Eva was born, in 1911, in the Horyn district where she received her education.

Hnat and Eva were married and settled in Horyn. They proceeded to do mixed farming, starting with a few head of cattle and a team of oxen.

Hnat and Eva were blessed with eleven children: Olga, Anne, John, Fred, Nick, Sylvia, Alex, Mary, Hnat, Tony and Jean.

Olga, the eldest, attended Horyn and Rorketon School. She completed her high school at Sacred Heart Academy in Yorkton, Saskatchewan. Olga taught school for a while, then worked for the Canadian Wheat Board, in Winnipeg. She married Edward Mushaluk in 1972; they have one son, Joseph. Olga passed away in November 28, 1991.

Anne also attended Sacred Heart Academy in Yorkton, Saskatchewan. Upon graduating from Teachers' College, in Winnipeg, she taught school for many years. She married Michael Tanchak of



Hnat & Eva Zamrykut w/children. L-R: Olga, Anne, John, Fred and Nick, 1941.

Fisher Branch. They have three children: Wesley, Darlene and Sherri. They reside in Winnipeg.

John worked on construction during his working years. He married Margaret Baschuk. They have four children: Raymond, Rodney, Cherylanne, and Ronald. They have two grandchildren. John passed away in December 1993.

Fred was employed by the CNR for a few years, but later worked as a carpenter in the construction

trade. Fred married Anne Warachka of Malonton, Manitoba. They have four children: Edward, Bryan, Colleen and Karen. They also have two grandchildren. They presently reside in Abbotsford.

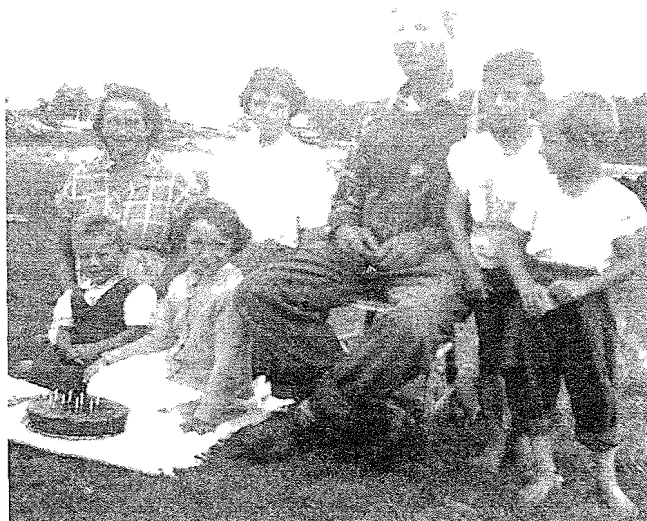
Sylvia is married to Tom Hill of Sydney, Nova Scotia. They have four children: Joseph, Raymond, Darlene and Ernie, and also five grandchildren. They reside in Grande Cache, Alberta.

Nick worked as a baker for a few years and presently is employed in the construction trade. Nick married Mary Pidustwa of Garland, Manitoba. They have four sons: Randall, Todd, Darren and Kenneth. They reside in Winnipeg.

Alex worked in Thompson for INCO for many years. Presently, Alex is employed by Manitoba Highways Department. He also farms on the original homestead. He married Marlene Sydor of Winnipegosis. They have three children: Darryl, Angela and Jason, and also one grandson, Brae. They reside in Dauphin.

Mary completed her high school in Rorketon and continued her education at Business College in Dauphin. She now works in the pharmacy department in a drugstore in Dauphin. Mary is married to Gerald Shewchuk of Sifton. They have three sons: Blaine, Calvin and Jeffrey. They presently reside in Dauphin.

Hnat operated a taxi in Thompson for many years. He married Phyllis Toporowski of Pine River.



Hnat & Eva Zamrykut w/children; Sylvia, Mary, Hnat, Tony and Jean (Alex is missing)

They moved to Dauphin where he operates a postal delivery route and also operates the Chicken Delight Restaurant. Hnat also farms in the Toutes Aides area. They have one son Christopher.

Tony operated a taxi in Thompson and later moved to Dauphin. He is presently operating Zamrykut's Family Restaurant and also operates a postal delivery route. Tony married Linda Rumak of Pine River. They have two children: Lovinda and Trayton.

Jean, the youngest, operated a taxi in Thompson. Jean married Dmetro Zamrykut and later moved to Dauphin. Jean presently is operating a postal delivery route.

Hnat and Eva Zamrykut have twenty-nine grandchildren and ten great grandchildren.

Hnat Zamrykut deceased on March 14, 1975 and his wife Eva deceased on January 20, 1976.

Michael and Alexandra Zamrykut

Michael was born in Austria on November 4, 1888 and immigrated to Canada when he was 18 years old. On February 15, 1913, he married Alexandra Tymchuk in the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Toutes Aides.

Alexandra was born in Austria on August 12, 1895 and immigrated to Canada in 1904 with her mother and three siblings – John Tymchuk, Pearl, who married Andrew Horyn and Annie who married Mike Ilkew. Michael and Alexandra homesteaded on S.W. 10-29-16 where they lived most of their lives. Farming was a hard way of life in those days but they persevered and succeeded. The most disappointing time in their life was in the early 1940's when a prairie fire swept through the yard and burned down all the farm buildings except the house. That too would have been burned if the entire family had not carried pails of water and poured it on the roof and walls to cool down the hot shingles and walls. Some cattle that were in the barn were

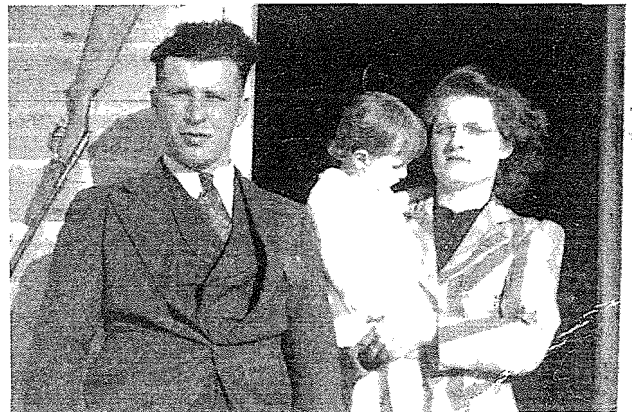


Mike Zamrykut Family. Back: Peter, John, Alex, Bill. Middle: Nellie, ?, ?, Ann. Front: Michael & Alexandra

saved by one of the daughters, Nellie, who opened the doors and herded them out but a litter of piglets were not that lucky nor was Nellie who burned her legs so badly she was hospitalized.

Michael and Alexandra raised eleven children – William, John, Mary, Annie, Peter, Nellie, Lena, Alex, Eva, Margaret and Slawka.

William was born on January 4, 1914 and attended the Horyn school. On October 19, 1940 he married Mary Galay of the Weiden district. They had one daughter Sylvia born on August 29, 1941 and passed away on March 27, 1990. Mary passed away on October 13, 1989. Mary and William farmed in the Horyn district for several years and he then was employed by Canadian National Railways until his retirement. During that time William was stationed in various parts of Manitoba and Saskatchewan. They retired in Dauphin where William still lives.



Bill, Mary & Sylvia Zamrykut

John was born on October 13, 1916 and attended the Horyn school. He worked on the family farm until his untimely death due to a car accident on August 11, 1973.

Maria (Mary) was born on October 12, 1917 and also attended the Horyn school. On October 30, 1936 she married John Boyechko of the Weiden district and they were divorced in February, 1972. In July of 1973 she married John Norton of Hamilton, Ontario. Mary died on January 5, 1995. Mary had three children — Florence, Phyllis and Lawrence.

Florence was born on August 24, 1937 and on July 30, 1960 she married John Farnely. Florence and John have two daughters, Kimberly and Kelly. Kimberly was born on October 22, 1961 and married Pietro Oddi on October 11, 1986. Kimberly and Pietro have three children — Paolo born on February 10, 1989; Marissa born on February 12, 1991 and Marc born June 30, 1993. Kelly was born on December 7, 1963 and married Vincenzo Oddi

on March 19, 1988. Kelly and Vincenzo have three children — Francesco born on January 28, 1990, Kara born on July 28, 1991 and Jonathan born September 13, 1993.

Phyllis was born in 1941 and passed away in 1943.

Lawrence was born on July 31, 1944 and married Cynthia Ferri on October 6, 1973. Lawrence and Cynthia have two daughters — Stacey born on September 9, 1975 and Kristina born on June 24, 1977.

Both of Mary's children and all the grandchildren reside in Hamilton, Ontario.

Anne was born on August 11, 1919. After completing her education in Horyn school, she stayed at home and helped out on the family farm. She also worked for her uncle and aunt, Andrew and Pearl Horyn. On November 15, 1941 she married Michael Korotash at the Horyn Catholic Church and together they farmed and raised a family of three daughters. In May 1956, Michael went to work for the C.N.R. to bring extra income for the family and Anne continued to manage the farm until October 1956. When Anne and the children moved to the village of Rorketon, Anne worked at the Rorketon Hotel from 1967 to 1982. Mike retired from the C.N.R. in 1978 due to illness and passed away July 4, 1989. Anne still lives in Rorketon. Anne and Michael have three daughters — Norma, Elsie and Violet.

Norma married Walter Kowbuz and they reside in Dauphin. They have two children — Angel and Devin. Angel and fiance Daryl Bryko will be married in July, 1997. They now reside in Winnipeg. Devin also resides in Winnipeg.

Elsie married Edward Robbins of Rorketon. They reside in Winnipeg and have one daughter Tina. Tina is married to Kelly Antonyshan and they have two children, Jesse and Hailey. They reside in Headingly.

Violet married Hans Schriever of Germany and they reside at Barrhead, Alberta.

Peter was born on July 4, 1922 and attended Horyn School. On May 16, 1953 he married Eva Guluwaty and they have four children — Mercil, Boris, David and Elaine.

Nellie (Nastia) was born to Michael and Alexandra Zamrykut on January 1, 1926.

She lived and attended school in Horyn up until grade six. At that time the older children had to quit school early to help with the chores on the farm and help tend the younger siblings.

Nellie left Rorketon in 1943 and joined her sister Mary who resided in Hamilton, Ontario with her



Four Generations: Alex's sister Nellie, Her daughter Elaine with children Johnny & Kerri with Great Grandmother, and Alexandra

husband and family. There she met and married Michael Filipowich, January 22, 1944 at Holy Spirit Ukrainian Catholic Church. Michael is the son of Emil and Nellie Filipowich (Arran, Saskatchewan).

Mike and Nellie had two children, Elaine Mary and Michael Richard.

Elaine Mary Filipowich was born on April 20, 1945. She married Barry Faughnan June 6, 1956 (St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church). They had two children, Kerri Ann and John Michael Courtney.

Kerri Ann Faughnan was born on November 19, 1968. She married John DiCienzo on June 2, 1990 (St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church). They have two children, Domenico Michael (May 24, 1991) and Marco Anthony (August 7, 1990).

John Michael Courtney Faughnan was born on February 25, 1971. John is still single (as of April 1997).

Mike Filipowich, the Faughnan and DiCienzo families all reside in Stoney Creek, Ontario.

Michael Richard Filipowich was born on December 20, 1947. He married Sonia Michiels on January 14, 1978 (St. Nichols Catholic Church). Michael and Sonia reside in Grimsby, Ontario.

* Nellie (Zamrykut) Filipowich passed away February 6, 1995 at the age of 69 years and is buried in Mountview Cemetery, Stoney Creek, Ontario.

Lena was born on September 1, 1927 and attended Horyn school. On February 18, 1950 she

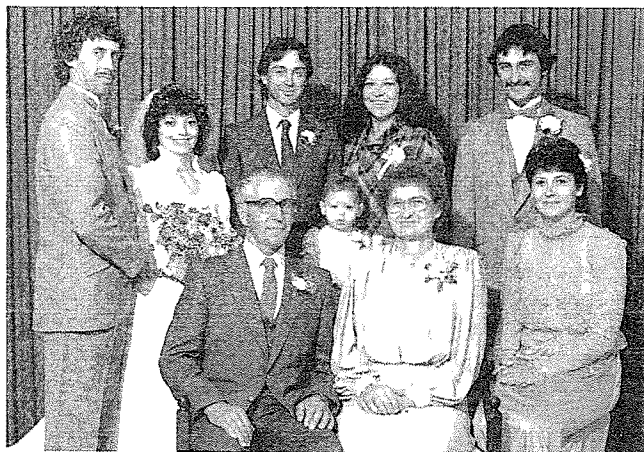
married Andrew Wachniak of Gronlid, Saskatchewan. They farmed in Gronlid until 1954 when Andrew became the post master of Gronlid for the next 30 years. Lena passed away in December of 1976. Andrew and Lena had three sons.

Dennis, the oldest, died of polio at the age of two. James, the second son was born in 1953. He moved from Gronlid to Saskatoon and married Ursula Holzkaemper. They have one daughter, Leanna, and a son, Nicholous and reside in Saskatoon.

Boris, the third son was born in 1955. He married Katherine in 1990. They live on an acreage thirteen miles southwest of Saskatoon with their two children Greg and Eli. Boris boards and trains horses and also works at Sask Place as a building operator.

Alex was born on March 2, 1929 and received his education at the Horyn school. On October 17, 1953 he married Patsy Dornaratzki (February 28, 1936) of Ethelbert and together they farmed his father's homestead for the next forty-two years. Both Alex and Pat were active members of the Catholic Church in Horyn and served on the church committee. Pat was appointed councillor of Ward 1 in the R.M. of Lawrence in 1981 and served until 1987. With the exception of Diane who died when she was six weeks old, Alex and Pat have four children — Raymond, Gregory, Myron and Noreen.

Raymond was born on July 28, 1954 and received his education in the Horyn and Rorketon schools. On September 7, 1985 he married Vivian Chudyk of Fork River and they have two daughters — Carla, born on June 10, 1991 and Hailey born on March 6, 1997. Raymond was employed at Manitoba Pool Elevators for thirteen years as assistant manager in Dauphin and later manager at the



Pat & Alex Zamrykut Family. B: Raymond & wife Vivian, Gregg and Ruth holding Jodey. F: Myran, Alex, Pat & Noreen.

Fork River elevator. Being raised on the farm, he returned to the farm in 1988. Vivian was born March 24, 1959 and received her education in Fork River and Winnipegosis. After college she was employed by several companies including D.R.G. Envelopers for five years. After her marriage to Raymond she worked at the Manitoba Hydro office in Dauphin for five years and in 1995 began work at the Rorketon Credit Union.

Greg was born on January 9, 1959 and received his education at Horyn and Rorketon schools. After completing Grade 12, he took a one year automotive course at Red River College in Winnipeg. He was employed by several firms including John Deere in Dauphin before he also went back to farming. At the same time he worked at the Ste. Rose Auction Mart for ten years. On June 19, 1982, Greg married Ruth Ackerman (October 13, 1957). Ruth worked at different jobs in Manitoba and Alberta and since 1980 was employed by Manitoba Crop Insurance as an adjuster. Ruth and Greg are both active members of the community and are avid curlers as are their two children Jodee and Eric. Jodee was born on February 16, 1984 and enjoys all sports especially curling. She has been dancing with the Rorketon Rusalka Dance group for nine years and enjoys it immensely. Eric was born on November 25, 1985 and is also a sports enthusiast. He has been dancing with Rusalka for eight years. In the winter he enjoys curling and in the summertime he plays baseball with the Ste. Rose Pee Wee Club.

Myron was born on February 9, 1960 and received his education in Horyn and Rorketon. He then took a course in autobody repair at the Assiniboine College in Brandon. Myron enjoys hunting and fishing. Farming is a full time job for him but he still found time to serve as councillor in Ward 1 in the R.M. of Lawrence.

Noreen was born on October 24, 1964 and received her education at the Rorketon school. After completing grade 12 she went on to take a secretarial course at Assiniboine College in Brandon. She worked at several different establishments but since 1988 she has been employed at the Fairview Nursing Home. On May 27, 1995 she married Dave McLachlan and they reside in Brandon.

Eva was born January 20, 1931 and attended Horyn school and Rorketon High School. She married Anton (Tony) Pohoucki, formerly of the Melfort, Saskatchewan area on June 20, 1954 at St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Hamilton. Eva died on February 5, 1973 from cancer. Eva and Tony have two children — Donna and Orest.

Donna was born on October 6, 1956 in Hamilton and married Gary Paskaruk of Stoney Creek, Ontario on September 23, 1978. Gary and Donna have three children: Michael born August 30, 1982; Natalie born August 22, 1987 and Christopher born May 25, 1995. They all currently reside at Grimsby, Ontario.

Orest was born on June 28, 1959 in Hamilton. He married Lesia Jereniuk of Edmonton, Alberta on August 30, 1986 at St. John's Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Edmonton. Orest and Lesia have two daughters, Larissa, born February 15, 1990 and Katherine, born June 6, 1991. They reside in Sherwood Park, Alberta.

Margaret was born on September 9, 1934 at Rorketon and attended Horyn school where she completed her grade 8. She stayed on the farm until 1953 when she went to Hamilton, Ontario and worked there for a year. In 1954 she moved to Winnipeg where she worked at restaurants, Paulin's candy company and a sewing factory. In 1957 she married Peter Fediuk of the Weiden district. Margaret and Peter have three children, Terry, Garry and Lorraine.

Terry was born March 8, 1961 at Grace Hospital in Winnipeg. Terry married Donna Sklepowich in Dauphin on June 2, 1984. Donna and Terry have a son Graham born February 25, 1987 at the Dauphin hospital and a daughter Katie born April 25, 1989 also at the Dauphin hospital.

Garry was born at the Grace hospital on January 23, 1962 and married Brenda Bornn in Brandon on July 16, 1988. They have two daughters, Lauren born May 4, 1989 and Allyson born July 7, 1991.

Lorraine was born on March 27, 1964 at the Grace hospital in Winnipeg. She married Kirk Secord of Dauphin on August 22, 1987 in Winnipeg.

Margaret and Peter resided in Winnipeg until 1969 when they moved to Rorketon and lived here until 1974. In 1974, the family moved to Dauphin and all three children completed their grade 12 at D.R.C.S.S. In 1974, Margaret went to work for Dauphin Meat Processors. In 1975 she began work at the Dauphin Regional Health Centre where she worked for 20 years.

Slawka was born on December 18, 1937 and died on May 5, 1938.



Naturalization Papers

Particulars

FULL NAME **Michal Zamrykut**

ADDRESS **Toutes Aide, Manitoba, Canada**

TRADE OR OCCUPATION **Farmer**

PLACE AND DATE OF BIRTH (WHEN KNOWN) **Cymany, Galicia, Poland**

13th November 1889

NATIONALITY **Polish**

MARRIED **Married**

SINGLE

WIDOWER (WIDOW)

NAME OF WIFE **Alexandra Zamrykut**

~~ANNUAL~~ NATIONALITY OF PARENTS **Polish**

AGE **30** YEARS HEIGHT **5** FEET **10** INCHES

COLOUR **White** COMPLEXION **Dark**

COLOUR OF EYES **Dark Brown** COLOUR OF HAIR **Black**

VISIBLE DISTINGUISHING MARKS **None**

COUNTERSIGNED

Oscar Cadogan
CHIEF CLERK OF NATURALIZATION

Республіка Польська
Republika Polska

Впархія: Станіславів
Diocesis: Stanislaopolensis

Число: 56
Numerus:

Деканат: Скавський
Decanatus: Skalensis

Повіт: Борнів-Ворхолов
Districtus: Borniwo-Worhola

Парохія: Умань-Сухань
Parochia: Umank-Suchan

Свідectво уродин і хрещення
Testimonium ortus et baptismi



Парохіяльний офіс, гр.-кат.
Parochialis r. gr.-cath.

церкви Св. Андрія і Павла
Ecclesiae S. Andr. et Pauli

заявляє, що в книгах метричних тої церкви, том
notum testatumque fit, in libris metricalibus hujus Ecclesiae tomo

стор. 288
pag. 288

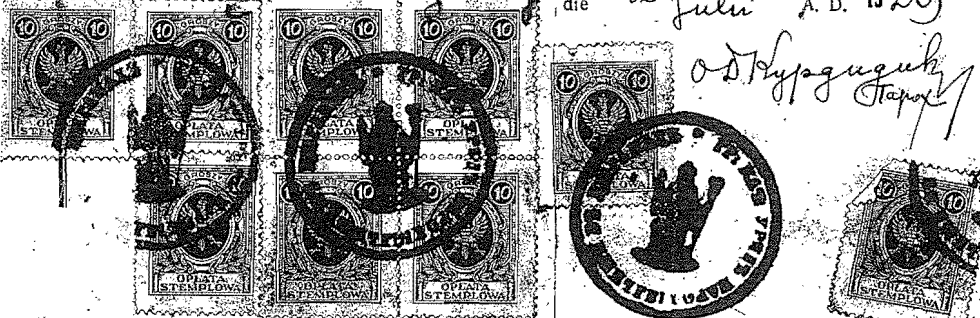
находиться слідує:
reperiri sequentia:

Рік, місяць і день уродин і хрещення міропомазання Annus, mensis et dies nativitatis, ba- ptismi et confirm	Число дому Nr. domus	Імя Nomen	Вірствоваданне Religio	Пол Sexus	Лока Loca	Родичі і звання Parentes et conditio	Родичі хре- стні і звання Patrini et conditio
Року Божого Тисяч вісім- сотого вісім- десятого 1888	280	Muscari Michael	грек латин	чоловік вік	Умань	Замрухін Ми- хайло і Тео- дор; і Марія з Се- левана пісон. з Умань	Muscari Тео
4. листопада Anno Domini Millesimo octin- gentesimo octo- gesimo octavo 1888		Тобію Марія Мартинівна	грек латин	чоловік вік	Умань	Замрухін Michael і Theo- dori; Maria e domo Gety- wata agricol. e Suchan	Замрухін Тео

Це свідectво власною рукою підписую і печаттю церковною стверджую
Quas testimoniales manu propria subscribo sigilloque Ecclesiae parochialis corroboro

Умань-Сухань, 17 липня Р. Б. 1929
die 17 Julii A. D.

Од Писаря
Парох





Mary Werbiski, Phillip Rehaluk, Tate girl. Back: unknown, Tony Pulak, Front: possible Tate boy



Josephine Carter, Jim, Louise & Ralph



Mason family: Annie, Sophie, George and Dick



Fred Pulak, Bill Rehaluk & Charlie Blackmon

Magnet District

In the early 1900's, a site for a town was established on SW 30-27-15. In 1911, Mr. Charlie Robertson operated a small store, with the Post Office and a livery barn on a location now known as Czakierda farm. Plans to build a bank on the site of the town were changed before the construction began. Instead, the Royal Bank was built on the new Magnet townsite. The only visible landmark on the old townsite is a large barn.

In 1919, the settlers chose the new townsite for Magnet because the proposed railroad was to run through this site. "A royal celebration is expected at the first toot of the whistle."

"In September, 1920, the town site was surveyed at last and many lots were purchased." <excerpts from Dauphin Herald>

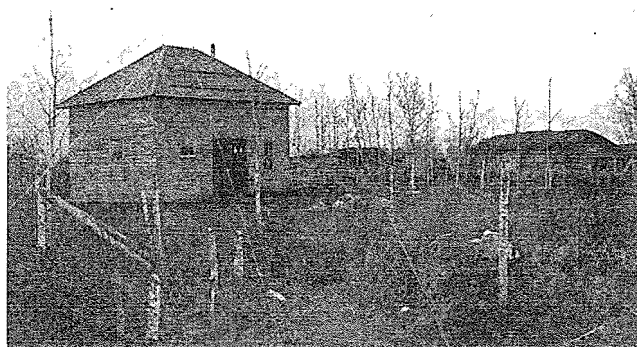
There are two theories as to how Magnet was named. The first is that it was named by a surveyor, Mr. Davison, who found a magnet. The second is that it was named after the "Magnet" cream separator. Whichever is true, "Magnet" was a drawing power. Settlers came with great expectation.

"Magnet is one of the most picturesque little towns along the new proposed CNR line, which runs out between the lakes. With a little bit of reconstruction, it could be turned into a grand summer resort." <excerpt from Dauphin Herald>.

Stores

Mr. Paterson, in October, 1921, opened a new general store which he owned and operated. The pay phone, a great service to the public, was installed in the store.

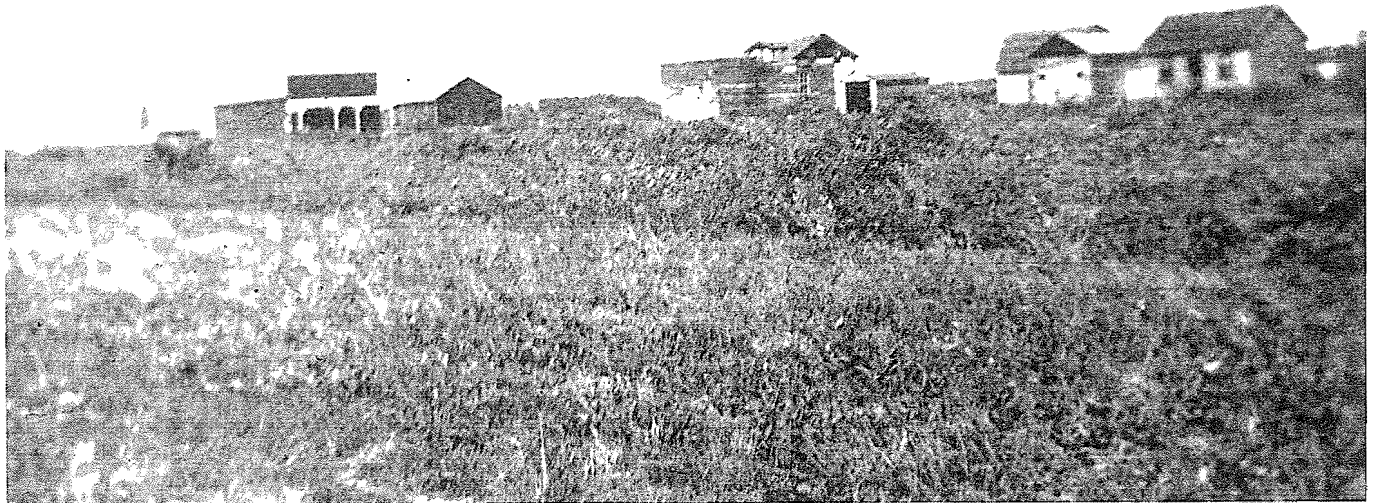
Mr. Charlie Robertson then decided to build a new store in the new townsite of Magnet. In October, 1921, he opened his general store for business and took over the postal duties with Miss Belle Murray as his assistant. On a Friday morning, May 12, 1927, Jas Robertson's store and contents were destroyed by fire. The building and stock were only partially covered by insurance. <excerpt Dauphin Herald>. He then continued the business from his home for a short while.



Curran Brothers' homestead



Town of Magnet



Town of Magnet

On June 2, 1927, Mr. Eugene and Dode Adam, of Ste. Rose, moved into the house that was previously owned by Jas Robertson. Eugene operated the general store and added an extension which allowed for a larger store.

Johnny Barbour, approximately 1928-1938, owned and managed the store.

Rube and Kay Wilson, in approximately the middle forties, operated the same store.

Dode Adam again managed the store for a short period from mid- 1944 to mid-1945.

Evelyn and Emmet Cody bought and operated the store from approximately mid-1945 to mid-1946.

Anita and Tommy Blackmon then took over the ownership and management of the store from 1946-1948.

Jean Louis Berthaudin bought the store from Tommy Blackmon in 1948, but before opening for business, he sold it to Eian and Edna Barnett.

Edna and Eian Barnett operated a small store, for a few years, next to the large store. In 1948 they



Magnet Trading Post, 1932, owned by Jack Barbour who is standing beside his car. Jack Cumming driving oxen.



A "Bee" putting up a home in the Magnet Area

bought the large store from Mr. Berthaudin and managed the business until 1960.

Thelma and Rufus Honish took over the operation of the store from 1960 until 1962.

Eian and Edna Barnett once again regained ownership from 1962- 1965.

Rose Wegleitner managed the store from 1965-1966. In 1966, the remaining stock was sold to Frank Papuga of Rorketon. The building was moved to Russell Murray's yard.

H.A. Roberts owned a shop in Rorketon, in 1921. He also operated a general store in Magnet for a short while.

Joe Goldberg, in the late 1930's, built and operated a large store stocked with a full line of groceries, dry goods, and hardware. Unfortunately, it was destroyed by fire shortly after.



Christine Olafson in front of Magnet Store

Jack Barber owned and operated a trading post in Magnet in the early 1930's.

Flour Shed

Behind the store, a 20' by 24' log shed was constructed to store the flour when a carload arrived by train. Later, when a lean-to was added to the store, there was no more need for the shed. In 1948, Eian and Edna Barnett used the building as storage for their personal belongings.

In 1960, Rufus Honish used the shed as a barn. Later it was taken apart, leaving the loft intact. In 1976, Mr. Eric Lundstrom moved the loft, with a stack mover, to the farm SW 15-27-15 for a storage shed. The word, Flour, on the sign nailed to the building, is still legible.



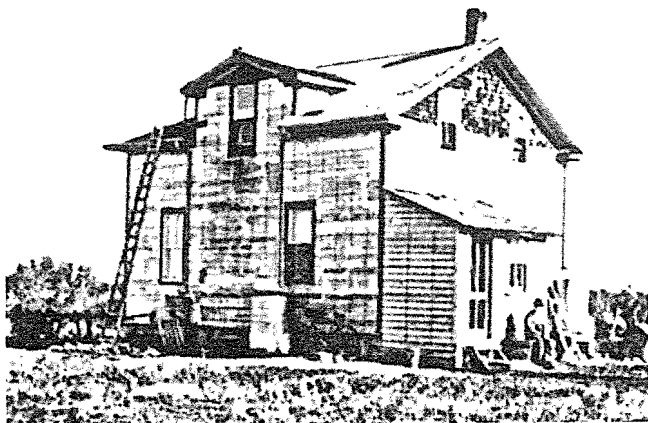
Storage Shed from Magnet Store

Boarding House

In 1921, the first boarding house was owned and operated by Mrs. Alf Preston. She also managed a cafe from this building. She provided meals for the passengers who disembarked from the train and were searching for work. Very few could afford the price of a meal, but no one was turned away. She would always find enough food. In December, 1922, the family moved to their homestead, SW 16-27-15, where she continued to give meals to passers-by.

In December, 1922, Nellie and Fred Robinson constructed and opened an "up to date" boarding and rooming house known as the Magnet Hotel. It was a fine addition to the town.

Nellie provided room and board for the United Church student ministers and the school teacher. One teacher in particular, Ernie Walker, stayed there for seven years. His wages were \$35.00 per month



Robinson Boarding House

and he gave Nellie \$16.00. She washed, ironed and mended for him. The boarding house closed in 1948. In 1950, Emmet Cody bought the building and moved it to Ste. Rose where he started a boarding house. In 1951, he sold it to Leo Paradis who continued the operation. The building is still in use.

Butcher Shop

In June, 1922, Allan Cameron opened a butcher shop. He sold fresh and cured meats on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday of each week.

In the mid 1930's, Bert Ackerman operated what was known as a "meat ring". It was in operation in the spring, summer and fall. Because there was no method to store fresh meat, Bert would butcher and then deliver the fresh meat to his customers with a truck that was equipped with a refrigerated box. Each week, a different part of the animal was delivered to the homes. Eventually, everyone got a whole animal.

Telephone

In October, 1921, a pay phone was installed in C. Paterson's store. In 1954, Rorketon became the main centre for the switch board. To make a long distance call, Magnet residents had to go through the Rorketon telephone exchange. In 1959, the Manitoba Telephone System installed party-line telephones in the rural area. Anyone having a telephone installed in his home was obligated to pay for any poles and anchors that were required on his property. The party-line telephones were in use until 1996, when all the rural areas received private lines.

Magnet Post Office

In 1911, mail was being delivered to the Magnet area by a horse drawn buggy in summer and cutter

in the winter. If the roads were impassable, the mail was carried on horse back. In 1911, Charles Robertson was granted the first official post office. It was located in his store on SE 30-27-15. Through the years, the postal duties were granted to the store owners in the village, except for a few instances.

Mr. Wilson, the store proprietor, hired Mrs. Smith as a housekeeper. After a time, she began performing postal duties. In the evening, Mr. Martin would get the mail from the train, and in the morning, he would take the outgoing mail to the station. In 1948 the Post Office was moved to Mrs. Smith's home, and she became the official postmistress. Mr. Fred Robinson had the mail route between Magnet and East Bay. Every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, he made the return trip, ten miles each way, for the sum of \$360.60 per annum. Eventually, Mrs. Smith's son, Dick, took over the mail route from Mr. Robinson. In 1958 the Post Office was moved back into the store with the storekeeper as official postmaster. In 1966, Ethel and Ronald Highfield were granted the postal services. They carried out the postal duties from their house on the farm NW 34-26-15. Postal boxes were built in the front room of their home. The Magnet Post Office was permanently closed in 1970. Magnet district residents picked up their mail in Rorketon.

Bank

In March, 1921, the new Magnet Royal Bank of Canada became the centre of attraction. Anyone who had surplus cash was banking at the local bank.

The first manager was J. McLaughlin. Following are some of the other managers and clerks.

George Bulkman was a clerk from Lundar, Manitoba. He took over while Mr. McLaughlin was on holidays in August, 1921.

George Breakman

Mr. Clark took over George Breakman's place.

John Beasse

In October, 1921, Mr. Moffatt and Mr. Robertson were the contractors for the construction of the bank manager's residence.

There was a farewell party held on April 19, 1923, in honour of J.W. McLaughlin who was leaving the Magnet Bank to take up his new position in Winnipeg. He was presented with a special gift that was engraved "Magnet". His successor was H. Mackenzie from Lintlaw, Saskatchewan. The bank closed on May 14, 1924, and was moved to Ste. Rose.

The Rural Credit Society

"In November, 1921, the Magnet Rural Credit Society was formed with fifty-nine memberships and became part of the Lawrence Rural Credit Society.

Blacksmith Shop

In May, 1920, James Moffatt's blacksmith shop was opened for business. It was in operation only a short while.

May, 1922, the Moffatt Bros. obtained the Massey-Harris Dealership. In that year, they sold two sets of harrows, a power- lift plough and two discs. They also took over the Phoenix Hail General Insurance from Mr. Charles Robertson, and in 1923, negotiated the sale of Robertson's homestead, SE 30-27-15W.

In 1936-1937, Marcel Leperre owned and operated a blacksmith shop. He was a fine craftsman; his woodwork was unsurpassable. He went on to manufacture bob-sleighs.

In 1947, Gerhard Brunen, following in his father's footsteps, constructed a blacksmith shop. In the front of the building he did the mechanical work. In the back was the blacksmith shop where he had a welder. He built cabooses and trailers. The blacksmith shop was closed in 1951 when he enlisted in the armed forces.

Livery Barn

In April, 1920, Bob Dixon and Mr. Timmins were waiting for the town to be surveyed before they could start building their barn. In September, 1920, the town site was surveyed at last. Bob Dixon and Mr. Timmins wasted no time and began construction of their livery barn and, in 1922, were opened for business.

In 1922, Fred Robinson also built a livery barn and remained in business until it was no longer required. He also operated a taxi service for many years.

Saw Mill

The sawmill opened in February, 1923. It was powered by a gas engine and was situated SE 29-27-15 with Robert Dixon as owner-operator. Homesteaders would bring a load of logs in the morning and go back home in the afternoon with a load of lumber. It was regrettable that the mill closed a few years later.

Prairie Fire

In the fall of 1920, a terrible bush and prairie fire passed through Magnet with considerable hay

loss along with some buildings. The heaviest loss was for J. Lilygreen and his family because they had only been in their new home for six weeks when they lost the house and contents to the fire. They had no insurance.

"February, 1921, that Mr. J. Lilygreen would be granted \$1 000.00 to cover losses by fire, with the provision that the government pay half. February, 1921, that Mr. Lilygreen, of Magnet, in respect to the damage done by fire, received a \$800.00 grant from the Municipality to cover his losses." (Council minutes)

Town Well

In April, 1922, a forty-two foot well that produced an abundance of water was dug for the new townsite. This well was a great asset to the town.

Skating Rink

In early 1930, the first skating rink was made on Mr. Preston's farm where a portion of the yard was flooded. Because Mr. Preston's water was salty, the water was hauled in a tank donated by Mr. Tom Highfield, from Mrs. Cora Murray's well, a mile away. The following year, volunteers hauled logs from east of Magnet. Mr. Preston sawed the logs into boards and used them to build a high fence around the rink.

Constructing the rink was a community affair. Everyone helped to get the rink ready for Sunday afternoon. Hockey teams from Rorketon and East Bay would come to compete. Magnet had one of the finest teams. The skating rink remained active for many years. Some will remember the regrettable incident when Eian Barnett lost an eye while participating in a game of hockey.

Minutes of Council, October 5, 1921

Moved by Councillor Orchard

Seconded by Wilson

That the council purchase a strip of land 66 feet in width on the north side of the railway right through the SW 22-27-15, from Mr. John Murray, for the sum of twenty-five dollars. This strip will connect the townsite with the road allowance between section 21 and 22-27-15. The road is to act as an outlet to the Magnet townsite for the meantime and in the future, when the business of the town warrants the building of a road on the south side of the track and that the majority of the people are in favour, we would then recommend that such road be constructed.

Carried

Railroad

In 1919, the CN was proposing to extend the line through Magnet and pass by the Magnet School.

The contractor, Mr. Archie McDonald, had a large number of men working for him, constructing the grade for the proposed railroad.

In 1919, Mr. Wrenshall and his son, Robert, were granted the contract to clear the Magnet siding.

In May, 1920, the scrubbing was done on the siding site. It was ready for the surveyors.

What a joyful occasion as the sun went down on Monday, December 29, 1924, when, at last, the long wait of five years came to an end. The first train blew its whistle and came to a halt in the small town of Magnet.

CN Station

In 1924, a small station was built along the side of the tracks in Magnet. It measured thirty feet long by ten and a half feet wide. There was no station agent. A night watchman was on duty for train night. It was his responsibility to supervise incoming and outgoing freight. The building was moved in the late 1980's to John Inkster's farm.



Bill Rehaluk taking Nurse Robertson to a patient



C.N. Station

CN Platform

In the fall of 1959, Norman Harpelle bought the loading platform for \$50. With the help of friends, it was taken apart.

Stan Jastrebski used his gravel truck to haul the timber to Rorketon.

Fred Marshall was hired to rip the timber into boards which were used for studs, rafters, and floor joists.

In the spring of 1960, the Harpelle's hired Fred Marshall to build their new home, completely framing it with the material from the platform.

Stock Yards

Thomas Highfield was hired by the Pool to buy and sell livestock, from the local farmers, on commission. The livestock was shipped once a week. The majority was shipped in the fall.

In autumn, the ranchers from the area drove their cattle through the bush into Magnet. There the cattle were loaded into box cars and shipped to the St. Boniface Stockyards.

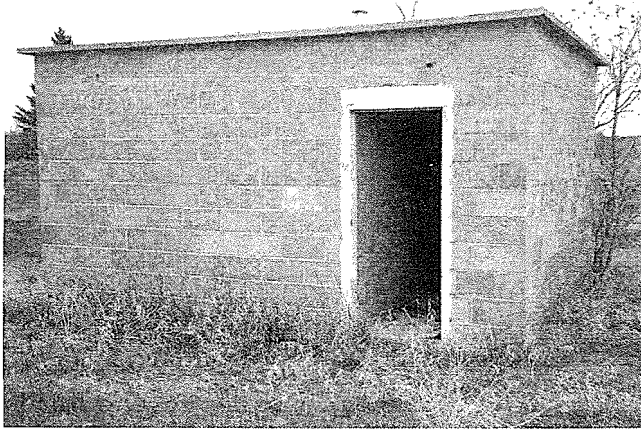
Elevator

With the land settlement and the extension of the rail line north, the United Grain Growers constructed an elevator in Magnet, during the spring of 1925.

The agents were Mr. Ivan Thurston and Mr. Crookshank. The elevator was a great service to the settlers and a boost to the town. Unfortunately, it did not prove to be viable. After operating on a part-time basis, it was closed in 1931.

Fall Out Shelter

Because of the threat of nuclear war, everyone was encouraged to have a fallout shelter for protection against nuclear fallout. Magnet was chosen, by the government, to construct such a fallout shelter.



Magnet Bunker

The walls are twenty-four inches thick and made out of cinder blocks. As the blocks were laid, the hollow was filled with sand.

The structure's outside measurements are twelve feet wide, fifteen feet four inches long and eight feet two inches high. There was a large filtering system installed in the roof to filter the radioactive air. Radiation testing equipment and a phone were supplied. It was the responsibility of the store owners, Rufus and Thelma Honish, to operate and read the instruments. The main purpose was to check the radiation level outside the shelter, and then transfer the information by phone.

The shelter was stocked with dehydrated foods. There were enough provisions for two people for two weeks.

The entrance was partitioned off from the main living area. This space was provided so that anyone going outside would have a place to remove the outer clothing before re-entering. This was done to prevent the contamination of the living area. There was also a small area partitioned off for a bathroom.

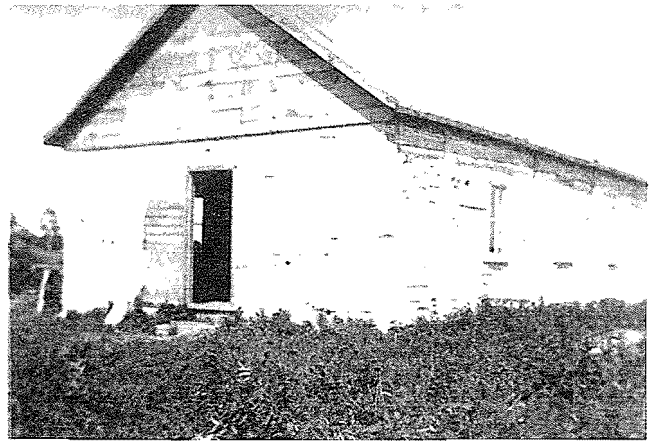
The project was discontinued before the shelter was completely outfitted.

The structure still stands as a reminder of what could have been.

Magnet Hall

In the early 1920's, the hall was constructed with local volunteers. It was built of logs with three windows on each side. There was a balcony inside the hall, over the front entrance, a cloak room on one side, and a small kitchen on the other side of the door. The dance floor was constructed of spruce boards. The hall served the entire area.

The Magnet Community Club held the 1st annual meeting on March 7, 1925. The financial statement for 1924 was \$385.00. The hall has served



First Magnet Hall

many needs, for recreation, for divine worship, and on two occasions as a hospital by "The Red Cross."

"The Magnet Community Hall was turned into a temporary hospital on Thursday, September 25, 1924, when four of the school children had their adenoids and tonsils removed. All of the children got on very well and surely appreciated the splendid care and treatment given to them by Dr. Meredith and Nurse Robertson. All of the children were given a medical inspection and many had teeth extracted. This branch of our Red Cross work is surely worth while and is appreciated by the people of Magnet."

"The Highfield family are under quarantine as little Ronald has diphtheria." <excerpts from The Dauphin Herald.>

Officers elected for 1925 are:

President - Mr. C.G. Barnett

Vice-President - Mr. W. Jopson

Sec. Treas. re-elected - Mr. R.H. Paterson

Directors -

Mrs. Crompton

Mrs. Barnett

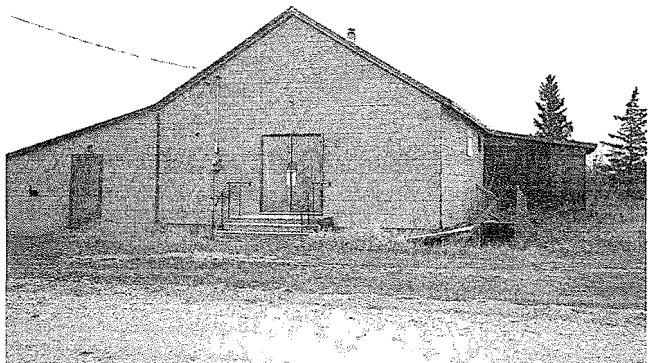
Mrs. Houston

Mr. Crompton

J. Johnston

Richard Mason

In the early 1950's, the old hall was demolished and a new one constructed in its place.



Magnet Hall



Community gathering

Logs were obtained from Meadow Portage and were cut into lumber for the hall. The help was all volunteer except for the laying of the hardwood floor that was installed by Eldon Chute from Dauphin.

The new hall was officially opened in November, 1955.

Because the benches from the old hall were in such good condition, they were moved into the new hall. After seventy years, they are still in use.

In 1962, the Magnet School burnt. The hall was used as a temporary school until the Methley School was moved in.

The hall was also, at times, used as a church.

Various social activities took place over the years. This hall was certainly the centre of the community, and it still stands as a monument to the splendid community spirit that has existed throughout the years. The hall is still in use.

Roman Catholic Church

In December, 1950, or January, 1951, a building from Dauphin Airport was moved across Lake Dauphin to Magnet. This became the St. Antony Roman Catholic Church of Magnet. It took a lot of

volunteer help from the parishioners and the priest, Father Germain, to renovate this building. The building was set on a full cement basement and was partitioned off with lumber from the first Toutes Aides Roman Catholic Church. The inside was completely refinished. Fred Marshall was the head carpenter. Behind the altar was the entrance to a small living area where the priest could spend a few days. The "Arch" pattern was followed throughout the church. It is evident with the arch enclosing Jesus on the cross. The windows, custom-made by Tony Biletski, have the arch on top. The arch is included in the stations of the cross that came from Belgium. They were paid for from donations by parish families. Some were paid outright by a single family. The first station of the cross was purchased from the donations of the school children at that time.

A big celebration was held when Bishop Poecock came to bless the church. He was escorted from the Magnet corner to the church by men on horseback carrying flags. Some of the children also celebrated their first Holy Communion. Bishop Poecock along with Father Germain were honoured



1st. Communion

guests at the home of John and Magdalena Honish. It was indeed a memorable event.

To raise funds, regular card parties were held in the basement of the church. Most everyone attended with great enthusiasm. There was also the annual church picnic.

After serving the surrounding area for twenty years, this church was moved to Rorketon where it stands today.

United Church

Early in 1921, the United Church held the Sunday services in the school.

On August 25, 1921, Rev. Mr. Strandring came from Makinak to preach on the Sabbath Day. There were times the congregation packed the school.

Official board members from June 1937 to June 1938:

Magnet Mrs. McKinnon
Mrs. L. Murray
Mr. William Murray

Official board meeting held at Magnet, Thursday, July 22, 1937.

Local boards consisting of three persons from each of the several appointments, at the call of Mr. Van Gorder, met at Magnet, July 22 at 8:00 p.m. as the official Board of this field. Mr. Van Gorder occupied the chair.

The meeting was opened with a devotional period, hymns, scripture and prayer. Various matters were then discussed.

Magnet, East Bay, Methley, Million and Rorketon were all represented.

Expression was given to the more promising condition of the work on the field and the brighter prospects for the future. An outline was given by Mr. Van Gorder of services held, calls made, and financial standing as of that date.

Regarding finances, an objective for each area was proposed and accepted as follows. Abbotshall - \$30.00; East Bay - \$60.00; Methley - \$25.00; Million - \$60.00; Magnet - \$100.00; Rorketon - \$100.00.

After consideration, it was found advisable to supplement the Sunday offerings by special efforts in the way of Harvest Festivals and entertainments to be given during the month of September.

Motions were moved, seconded and carried as follows.

Mr. Barrow - Mr. R. Blackmon, that a set of books required by the field for record purposes be purchased.

Mr. R. Blackmon - Mr. Boxell, that any unneeded articles of Church property be collected and sold. Mr. William Murray and Mr. Boxell to act for the Board in this matter.

Mrs. J. Coutts - Mrs. J. McKinnon, that Mr. George Rorke be appointed Secretary-Treasurer of the official Board and thus of the whole field.

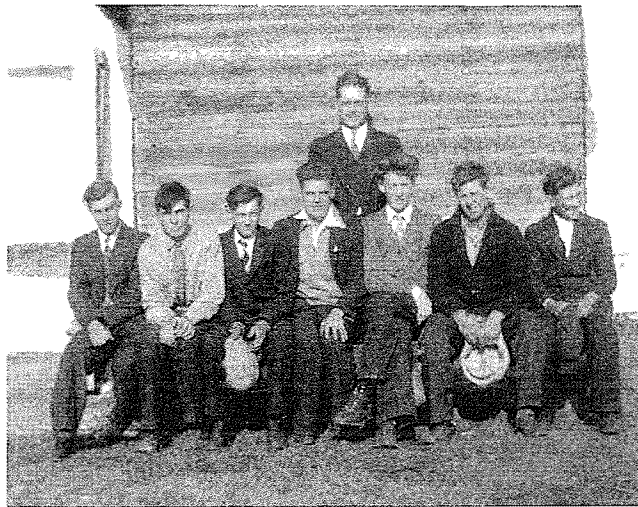
The student minister only came for church services from May until September. The following are some of the student ministers

Bill Vaughn	Don Amos
Pelly	William J. VanGorer
Bill Murrel	Earl Armistead
Fred McNally	Kitto
Wesley	Einer Egilson

Rev. Ed Loucks and family came to live in Ste. Rose, in 1964, to be in charge of Lakeside Pastoral Charge. He was our first ordained minister for the United Church. He held Church services at different points. The services were held in the Magnet Hall until 1967 when the Ladies' Aid bought the Magnet School. It was used for Church services, Sunday School and Vacation Bible School held by the Canadian Sunday School Mission.

In March of each year, a supper and a craft and bake sale were held to help pay for expenses.

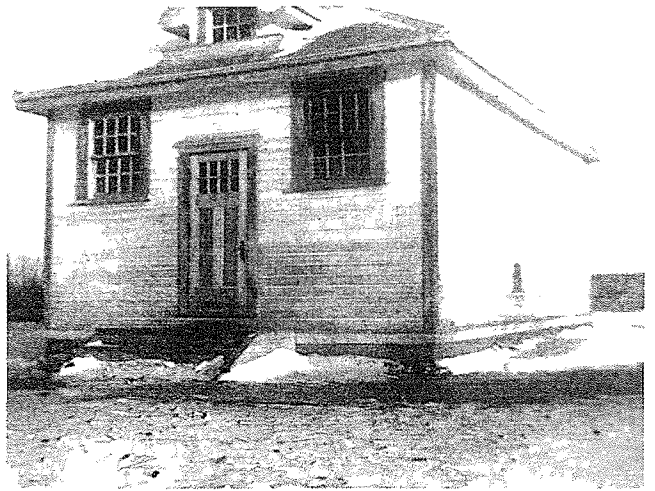
The United Church held the final service in December, 1973. Church services and Sunday School were continued with Joyce and Roy Fordyce until 1986. Garth Murray bought the building in 1994.



Sunday School, Magnet Trail Rangers

Magnet School

Magnet School, No. 1601, was constructed by farmers living within a four mile radius, without any government assistance. It was opened in 1912. Mr. Robert Wrenshall was the first treasurer. It was a one-room, log building with a wood stove for heat. Because there was no well on the school grounds, fresh water was hauled in daily. There were often 48-60 students in a 24 capacity room. Some students



First Magnet School

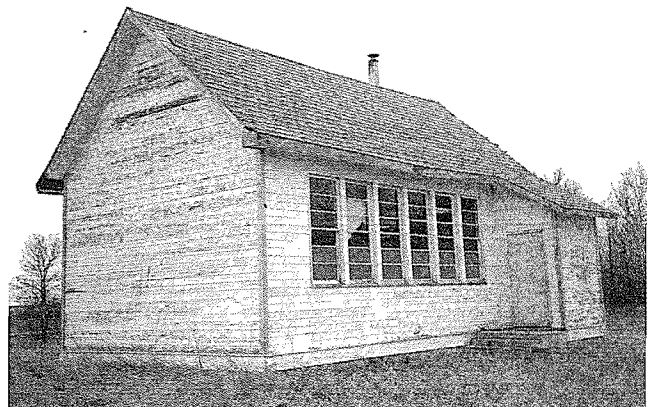
sat on nail kegs at the back of the school. The school was used for different purposes. At times the priest, Father Germain, would come to the school to teach Catechism to the Roman Catholic children. During summer holidays, two nuns would come to prepare the children for Communion and Confirmation. This building was destroyed by fire in 1962. At this time, the Methley School was no longer in use, so it was moved to Magnet.

"Miss Anderson, of Winnipeg, took charge of the Magnet School on June 5, 1919."

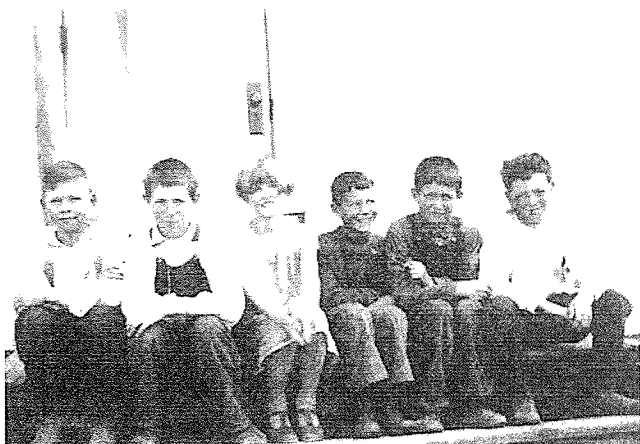
"October 9, 1919, the school reopened with Miss Eliza Steenson as a teacher." <excerpts from Dauphin Herald>

The following is a list of teachers, some of whom roomed and boarded at Edna and Eian Barnett's place.

Mr. Elliott	April 1920
Robert Wrenshall	May 1925
Edna Halfenbrack Barnett	1932-1934
Ernie Walker	
Nick Wadenski	



Magnet School that was moved from Methley



Magnet School students. Mark Robinson, James Hutchison, ?, Edgar Cull, Mark Hutchison, Robert McKinnon

Miss Kissick (for six months)

Jean Rehaluk

Marge Holowka

Joy Wilson

Kristine Olaffson

Arnold Holowachuk

Thomas Schura

1956-1960

Leo Hrushowy

1961-1967

In 1961, because there was no teacherage. Leo

Hrushowy moved a granary, 12x24, from his father's farm to live in. The following year a teacherage was moved in from southern Manitoba. When the school was closed, Leo aquired the teacherage and moved it to Rorketon. He lived in it for a few more years.

It was a sad day when Magnet School closed in 1967. It was bought by the Magnet United Church members.

Magnet's Women's Institute

The Women's Institute met once a month at a different member's house. On December 1, 1941 the meeting was at Elsie Bonnett's house. She was secretary-treasurer for years and went to conventions in Winnipeg as a delegate. The regional meetings were usually held in Swan River and three or four women would go by car.

The Women's Institute bought a small piece of land at the Peace Gardens. A plaque inscribed "Magnet's Women's Institute" was placed there.

The Women's Institute was organized to help the rural women. The roll call was answered by each woman giving useful hints.

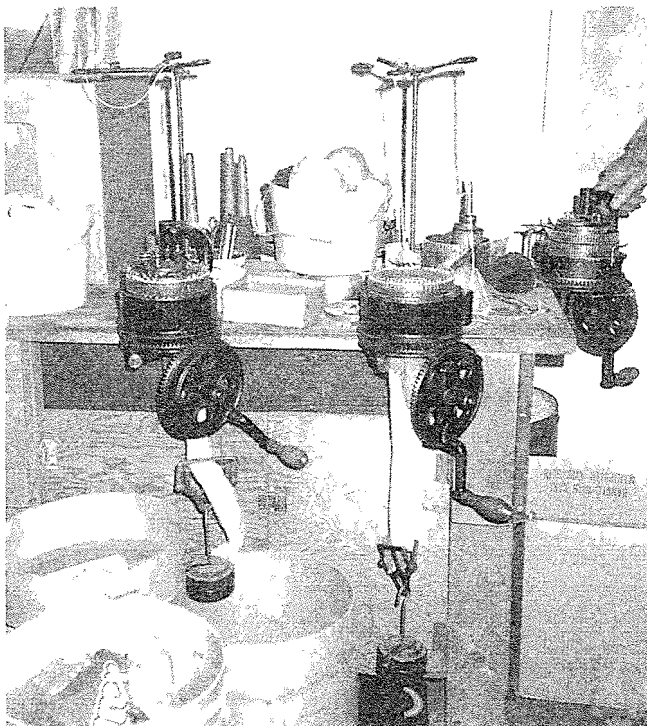


B. Row: Mrs B. Irving, Mrs F Barnett, Mrs W. Radley, Mrs H. Crozier, rs J. Heesaker, Mrs B. Barrow, Mrs J McKinnon, Mrs D. Masters 2nd Row: Mrs G. Crawford, Mrs D. Scott, Mrs Cook Front: Eliza Thompson, Mrs R Robinson, Mrs Brown, Mrs Bage, Eva Greetham, Mrs G Weaver

Red Cross

The Red Cross became active in this district during the First World War. Wool was supplied to the ladies who in turn would knit mitts, socks, and scarves for the soldiers. The Red Cross would ship the knitted articles overseas to the soldiers.

In 1915, Mr. Alfred Preston sold a cow for six dollars and bought the first knitting machine, so they could increase production. Mrs. Preston was one of the ladies that was supplied with wool. She would set up the knitting machine, and Harold, her son, would turn the handle and knit the socks for her. When the wool was all used up, the The Red Cross would send in more wool. During the war years, hundreds of pairs of socks were knit. It was the start of a new passion for Mr. Harold Preston. At the age of 92, he still knits socks for a pastime. He has three knitting machines which he proudly shows off, a 1912 model, a 1915 model and the third one is a newer model, a 1918. They are still in operation. He would like to get some raw wool and spin it with his personal handmade machine to obtain a superior quality yarn. He tells us, if he could buy the right kind of wool, he is able to knit a pair of socks in two evenings, using four needles rather than the machines. In one instance, he bought a three ton truck box full of raw wool from the surrounding farmers. He then took the wool to Sifton and had it spun into yarn. To this day he has a few of those balls of yarn left over. He is a most active person.



Harold Preston knitting machines

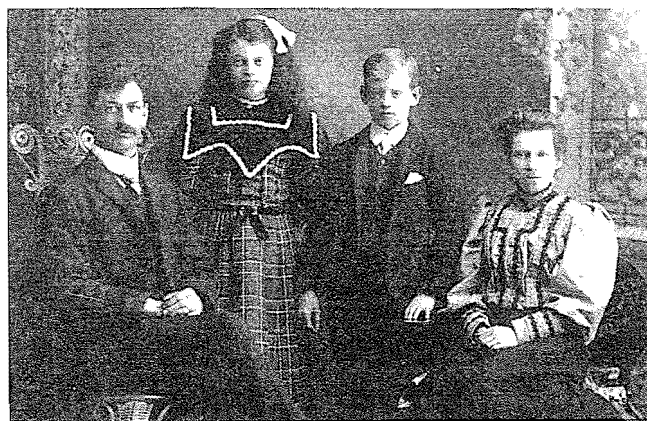
Family Histories

William Sidney Ackerman

submitted by daughter Evelyn

Sidney was born April 18, 1868, in Napance, Ontario, the son of Albert James Ackerman and Anne Elizabeth Aylsworth. He was a Presbyterian.

When his mother died they moved the young family to Harriston, Ontario. It was from Harriston that Sid and his younger brother, Lewis, came with their possessions, cattle and households goods in a boxcar, to Portage la Prairie. This was in March of 1890.



Wm. Sidney Ackerman, Mabel, William (Bill) and wife Annie

He married Mary Ann (Annie) Simpson of the Salem district Portage la Prairie, on his birthday, April 18, 1894, at the home of the bride's parents, Robert Simpson and his wife, Jane Agnew.

He farmed in that area until 1911, when he and his cousin, Edward Ackerman, set out with oxen to homestead in the Magnet area.

This family suffered many hardships. Their two daughters died within a week of each other. One child is buried on the homestead at Magnet; one boy is buried in Harriston, Ontario. With four children gone and his wife dying in 1916, Father moved to Portage with his 8 year old daughter, Thelma Oliva. While visiting his cousin, Ettie Ackerman Lee, Olie backed into an open cellar and suffered severe brain damage.

She died a week later and is buried in Hillside Cemetery at Portage. This was five of his family gone.

In 1918, my dad met and married my mom, Emily Rose Thacker, of Teeswater, Ontario. She was the daughter of Benjamin Bennett Thacker and his wife, Mary Gertrude Winfield.



Emily Thacker Ackerman, 2nd wife of Wm. Sidney Ackerman

We became a family of three, Ralph and Alvin Ackerman and myself, Evelyn Ackerman Robinson.

During the depression, Dad moved us to the Magnet District in 1930. Many, like my father, had lost their jobs and went back to the land.

His son, Bill Ackerman, was farming at Magnet. At this time, a daughter, Mabel, had married a homesteader, Walter Alexander, and had four girls and a son, Eldon Alexander. Two children from the

family were born at Magnet, the other three at Oakville, Manitoba.

He was a great horse man and my mother always said, "Sid Ackerman loved his wife, but oh the horses." His stock was always well cared for.

He suffered a stroke and passed away November 16, 1936, at Magnet and is buried in Hillside Cemetery at Portage.

Emily was born August 4, 1889, on Culross Bruce County, Teeswater, Ontario. She was a beautiful cook, an old time Methodist and Liberal. Her



Seeder, on left, William Sidney Ackerman, Evelyn Robinson's father



Syd Ackerman & cousin Ed on way to homestead in Magnet

grandfather came to Upper Canada in 1918 from England. He was sent by General Pilkington to erect homes for the veterans of the battle of Waterloo.

Emily passed away November 22, 1943, at Victoria Hospital, Winnipeg, and is buried in Hillside Cemetery.

Ralph Ackerman married Geneva Morley of Riding Mountain and they had four children, Richard, Douglas, Ross and Loretta. Rick and Doug died accidentally, Ross lives in Eden and Loretta and her son Craig live in Winnipeg. She is an assistant buyer for Fort Garry Industries.

Alvin Ackerman married Mary Agnus Pennell of Macgregor, Manitoba. They have three children; Earl of McCreary, Lynn, Mrs. G. Nichol of Riding Mountain, and Myrna, Mrs. Richard Suaki of Pinawa, Manitoba.

Evelyn Ackerman married Mark Robinson of Magnet and they have one daughter, Eleanor Irene, who is still living.

Beatrice and William (Bill) Ackerman

William Hector Ackerman was born on February 11, 1896, to William "Sidney" Ackerman and Mary Ann (Simpson) Ackerman in Portage La Prairie.

Ada "Beatrice" Ek was born on September 11, 1896, to Frederick EK and Ada (Adam) Ek in Clearwater, Manitoba.



Beatrice & Bill Ackerman holding Sid, Little Beatrice & Fred

Beatrice and Bill were married in the Makinak church on November 22, 1916, by Rev. William Steenson.

From this union, seven children were born:

Ann "Beatrice", November 23, 1917, married Peter Barnett.

Frederick Hector, June 13, 1920, died June 10, 1937.

Robert "Sidney", April 18, 1922, married Grace Ellen Pont.

Ada Arletta, September 19, 1924, married Edward Patrick Paradis.

Sophie "Edith" Jane, November 29, 1929, married James Aldous Murray.

Edna Mae, November 9, 1932, died April 1936.

Dorothy Ruth, October 15, 1939, married Justin Eugene Assailly.

Bill grew up in the Portage area and attended school at Curtis and Ridge Road. He came to the wild North country in 1913 with his family. For some time he hauled the mail from Makinak to the post offices at East Bay, Million and Freedale.

Beatrice came to Makinak at an early age with her family. Her father worked on the railroad as a section man, and later, as foreman. Fred Ek came to Canada from Sweden when he was seventeen and had helped build the railroad across Canada. Beatrice attended school in Makinak. She was active in the church, was leader of the Mission Band that raised money to pay for the stained glass windows that adorn the church today and also bought the pump organ that is still in use. She played the organ when the regular organist was absent.

Following their marriage they made their home at Magnet. Their homestead was SW 27-27-15. Their house was made of logs and had a shanty roof.

For several years, they lived in Crane River during the winter months while Bill freighted fish across the lakes to Winnipegosis. Beatrice worked for the storekeeper and his wife and cared for her own children and as well as theirs.

To supplement their income, Bill hunted coyotes and trapped fur bearing animals. He loved to hunt and the meat was never wasted. Of course, following any hunt there are stories to be told to family and friends. Beatty, as he called her, often wondered if God would forgive "her Willie" for not always telling the gospel truth.

Bill was always dealing and trading horses. High-spirited horses that charged down the lane on the way home were his pride and joy. Once when a neighbour's sick child needed medical attention and the road was blocked, he took her to Ste. Rose, over 20 miles, by team and caboose.

Bill died May 5, 1964, following a stroke.

Beatrice died September 19, 1985. They are buried in the Million Cemetery where they had buried two of their children and a grandson.

Fred and Laura Ackerman and Family submitted by Alma Ackerman

Fred was born on August 11, 1889, in the Garrick Township County in Bruce, Ontario. He died on December 28, 1962, in Winnipeg.

Laura Chater, his wife, was born on October 31, 1892, in Portage La Prairie. She passed away on August 13, 1972, in Winnipeg.

Fred and Laura were married on May 2, 1913 in Winnipeg. Their children were: Gladys Dreen, now deceased, Alma Eileen, born November 22, 1916 (NW 35 -27- 15 Magnet), Milroy, now deceased, Irene Sheila, born October 27, 1927. She passed away on March 8, 1930.

Fred and Laura homesteaded from 1914 - 1927. Fred worked for the CNR for over 30 years. He retired in August, 1954, and moved to Winnipeg. He was also a carpenter foreman in the Western Provinces and worked last on the Hudson Bay Railway.

Laura enjoyed her homestead and was active in work at St. Paul's United Church.

Alma worked for 31 years in the Eaton's Mail Order Department. She enjoys needlework and bowling.

Our house on the farm burned down in December of 1927, or I guess we would never have left.

Walter Alexander

Walter was the son of David Alexander. He was born October 31, 1880, in Gary, Indiana, U.S.A. He and his father homesteaded in the Magnet district, and he married Mabel Claire Ackerman, the daughter of Sid Ackerman and Annie Simpson on July 30, 1911. Mabel was born January 14, 1895, in the Bethel district of Portage la Prairie.

They had five children. She went to Oakville, Manitoba, to have three of her children. Ethel, Bernice and Merle were born in Oakville; Olga and Elden were born on 34-27-15. Walter died many years ago. Their family was as follows:

Ethel Arlene, born September 1, 1912, married John M. Harignan.

Irene Merle, born November 18, 1913 married Hank Goltz.

Olga Pearl, born April 21, 1915, married Howard Kenneth Armstrong.

Gevendolya Bernice, born March 16, 1917, married Henry Demler.

Walter Eldon, born August 9, 1920, married Thora Marie Thompson.

She moved to Alberta and was instrumental in having a cemetery started in Winfield, Alberta. They named the cemetery "Mount Claire" after her. She was a faithful community worker and was President of the Macakees, a member of the Salvation Army.

She later married Carl Samuelson of Winfield. She passed away on June 19, 1953, and is buried in Mount Claire Cemetery.

The Susan Brunen Family

Susan Brunen, a young widow, and six of her children arrived in Magnet in April of 1949. Three older members of her family were already in Magnet.

Susan left Pilger, Saskatchewan, by train, arriving in Magnet with her cattle, machinery, household goods and furniture in the spring of 1949. She purchased the Harry Barns farm, SE 22-27-15, where Rufus Honish now lives.

Her daughter, Gertie, and husband Roman Kaminski, were already living in Magnet on the next quarter over NE 22-27-15, where Sid Ackerman now lives. They had arrived in 1947. In 1950 Gertie and Roman had a daughter, Teresa, Mrs. Peter Smigelski. In 1956, they adopted a baby daughter, Linda, Mrs. Bob Jamieson. Gertie passed away in July of 1965. Roman later remarried and lives in Dauphin.

Her oldest son, John, and wife, Delphine (Nix), were at that time living on the next quarter, east of Sid Ackerman, known as the Hudson Bay quarter.



Susan Brunen in her flower bed in Magnet

They came to Magnet in 1945 and lived in various places in the area. They had a family of five girls and four boys. Delphine passed away in October of 1963. John now resides in Ochre River.

Her third son, Gerhard, was living alone in Magnet and operating a small blacksmith shop. In 1951, he enlisted in the Canadian Army and spent two years in Germany. He returned in 1953, with a bride (Dorothea Schenoman) and an infant daughter. They had a family of two girls and two boys. One boy passed away in 1970 with leukemia. Gerhard now resides in Ochre River.

In August of 1949, her second daughter, Anna, who had been here since 1948 helping John out on the farm, married Leo Paradis of Rorketon. They had a family of five girls and four boys, among them a set of twins (a girl and a boy). Leo passed away in April of 1995. Anna remains in their home in Dauphin.

In October of 1949, her second son, Joe, married Rita Paradis of Rorketon. They had a family of one girl and five boys. Joe passed away in September of 1973. Rita lives in Drumheller, Alberta.

Louis married Hazel Savage of Winnipeg in April of 1955. They had a family of six boys and two adopted girls. Louis passed away in January of 1978. Hazel remarried later and again is a widow living in Gimli.

Roman married Betty Bray of Mooredale, Manitoba. They have a family of four girls and one boy. Roman is a journeyman mechanic and still works on small motors. They reside in McCreary.

Genevieve, never married, and worked at the Ste. Rose Hospital for twenty-five years as a nurses' aide. She was known to many as an angel of mercy. Her kindness touched the hearts of many of her patients. Jenny passed away in September of 1987 at the age of 49 years.

Katherine, the youngest, married Barry Inkster of Rorketon. She is a nurse (LPN) and worked at Ste. Rose Hospital for thirty years. Now, due to failing health, she remains at home where she and her husband continue to farm. They have a son, Wayne, who is a teacher at the Rorketon School.

Susan became very ill in 1954 and needed to be near a doctor. In March of 1954, she moved to Ste. Rose and remained there until the time of her death in December of 1976. She was one of the first six residents at the Gendreau Personal Care Home in Ste. Rose. In 1957, Susan sold her farm in Magnet to Rufus Honish who still resides there.

George and Pearl (Mckinnon) Budd

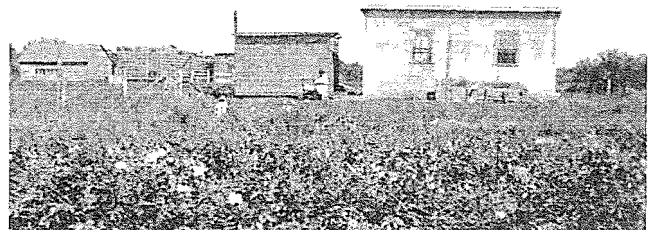
George Budd was born in Tiverton, Devonshire, England, in 1884. He emigrated to Canada in April of 1912, following military service in the Boer War and later in India. He worked first as a farmhand in Southern Saskatchewan. In June 1913, he and his brother, Charles Budd, bought homesteads in the Magnet area. Charles' was SW 35-26-15. When war was declared in 1914, both George and Charles joined the Canadian Army and served in France. Charles died during his war service, but George returned and was discharged in May 1919. The land location on his Settlers Check of Board Chattels form is NW and SW 27-34- 15. His brother, William, also had land adjacent to that owned by George.



George & Pearl Budd with Mary-Ann, Will & Florrie Budd with Bill, Mary and Harry

On September 18, 1926, George married Pearl Louise McKinnon, eldest daughter of Dougal and Mary McKinnon of Magnet. They continued on the farm until October, 1929, when the land was transferred to the Soldier Settlement Board of Canada. In the spring of 1930, they moved to Prongua,

14 27



George Budd Homestead

Saskatchewan, where George again worked as a farm labourer. They later moved to the Winter, Saskatchewan area and then to the Neilburg, Saskatchewan area. They retired in Neilburg and remained there until their deaths, George in January 1973, and Pearl in May 1985.

George and Pearl's two eldest children, Marrian and Charles, were born in Manitoba. Through the years, they had five more sons, Henry in 1931, David in 1933, Gilbert in 1935, Arthur in 1937, George in 1945 and one daughter, Rosemary, in 1948. At this writing, (1995), Marrian and husband, Sterling Graham, still reside at Neilburg. The others are scattered from Vancouver Island to Peterborough, Ontario.

Joe and Rose Czekierda submitted by daughter, Mary

Dad and Mom came from Poland and married in Brandon. They homesteaded one mile east of Rorketon crossing. After their house and barn burned they moved to the Magnet district. They had two daughters, Mary and Helen. Helen married George Moore in Dauphin and they had two sons, Robert and Arthur. They have three grandchildren, Kimberly, John, and Beth Moore.

Mary resides in Toronto.

Mother, Rose, passed away February 1936 and father passed away in Toronto July 1951.

George passed away October 18, 1975 and Helen passed away October 16, 1985.

Jim Gillan submitted by Ethel Highfield

Jim's parents came from Scotland. They had two sons, Sam and Jim, after coming here. The boys attended Magnet School.

Jim was killed in action, May 1944.

Both parents passed away some time later.

Sam passed away in February 1967.

There were no other relatives here.

John and Alvina Haslbeck and Family submitted by Alvina Haslbeck

John is the son of John Sr. and Anna Haslbeck (Dankesreiter), born September 17, 1910, on their farm in the Pilger, Saskatchewan area. John attended school at Lenore Valley School. He later purchased land in the Verndale, Saskatchewan, district.

Alvina is the daughter of John and Apollonia Lueke (Bernauer), born on February 6, 1921, on their farm in the Willmont, Saskatchewan district. She went to school at Keller. John and Alvina were married on July 18, 1944 in Willmont. They farmed



John & Alvina Haselbeck Family



John & Alvina Haselbeck with grandchildren; Back: Jacinta, Sheila, Jame, Jeff, Candida, Iris; Middle: Alvina, Laura John and Christal. Front: Tyler, Kelly, Teri and Daniel.

in the Verndale district for six years. They had two children at that time, and there were no roads to get into their place, so they decided to move. In May 1950 they moved to Magnet. Then in July 1951, they purchased land at East Bay where they resided until July 1965. John and Alvina decided to move to Ste. Rose where John got a job at the creamery as cream truck driver until his retirement. They were blessed with six daughters.

Geraldine was born April 5, 1947 in Humboldt, Saskatchewan Hospital. She attended school at Blue Bell, then later at Ste. Rose. She married Theodore Muzylouski of Winnipeg on July 19, 1969. They had two daughters, Candida, and Iris, deceased. They live in Winnipeg where Ted has been employed by Motor Coach for 26 years. Geraldine

worked at Ste. Rose Bakery for some time, then went to Winnipeg to take a course in hair dressing. She worked at the Elegant Hairstylists Shop until after her marriage. After the girls were born, and older, she worked for a florist for some years.

Bernadette was born November 1, 1948, at the Humboldt, Saskatchewan Hospital. She attended school at Blue Bell and Ste. Rose Collegiate. She married Allan Harper of McCreary, on May 20, 1967. They have two children, Leslie and Sherry. Before she was married, Bernadette was employed at the Royal Bank in Ste. Rose. After they were married, they moved to Winnipeg where Bernadette worked at the Toronto Dominion Bank and Allan took a course in working with heavy machinery. They moved to Brandon where Allan got a job with Feed Rite Mills and Bernadette was employed at the Bank of Montreal. They moved to Abbotsford, British Columbia. Bernadette was transferred to the Abbotsford branch of the Bank of Montreal and Allan worked with his brothers at gravel crushing where he is still employed.



Harper Family, Sherry & Dan , Bernadette & Allan, Mithhel & Leslie

Roseanne was born September 14, 1951, in Ste. Rose Hospital. She received her education at Blue Bell School and Ste Rose Collegiate. She was a waitress at the Lion's Cafe during her high school years and later she worked at the Ste. Rose Hotel Cafe. She married Herbert Henson on August 26, 1972. They have three children, Jacinta, Jeffrey and Sheila. Herbert is a teacher at the Ste. Rose Collegiate and also worked with Access T.V. for some years. Roseanne worked at the Charlie Brown Day Care Centre, then joined the Ste. Rose Regional

Library staff as assistant, then head librarian in 1979. After that she got a job at the library in the Ste. Rose Collegiate. At present, she is employed at the Dauphin Herald in Dauphin. Mary was born on December 18, 1955, in the Ste. Rose Hospital. She received her education in Ste. Rose School and Collegiate. After her graduation, she was employed at the Royal Bank in Ste. Rose. She married Wally Shewchuk on July 25, 1981. They have two children, Christal and Daniel. They live in Meadow Portage. Mary continued working at the Royal Bank in Ste. Rose for some years, then was employed at the Rorketon & District Credit Union as it was closer to home. At present Mary is helping Wally on the ranch.

Deborah was born August 19, 1958, in Ste. Rose Hospital and attended school in Ste. Rose. She worked as a nurses' aide at the hospital, after school during her high school years. Deborah married Lionel Bilodeau, September 22, 1977. They have three daughters, Jaime, Laura and Teri. Deborah was employed at Ste. Rose Hospital as a nurses' aide, then as ward clerk and now as executive secretary. Lionel was employed at Motor Coach in Winnipeg for some years. He is now employed doing home care in town and surrounding area.

Constance was born on October 19, 1963, in Ste. Rose Hospital. She attended school in Ste. Rose. Later on she worked as a Marguerite at the hospital after school. After her graduation, she continued to work at the hospital as a nurses' aide for some time. She married Randy Olson on July 9, 1983. They have two children, Tyler and Kelly. They moved to Charleswood in Winnipeg where Randy was employed at Motor Coach for a few years as an industrial mechanic. He also worked at Weston Bakery and at present he is working at the Geoplast plant, plastics - extruders in Winnipeg. While in Charleswood, Connie was employed at Woolco in Grant Park Plaza. They purchased an acreage in Grosse Isle. She is now employed in Stonewall Hospital and Nursing Home as housekeeper.

In July, 1989, John and Alvina celebrated their 45th Wedding Anniversary with all their children and their families with the exception of two grandchildren. John passed away on February 10, 1991. Alvina moved to the Trois Villas in October 1991.

The Highfield Family **submitted by Ethel Highfield**

Thomas, John and Harry Highfield came to Canada in 1912. They worked at Portage la Prairie for one year, then came to Magnet. Harry returned



Charlotte Annie & Thomas Highfield with sons Walter & Ronald

to England. Thomas took a homestead at SE 14-27-15. Jack (John) lived there and worked for farmers around the area. When war broke out, Thomas joined the army and returned to England. He was wounded in 1918. He married Charlotte Annie James on June 12th before coming home in the fall. In 1920, Charlotte Annie came to Canada with a baby son, 19 month old Thomas Ronald James Highfield.

Edgar Walter was born in 1921.

Twins, Dorothy and Lily were born in 1923. Lily died at birth and Dorothy died at three years old.

Elsie died at birth in 1926.

Charlotte Annie passed away in 1931.

Ronald married Ethel McKinnon in 1940.

Walter never married. He lives east of Rorketon with his companion, Mary Ahmo.

Thomas Samuel and Dorothy are buried in Million Cemetery. Charlotte Annie is buried in Brookside Cemetery in Winnipeg, and John is in the Magnet Cemetery.

John William Highfield

submitted by Ethel Highfield

John, better known as Uncle Jack, came to Canada from England with brothers Tom and Harry.



John W. Highfield

They worked in the Brickyard at Portage La Prairie, then on a farm before coming to Magnet.

Jack lived with his brother, Tom, and worked for farmers around the area. He spent his later years with his nephews, Ronald and Walter.

Jack passed away in February of 1974, at 84 years of age. He is buried in the Magnet Cemetery.

Ronald and Ethel Highfield

Thomas Ronald James Highfield was born in Shrewsbury, England and came to Canada with his mother in 1920. He married Ethel McKinnon in 1940. They farmed on SE 15-27-15. In 1959, they purchased NW 34-26-15 and moved there as they would have a good water supply.

In 1941, Ron joined the Army, trained as a Driving Instructor and Motor Mechanic. He was a L/Cpl. He went overseas and worked on service vehicles in England until the end of the war. He came home in December 1945, and was discharged in March 1946.

Ron and Ethel had five children. They started school at 6 years of age and walked one and a half miles to Magnet School. Later, they were bused to the Rorketon School. The family belonged to the United Church at Magnet.



Ethel & Ronald Highfield & Family. Leslie's wife, Leslie, Cory, Gilbert, Fred, Joyce & Sonny, Ron & Joy. Ethel & Ronald in front



Ethel & Ronald Highfield & Family

Ronald Charles completed Grade 8. He left home at 16, first working in Dauphin, then Lynn Lake, then back to Dauphin where he worked for Blackwoods Beverages and became manager. He married Joy Bennett, and they have three children: Judy, Allan and Karen. They live in Dauphin.

Gilbert James completed Grade 7 at Magnet School. At 15, he worked in Dauphin, then went to Flin Flon, mining. He married Corinne Weaver and they have two children, Cheryl and David. Gilbert and Corrie live at Edmonton.

Joyce Elza Mary completed Grade 12 at Rorketon Collegiate. She went to work in Winnipeg at age 18. She married Sunny Korman and they have three children: Sharlynn, Bruce (Dr.) and Karla. They live at Ste. Anne, Manitoba.

Frederick Allan completed Grade 10. He went to Winnipeg to work at age 17, then to Flin Flon, mining. He married and divorced Carol Meyer. They had three children: Jim, Jeff and T.J. Fred lives at Thompson. His son Jeff, and Darcy gave Ron and Ethel their first great granddaughter, Tessa.

Lesley Orville completed Grade 12 at Ste. Rose. At 18 he went to work in Dauphin. He married and divorced Mary Anne Jenessen. They have three children: Mark, Brian and Cindy. Les lives in Winnipeg.

Ron, Ethel, and their children lived a typical farming life of hard work.

In 1966, the Magnet Post Office was moved to Ron and Ethel's home and continued there until it closed down in 1970.

Ron was very sports-minded and from a young age, played baseball and hockey, which are still favourites on television. In 1991, Ron suffered a

stroke and is confined to a wheelchair, but it has not affected his memory. He still has a farm at Magnet. They live in Ste. Rose.

Ethel, as a 4-H leader for 18 years, taught many of the girls in the community to sew and do crafts, of which she is still very fond. Quilting is still a favourite pastime.

Hindle History

submitted by Elizabeth Kozarowski

My parents, Ada Jones and Henry Hindle were married at St. George's Church in Heywood, England, on December 18, 1908. They worked on a dairy farm for two years before immigrating to Canada in 1910. They landed at Roland, Manitoba, working for a farmer for awhile. Then Dad went to Dauphin and took out a homestead in the Magnet area where they built a two-room log home.

It was a real hardship for my parents, especially for Mother as she was used to a better way of life. On February 20, 1913, I was born. They named me Elizabeth. I was born in the Preston home. Mrs. Preston was the midwife.

Next was sister Bessie, then Millie, then Minnie. Mrs. Preston was a wonderful lady, helping many expectant mothers in those hard years.

In 1934 I married William Evans of Brookdale. From this union, there were five children. Ada mar-



Hindle Family, Ada, Elizabeth, Henry, Bessie, Minnie, & Nellie

ried Murray Reed, and they have three children, Brian, Barry and Bruce.

Tom married Lucy Koraluk, and they had three children, Leslie (deceased), Gail, and Donald.

Arlyne (deceased).

Wendy married George Crooks, and they have two children, Greg and Garth.

Betty Lou married Barry Pierce, and they have two children, Dean and Deanna.

Bessie, Mrs. Gordon Brennan, passed away in 1987. Mother passed away in 1974; Dad in 1964. Arlyne was laid to rest in 1947 and grandson, Leslie Evans, in 1983.

In 1970, I married Angus Kozoraski. We had a very active life in the livestock business and mixed farming, which we both enjoyed, until he became ill with Alzheimers and passed away in 1991.

I still live in my own home on the farm, drive my own car, and enjoy trips across the prairies to visit my children and grandchildren.

I feel I'm one of the lucky people growing up in the pioneer days, no money or luxuries in the past, only experience, which makes one appreciate the better things in life today.

In the pioneer days, neighbors were a source of strength, ready to help in time of need, which was many times.

Harry and Ada Hindle Family History submitted by Minnie Carter

I am the youngest of four daughters born to British parents, Henry and Ada Esther (Jones) Hindle. Elizabeth, Mrs. Angus Kozoroski in Neepawa. Bessie (deceased) Mrs. Gordon Brennan, in Vegreville. Nellie, Mrs. Clarence White, in Neepawa, and Minnie, Mrs. Rex Carter, also in Neepawa.

My parents were married in Heywood Lane, England, in 1908. They both came from large families. Work was scarce so, after reading in their newspapers that Canada had land for \$10.00 a quarter section, they decided to immigrate to Canada. They sold all their worldly belongings to get enough money to come, said "Good-Bye" to their family and sailed for Halifax, then came by rail to Winnipeg.

My parents soon acquired a job on a dairy farm in Roland, Manitoba. After a year, he had enough money and experience to file on their homestead in the Magnet district in 1911.

Before a title for the land could be obtained, a certain amount of land had to be broken each year. It was essential for father to find work. He found

employment in Oakland, Manitoba. Before leaving he cleared a spot of land and built a log cabin.

After some time in Oakland, Father returned to get my mother and sister whom he took to Portage la Prairie by oxen. My mother worked for a doctor and his wife.

After a year, they once again returned to the homestead in Magnet. They bought a yoke of oxen and a walking plough. Together they worked long hours.

My sister, Elizabeth, was born in Mrs. Preston's house. Three of us were born in the log cabin with Mrs. Preston, a midwife, in attendance. At times, her husband would bring us food.

One winter when I was almost a year old, we girls contracted whooping cough. Mrs. Preston happened to stop by. When she saw how sick we were, she stayed to help. She was with us for three days. The home remedy she used was effective.

My father would take various employment to earn a few dollars. He dug wells for neighbors, at times digging down 70 feet. Another man would be standing at the top of the well, pulling up the clay, in a pail and finally pulling up my father. My mother was always concerned.

We walked three and a half miles to school. We would bring our dog with us to frighten the wolves.

We girls worked hard at the various chores. We shipped cream to Ste. Rose by train. Keeping the cream sweet was a big problem, so my father invented a cooling system. It was built of cement with two compartments. We had to pump water through these compartments which held the cream. It meant doing this many times a day.

When I was 16, I left home to find work in the Brookdale area, mostly on farms for \$10.00 a month. In 1937, I returned home. My mother met me in an open cutter.

I married Rex Carter in Dauphin on November 5, 1938. We farmed in the Million district for four years. Our eldest daughter was born in Million on July 24, 1942.

In spring of 1943, Rex bought a farm 100 miles south in the Mentmore district. The two families decided to move to the Mentmore district.

My parents had bought a house on the outskirts of Neepawa and kept a few Jersey cows. They sold the milk in town. Mother became crippled with arthritis and suffered terribly.

With our baby daughter, Rex and I moved into our new home at Mentmore. In 1944, our daughter, Dorothy, was born.

We bought another farm in Brookdale, later buying the adjoining section.

On August 20, 1949, our son, Don, was born. In the fall of 1956, my parents moved back to Magnet. However, they were in poor health and soon realized their mistake. My father took a stroke. In 1964, my parents moved in with us at Brookdale. My father died in Carberry Hospital. My mother moved to our farm at Brookdale. She was with us for ten years and on April 24, 1974, she took sick and died in the Health Sciences Centre.

On April 9, 1957, our youngest daughter, Linda, was born.

In 1974, we decided to give up farming. We sold the farm and built a house on 3rd Ave., Neepawa, where I still reside.

In 1987, our daughter, Marilyn, was tragically killed in a car accident, leaving a void in our lives.

My husband Rex died on June 23, 1995, at the age of 90 years, 10 months, after a lengthy and courageous battle with cancer. There has been a lot of sadness in my life.

Nellie Hindle (Martin White) **submitted by Nellie White**

Nellie is the third daughter of Ada and Harry Hindle. She was born September 27, 1916, on the farm, 18-27-15, in the Magnet district. She walked three miles to Blue Bell School.

Nellie's Mother and Dad, Ada and Harry Hindle worked very hard clearing the bush and milking cows for a living. Ada and Harry had four girls.

In September, 1937, Len Martin and Nellie Hindle of Magnet were married in Neepawa and lived on his land NW 11. In the spring of 1943, they bought a farm one mile north of Neepawa and moved there. In April, 1964, Len was injured in a two-car accident. The neighbours and relatives organized a seeding bee and sowed his crop for him. Due to poor health, they sold the farm and retired to Neepawa in May 1968. The farm was resold to Roger Kozoroski who still owns it.

Len passed away in November 1972.

Len and Nellie raised a family of four: Donna(1939); Gary (1941); Patricia (1945) and Darcy (1956).

In the 1972-73 season, Nellie donated the Lenard A. Martin Memorial Trophy for the most sportsman-like and most improved player of the Minor Bantam Hockey at the 13 year old level, in memory of her husband. This trophy is still being awarded annually to the player who is selected by the team's coaching staff.

Donna married Watt Simpson in 1962. They spent almost thirteen years (1968 - 1981) in West

Germany where they were both employed with the Canadian Armed Forces Overseas. In August, 1982, they moved to Victoria, British Columbia, where they are presently employed.

Gary became a great hockey player and a baseball player in his younger years. He has received his Master's and Ph.D. Degrees and is still a Psychology Professor at the University of Manitoba. In January 1960, he married Lois Margaret McKee of Neepawa and had three children: Kelly (1960), Scott (1962) and Tana Sue (1964). After his divorce, he married Jackie Lynne Brodie of Winnipeg and had two more children: Toby (1971) and Todd (1974).

Patricia married Calvin McFarlane in 1962 and had two children: Dale (1963) and Lori (1966). Later she remarried to Glen Collins and lives at Walton, Nova Scotia. She had another child, Mark (1974).

Darcy lives in Winnipeg and is still single. She is presently employed with the Manitoba Government in the Crop Insurance office.

In June 1978, Nellie married Clarence White. They live in Lytle's Trailer Court. Clarence & Nellie have been caretakers of the Legion Hall, Lake Irwin(1980 and '81), Masonic Hall and the Neepawa United Church which they did for almost nine years (1980 - 1988). Now they are retired and enjoying life. Nellie belongs to the Neepawa Order of the Royal Purple and the Legion Ladies Auxiliary.

Sidney P. Jones 1878-1959 **submitted by Edith Murray**

Sid Jones came to Canada from Wales. He was a veteran of the Boer War.

Sid worked for the CNR during the summer months on B & B gangs, making repairs to stock yards, loading platforms and stations. He lived at Magnet during the winter months on SE 27- 27-15W. He rented the farm fields to W.H. Ackerman.

Mr. Jones owned one of the first radios in the district. He welcomed those who would enjoy hearing Foster Hewitt broadcast the hockey games on Saturday night and then stay on to hear Lulabette and Scotty on W.L.S. Chicago.

When he retired, he lived here year round and grew a large garden to share with neighbours.

He preferred to use snow-shoes rather than walk in the winter. Once a week, he'd cross the field to get a loaf of mother's homemade bread.

Sid returned to his homeland once, and was pleased to see the family, but Canada was home to him. He is buried in the Magnet Cemetery.



Sidney P. Jones

Otto and Eleanora (Laura) Kraska

Otto and Eleanora Kraska moved from Middle Lake, Saskatchewan, to Magnet in June, 1948. They farmed for seventeen years, then moved to Dauphin in 1965. In 1989, they moved to Lorette where Laura now lives. Otto passed away in 1992. They have eight children, twenty-three grandchildren and twenty-one great grandchildren.

Charlotte attended Magnet School, married Harry Anderson, has a girl and two boys, Debra, Clarence, and Brent and has six grandchildren. Charlotte passed away in 1988.

Paul attended Magnet School, married Yvette Piche, has three girls, Laura, Sherry and Shannon.

He divorced, married Carol Huraska and now lives in Flin Flon with two grandchildren.

Lorraine attended Magnet School, married Leo Huber and has two boys, Eric and Kurt. They live in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, and have one grandchild. Leo passed away in 1996.

Anna attended Magnet, Dane McCarthy and Ste. Rose du Lac Schools. She married John Chaput and has five boys, and one girl: Dennis, James, Andrew, Jacqueline, Gordon and Douglas. Gordon passed away in 1978. Anna lives in Lorette, Manitoba, and has eleven grandchildren.

Charles attended Magnet and Dane McCarthy Schools, married Isabella Sovie and has two girls, Lara Lee and Dawn. Charles lives in Lorette.

Armella attended Magnet and Dane McCarthy Schools, married Wayne Frank and has one girl, Larna, and one boy, Everette. Armella divorced and married Art Lamontagne and now lives in Thompson.

Albert attended Dane McCarthy and Dauphin Schools, married Hilda Rudkevitch and has three girls, Maxine, Bernadette and Catlin. Albert now lives in Dauphin and has one grandchild.

Marie attended Dane McCarthy and Dauphin Schools, married Frank Vincente and has two boys, Vince and Chad. She now lives in Thompson.



B: Armella, Carl, Ann, Lorraine, Paul, Charlotte. Seated: Marie, Laura, Otto & Albert Kraska

The MacKinnon Family

**submitted by granddaughters Margaret Smith,
Eveleen Turnbull and Ethel Highfield**

John MacKinnon and Mary Ann MacDonald

John MacKinnon and wife, Mary Ann MacDonald, left Scotland and came to Manitoba in 1878. They settled at Shoal Lake, Manitoba. They had two children then, Dougal and Sarah. Six children were born to them later: Tena, Susan, Lauchlin, Julia, Mary and Donald. They moved to Dauphin in 1889. Mary Ann returned to Shoal Lake to have another baby. This one they named Johnnie (1891).

In 1893 they moved to Ste. Rose and ranched north and west of where the town is now. They started a small store and hauled groceries from Brandon, Arden and Gladstone. John MacKinnon also bought cattle here, herded them all summer and drove them to Brandon in the fall across the mountains by horseback. The old trail still exists. This was always known as the Mackinnon Trail. The "a" was dropped out of MacKinnon, much to the dismay of older relatives.

On his first visit to Ste. Rose, he met with Mr. Adam, Dode's Father. They had come to Ste. Rose together. Once John MacKinnon drove cattle to Brandon, and he lost his dog. A week after he returned home, the dog managed to find his way back home. In 1887, they moved to East Bay where Methley Beach is now. For years this was known as McKinnon Beach and was always a nice place for a picnic. A little girl, Annie Mae, was born to them here, but died when she was three years old.

They built a house, along the trail, and covered it with red tin. It became known as the red house on the prairie. It was a stop over for many travelers and new homesteaders who were going north. They also had a small store there. In later years, the house was moved away.

In 1910, Mr. McKinnon was killed in a street car accident in Winnipeg. His widow lived in East Bay until the family grew up. In 1909, Johnnie got a homestead, SW 17-27-15, at Magnet and a few years later, his mother got one nearby, NW 16-27-15. She passed away in 1929. The homesteads are still in the family.

Mary Ann's parents' names were Lauchlin MacDonald and Mary MacDougall. They remained in Scotland. The younger adults came to Canada. These MacKinnons are buried in Turtle River Cemetery.

Ann Madsen

submitted by Jean Murray Person

Ann Madsen lived in the Magnet area and had a brother, Glen. She married Ray Liscombe and they made their home in Bloomington, Minnesota and in California. They have two children, David and Janice. Ann's brother Glen passed away several years ago.

Charles G. Barnett and Euphemea McDougal

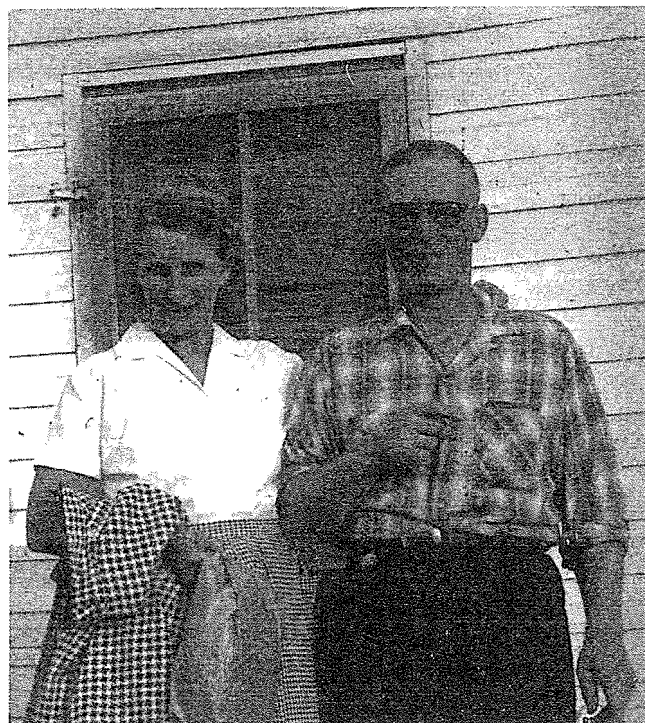
Charles and Euphemea were married in Scotland in 1911, came to Canada, lived in Portage La Prairie for a short time, then moved to Ochre River where Peter was born in 1912 and Eian in 1913.

Charles was a piper and joined the thirteenth battalion and then the one hundred thirty-ninth battalion as pipe major in the "First World War" serving in Europe.

After the war, he moved his family to a farm south west of Magnet in the early 1920's. The boys attended Magnet school.

Charles joined the Veterans' Home Guard in 1941, as acting pipe major, when the Second World War broke out. He was stationed in Ontario, guarding prisoners of war and playing his bagpipes on occasion in Espauloa and Ozada.

Charles played bagpipes at the Magnet Scottish Concerts every twenty-fifth of January, on Robert



Eian & Edna Barnett

Burns night. Charles always wore his Scottish regalia, kilts and all. He led many school parades, taught his boys the Scottish dances. Delphine Smith and Gertrude Preston were his "star" pupils.

He was leader of the Poultry Club of Magnet and assisted in various social functions in and around Magnet district.

Mrs. Barnett passed away in 1941 and Charles in 1951 after a bout with cancer in Veterans' Hospital in Winnipeg.

Eian Barnett married Edna Hafenbrak in 1935 and lived on a farm three miles south of Magnet. Less than a month after their marriage, Eian became blind in his left eye when hit with a hockey stick.

Edna taught school at Magnet School for two years before her marriage and two more in later years, one year in Million and one year as the first teacher of Dane McCarthy school, three miles south of Magnet. They have two boys, Francis and Stanley.

Times were hard in the thirties and forties so Eian worked in the Red Lake, Ontario mines, Kitchener rubber factory, and at a Churchill supply store.

During the 1950's and early 60's, they operated the Magnet Store and Post Office. School teachers boarded at the store residence for five years. During this time period, Edna taught at Molesworth School near Glenella for two years, and Eian worked for the "Good Roads" out of Dauphin. Wes Anger was his boss.

In 1965, they moved to Rorketon where Eian was foreman for the "Department of Manitoba Highways" for several years. Edna worked in Rorketon Post Office for a time. Eian died in 1981, and in 1983, Edna moved to Dauphin and resides in Kinsmen Villa.

Francis Barnett attended Magnet Grade School and Rorketon High School. He worked out at an early age and now lives in Prince George. He is a trucker, does road maintenance and is an excellent mechanic.

Stanley Barnett attended grade school at Magnet and Rorketon High School. He attended University in Winnipeg and graduated as a professional engineer. He worked in Ottawa and then Moncton in Department of Transportation for the Government, specializing in radar. He took early retirement and is now living in Riverview, New Brunswick.

Ernest and Mayme McGeorge submitted by Olive McIntyre

My dad and mom came from Missouri in 1910 on an immigrant train, in April of 1910, along with



Mr. & Mrs. Ernest McGeorge

several others, all to take out homesteads. He was weed inspector for a year or two and travelled the whole township by horse and buggy. If he was at a place during meal time, he was always invited.

My parents' names' were Ernest and Mayme McGeorge. He was a barber and she was a school teacher. The first winter, they lived in a tent, but had a heater in it. They put down their lovely rug, and survived. They ate mostly moose, deer, and rabbits. They were ten miles from the town of Ste. Rose, as the crow flies.

They constructed a small frame shack, about ten by twelve feet. The next year, I was born in 1912 and there was no place for a baby. So they made up a cradle with a sheet or blanket, and fastened it over the bed, and there I was, snug and warm. My mom taught school at East Bay one year and in 1913 she was in Magnet for one year. She lived in a shed with me, one year old, and sixteen year old Ruby Wishert was my babysitter. I am 83 now, and Ruby has just gone into a home in Dauphin. Out of the forty-nine who came to homestead, only three families stayed. One was the Middleton family at East Bay, Harve and Ette, and they had one daughter, Mildred, who married Carl Christenson. The Burnett family lived one mile east of us. Their nephew lived with them. His first name was Harry and I believe he moved to Ontario. He married a girl from Makinak. I believe George and Charlie Peal lived a mile north of us, was single for years, but finally married.

I do remember my dad getting some horses.

Before that, we had a team of oxen and when we got the horses from the neighbors, we felt like we'd gone up in the world. When I was a couple of years old, we all moved to Hudson Bay Junction where my dad ran a barber shop and pool room. As soon as they got a stake, back they came to the farm, put up a good sized log house, a small barn, and bought three horses and five or six head of cattle.

John Alexander McKinnon and Elza Cook

In 1909, Johnnie took up a homestead in Magnet, SW 17-27-15. In 1913, he married Elza Cook. They had eleven children:

Hazel Mary married Harold Preston. They had twelve children.



John & Elzamae McKinnon Family. Back: Donald, Bert, Clarence, Lloyd. Middle: Evelyn, Jean, Margaret, Ethel, Elza Mae, Hazel, Shirley. Front: John & Elza Mae

Clarence William married Marjorie Barrow. They had two children.

Lloyd John married Elsie Scott. They had two children.

Bert married Agnes Cummings. They had two children. He joined the Army, in 1940, with the Cameron Highlanders and then transferred to the Winnipeg Grenadiers to go to Hong Kong in 1941. He was taken a prisoner of war on Christmas Day. They had no word of him until a telegram came in 1945, saying he was alive and placed on a hospital ship after the Japanese had surrendered. He had been in a Japanese Prison Camp. He arrived home in October 1945. He never regained his health. He passed away in 1953, in Vancouver, where he and Agnes lived with their two children.

Elza Annie Mae married Thomas Moffatt. They had two children.

Ethel married Ronald Highfield. They had five children.

Eveleen married Arnold Turnbull. They adopted two children.

Margaret married Richard Smith. They had five children.

Donald Henry married Anne Lambert. They had four children.

Jeanette married Stephen Fortin. They had one child.

Shirley married Earle Richardson. They had three children.

Johnnie broke his first land using one ox and one mule. He always took a load of wheat in the fall to Sifton, to have it made into flour, bran and shorts, as well as cereals. Elza was an excellent homemaker. There was always plenty to eat, and of course the old stand-by, rhubarb. To pay taxes, the farmers were allowed to work on the roads. They called this "Statute Labour". They used horses to do this job, and each farmer could do so many hours of work.

The farmers in a four mile radius built their own school in Magnet. The same families built a log hall for the community which was also used for church. When the school closed in 1967, it was sold to the Magnet Women for a community church and social functions. The United Church and non denominational groups used this building. The families who supported the school were of mixed denominations. We had our own little United Nations.

Johnnie and Elza and Hazel and Elza Mae are buried in the Magnet Cemetery. He told of seeing the railroad, elevator, stores, bank, boarding house, blacksmith shop and school come to Magnet. He saw it all taken away again and said, "It was a sad day to see it."

Although this was a large family they have all stayed close together, many of them still living near where they grew up. Those who do not are still close enough for get-togethers, for coffee, birthdays and anniversaries.

John Alexander passed away February 9, 1975.

Elza Cook passed away February 5, 1962.

Hazel passed away February 26, 1982.

Clarence passed away March 22, 1966.

Bert passed away August 5, 1953.

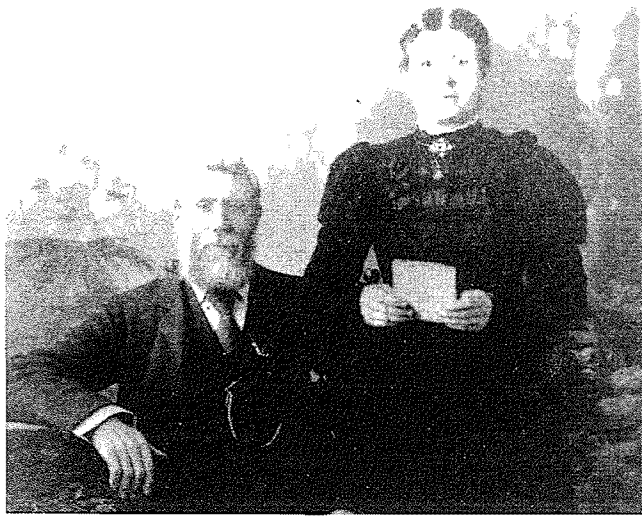
Elza Mae passed away June 15, 1993.

Jean passed away December 16, 1955.

Dougall McKinnon

submitted by Alex McKinnon

Dougall McKinnon was born in Tiree, Scotland in 1872. He came to Canada when he was six years old with his parents, John and Mary Ann



John McKinnon & Maryann McDonald

McKinnon. Dougall married Mary McLean of Brandon, 1887-1968. Dougall and Mary settled at Magnet in 1907, relocating from Makinak. They settled on NW21-27-15. They moved around to other farms, but never far from Magnet. They raised a family of eleven children: Pearl, Myrtle, Ivy, Marrion, John, Tena, Olive, Donald, Julia, Dougall and Alex. They also raised two grandsons, Charlie McKinnon and Duncan McKinnon. They retired to a small parcel of land, 15-27-15, just outside



Pearl, Dougall's mother Mary Ann, Pearl's son Charlie

Magnet village. Dougall passed away January, 1946, and Mary lived there until she passed away in December 1968.

Dougall raised cattle and horses. He was a great horseman and always owned good horses. He was probably best known for the team of moose he drove in his younger days at Makinak.



Dougall McKinnon, 1902

Mary was the gardener and did a lot of canning. And that is what we lived on, in the long cold winters. I remember father shipped two cows in the 1930's and did not get enough to pay the shipping costs.

Pearl married George Budd who farmed two miles south of Magnet. They moved to Neilbury, Saskatchewan, in 1932, and raised eight children.

Myrtle married Bill Stewart at Carman, Manitoba. They had one daughter, Yvonne, of Winnipeg. They farmed at Carman.

Ivy married Roy Heward; they farmed south of Brandon, then moved to Portage la Prairie. They had four children: Cyril, Anna May, Rose Marie and Brian.

Marrion married George Kendle who worked for the CNR at Forrest, Manitoba. They later moved to Wellwood, Manitoba, where they farmed. They had six children, all girls: Dorothy, Margery, Georgina, Jean, Bea, and Shirley.

John was never married.

Tena married George McElroy. They had six children: Peter, George, Alex, Gloria, Marrion and Evelyn. George passed away, and after her children

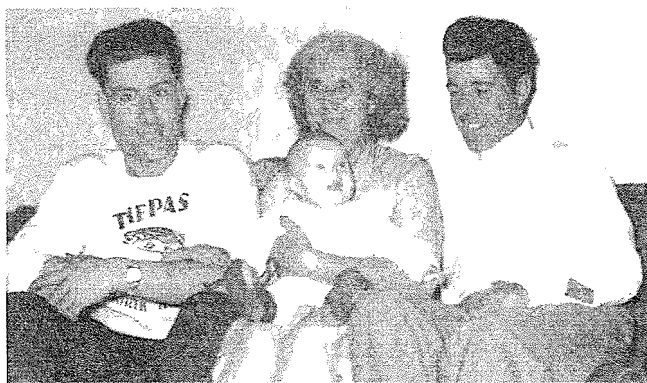
were grown, Tena married Mr. Mayers. They had two children, John and Emily.

Olive married Bill Goodwin. He worked for the CNR at Clanwilliam, Manitoba. They had one daughter, Kathleen.

Donald married Virginia Christensen. They had two children, Donna and Carl. They farmed in the East Bay district for years and years.

Julia married John Spence from Melita. They had seven children: Larry, Sylvia, Wayne, Garnet, Barry, Susan, and Brenda. John passed away, and Julia married Robert Malfiat. And what a happy old couple they are.

Dougal married Pat Contton from Hartney, Manitoba. They had two children: Laurie and Blain. Dougal worked for Manitoba Hydro until he retired at Selkirk.



Dougal, Mother and Alex and Alex's daughter Carol

Alex worked in the mines in Snow Lake, Red Lake, Ontario, Lynn Lake, Leaf Rapids, and Flin Flon. He was a miner for four years, then tried diamond drilling for Midwest Diamond Drilling at Flin Flon. Alex married Aileen Roberts from Herb Lake, Manitoba. They had five children: Carol, twins



Donald & Charlie McKinnon

Shirley and Sandra, Allan and James. In May, 1961, they moved to Lynn Lake where Alex became a diamond driller and later a mechanic for Sheritt Gordon mines until his retirement in Dauphin, in 1992.

Duncan never married and worked as a farm labourer and later for the R.M. of Lawrence.

Charlie married Irene Sabiston. They have six children: Floyd, Terry, Debbie, Vince, Kelly and Myrna. Charlie is a contractor for Repap Manitoba Inc. at The Pas. Charlie and Irene live at Wanless, Manitoba. They also own a purebred Charolais cattle ranch at Minitonas, Manitoba.

Famous Team

Many people have heard about Manitoba's famous team of moose, but I may be the last man alive who knows the whole story, as told to me by the man who broke and drove the moose himself. That man was Dougall, McKinnon. I lived on a farm near his and was his friend for 25 years.

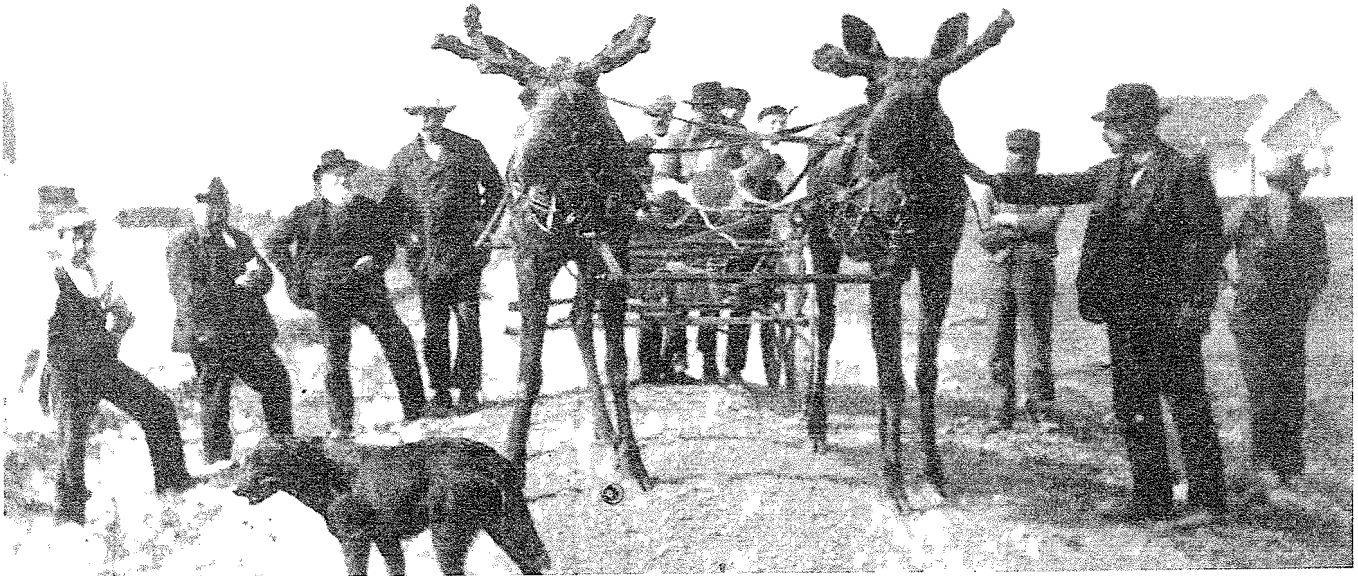
The story of the moose began in the spring of 1902, when Walter Arthur Anderson, who homesteaded in the foothills of the Riding Mountains, south of the hamlet of Makinak, decided to go hunting for big game. The area was heavily wooded and moose and elk were plentiful. Bull moose shed their antlers in midwinter so Anderson could not tell the bulls from the cows. After he had shot a moose he found browsing in a thick hazel nut brush, he discovered it had been a female, with twin male calves at its side.

Anderson knew they would starve without their mother, but he did not want to destroy them. Instead, he took them home and raised them on cow's milk from a bottle. They grew quickly and became quite tame.

A young neighbour named Dougall McKinnon, who was a good horseman, suggested to Anderson that he break them in to drive like a team of horses. Anderson was a man in his 60s, so he let McKinnon try his hand at the job.

First McKinnon had them neutered to keep them docile and prevent them from developing into large and aggressive bulls. Then he broke them to lead. He put a harness on them, hitched each one separately to a small log, and taught them to pull and to start and stop at his command.

It was winter time, so when he had them broken, he hitched them together on a bobsleigh and drove them on bush trails at a fast pace. He was the only man who could handle them. In the spring, Anderson had the harness-maker in Makinak make



Dougall McKinnon's famous team

a set of double-driving harness so Dougall could hitch them on to a buggy.

The only roads in the area were logging trails and two main trails that followed the ridges on the northeast side of the mountains between Neepawa and Dauphin. One was the Cameron Trail, blazed by an early pioneer; the other the Burrows Trail, was blazed by the crew of a lumber baron. McKinnon and the team of moose were a common sight on those early trails, swiftly passing every other vehicle.

McKinnon had a girlfriend named Mary McLean who lived in the Brandon hills, 80 miles south of Makinak. On a fine spring day in 1905, he hitched the moose to a buggy and headed down the Burrows Trail toward the Brandon hills. He crossed the Assiniboine River on the ferry at Treesbank, then forded the Souris River and headed west. After a few days stay, during which he drove Mary around the hills, Dougall drove the moose and buggy to Grand Forks, North Dakota, where he and Mary eloped. They returned from their honeymoon to a homestead in the Magnet district, 20 miles from Makinak.

In July, 1905, Anderson and McKinnon decided to show the team of moose at the Brandon fair and exhibition. P.T. Barnum's show and circus were there. When Mr. Barnum saw the team of moose hitched to a buggy, he offered Anderson \$500.00 for them. But first, he wanted them to lead the parade in front of the grandstand. McKinnon hitched the moose to a sulky with a tongue. Barnum was well pleased. But Anderson said, "If they are worth \$500,

they are worth \$600." Barnum replied, "I will give you six hundred if they can beat the horses in a race."

McKinnon entered the moose in a race against the horses, and the moose won! When Anderson upped the price to \$700, Barnum balked and the sale was lost. McKinnon was disappointed and angry, because Barnum had promised him a job driving the moose in his show circuit. He refused to drive for Anderson any more.

Anderson hired another man, a stranger, to drive them, but they ran away with him, smashing the harness and sulky. Then one day, Anderson was leading the moose down the aisle in a horse barn in Brandon, when a horse, spooked by the sight, kicked out and broke the leg of one of the moose. The animal had to be destroyed.

A week later, the other moose got sick and died. Some people said it died of a broken heart, but McKinnon told me the moose died because the new driver did not feed it any brush. Brush is the natural diet of moose and McKinnon had fed them an armful every day. It was a sad ending for the famous team of moose.

Lloyd and Elsie McKinnon and Family

Lloyd, second eldest son, third child of a family of eleven children of John A. McKinnon and Elza (Cook) McKinnon, was born in the Ste. Rose district on May 17, 1917. He grew up on his parents' farm at Magnet. He attended school at Magnet and also helped with the farm work at home.

Later, he took over the family farm and bought



Lloyd & Elsie McKinnon's 50th Wedding Anniversary. Sitting: Doreen Scott, Elsie, Lloyd, Eveleen Turnbull. Standing: Tom & Diane McKinnon and Gladys & Mervin McKinnon

the quarter section, SE 17-27-15, from their neighbours, Mr. and Mrs. Abe Coats, who had four children, Bill, Olive, Evelyn and Gladys. They decided to sell out and moved to Portage La Prairie.

There were a few acres of land broken and a house. Lloyd worked, gradually broke up a few more acres and slowly set up a farming business of his own.

That's where I came into the picture, Elsie Scott, daughter of Thomas and Jane (Booth) Scott of Million district, about eight miles west, near Lake Dauphin. I had been raised there with my two brothers, John and Gerald.

Lloyd and I were married April 19, 1941 in Dauphin United Church. We moved into our farm home and began our happily, married life together.

We raised two sons: Mervin, born June 21, 1942, and Tommie, born April 3, 1944. They attended Magnet School for two or three years, then Coronation School. Because we lived near the highway, several neighbours would bring their cars and leave them in our yard for the winter. Then they came to our farm with horses if they wanted to go to Rorketon or Ste. Rose to see the doctor.

In about 1955, Tommie had trained a dog team on a toboggan which was used for transportation to school for Mervin, himself, also Stanley and Beverly Robinson. Friday evening, the teacher, Gloria Pich, would catch a ride to our farm where someone would pick her for the weekend.

We boarded a few teachers. Mervin's second teacher in Magnet was Gordon Reynolds. He and Mervin drove a horse and buggy to school that spring.

In the summer of 1948, we had a tornado rip through our yard and take the roof off our house. We



Mervin McKinnon, Stanley & Beverly Robinson, Tommy McKinnon with dog team used for transportation to school.

just got downstairs with the kids in our arms in time. Such a roar and bang! The next morning, the boys' little beds were a pile of crumpled steel on the ground beside the house. One thing that made it easier to bear was to have our children safe. None of us were hurt. It picked up a building with two hundred chickens almost ready to sell, and it went with the wind. There weren't enough boards left to build a doghouse. Clothes and belongings were scattered a half mile, some were gone completely. We lived in two granaries the rest of the summer. We had no insurance. We had to build a new house before winter came. The inside wasn't finished, but we had a roof over our heads. We kept holding together somehow and between the bad years we had a few better ones. Those years we crept along slowly.

We took an active part in the community affairs and helped build the Magnet Community Hall.

The years went by and the boys grew up helping on the farm. We bought more land and machinery. Mervin worked at different jobs and helped at home for a few years. He went north, then to a job in Winnipeg. He married Gladys Korman from Winnipegosis. They both worked and lived in the city. Approximately a year later, they moved back to the Rorketon area and bought Bill and Kate Mudrey's farm. They had two children, Sheri and Michelle. After farming a few years they sold out and moved to Dauphin. He worked for Shell Oil, then bought Curly's Service and Restaurant business in Ste. Rose which is a thriving business. Sheri married Dave Derkach and they both work and live in Dauphin. They have a little boy, Kyle.

Michele became a teacher. She went to Japan for two years to teach English. She is now working in Winnipeg.

Tommie and Lloyd worked together and Tommie bought land of his own. His ambition had always been to have a big herd of cattle and be a

rancher some day and I'm happy to say he is accomplishing his goal quite well. He married Diane Korman from Winnipegosis and they started their married life in a house trailer in our yard.

Later on, they built a new house and still live on the home farm. They had a daughter, Lori, who graduated from Rorketon High School and then took a course at Red River Community College. She then went to Thompson to work. She married Paul Van De Kerckhove and they both work and live in Thompson. They have a daughter, born on June 4, 1996.

Lloyd and Tommie continued to work together for a number of years, until we gave up farming and moved to Dauphin in the fall of 1975. It was intended to be just for the winter, caretaking the United Church for my cousins, while they went on holidays. However, we stayed on and Lloyd took other caretaking jobs, at Johnson's Law Office and Zaplitny Accounting Offices. I was working at Ste. Rose Hospital, driving back and forth. In 1982, I slipped and fell at work and broke my hip. I ended up in a Winnipeg hospital for six weeks. Lloyd had to give up his job to look after me. This ended our working careers.

We moved into Kinsmen Villa in 1983, when it opened, where we spent ten years. Then in 1993, when our son moved to Ste. Rose, we decided to live in his house on 10th Ave. S.W. We enjoy the house.

Donald McKinnon

Donald McKinnon, fourth son of Johnny McKinnon, went to school at Magnet. He farmed the "Home place" with his dad, Grandma and Grandpa McKinnon who had come from Scotland. Donald loved horses and is seen as Grandma's driver at age 3 years.

There was a teacher at Million whose name was Ann Lambert; this name was changed to McKinnon on October 25, 1951. Their home was a twelve by eighteen feet building bought from Mr. Dick Johnson, a one room house. After two babies came, Donald purchased half of Dick Smith's little home for a bedroom.

Ann enjoyed Women's Institute meetings, sewing and riding horseback. Henry and Mariann, the children, stayed with Betty and Ralph Bage whenever their mother was sick with asthma. Dr. Gendreau prescribed a drier, higher climate. The following year, in May 1957, Donald took the family to southern Alberta.

He was employed on a ranch for two years. Then Donald worked two more years for a grain and



Donald & Ann McKinnon, Jeanette, Dan, Henry & Mariann

hog farmer. When drought came, the job ended and we returned to Manitoba. Our third child, Jeanette, had arrived in 1958, in Lethbridge.

In the summer of 1961, we bought Mr. Barrow's place in Million where we lived for three more years. With Henry and Mariann attending Coronation school, Jeanette, at times, stayed with Uncle Lloyd and Auntie Elsie.

Mariann took piano lessons from Mrs. Willy Robbins. Jeanette had a love for music, even at age 4 years. Later, she played in the Centennial Concert Hall in Winnipeg at age 14.

Donald and Charlie McKinnon would ride horseback to chase the coyotes down. They jumped off and killed them with a stick. There was a \$5.00 bounty for each.

Donald helped saw and haul the lumber to build the present Magnet Hall. When Clarence worked in Lynn Lake, Donald and Ralph Bage Commercial fished on Lake Dauphin.

Because of sickness and with a fourth baby on the way, Donald again moved his family to Lynn Lake. Ann was sent on the plane. Auntie Elza Mae took the girls and Donald and Henry drove to Cranberry Portage, then took the train north. In the fall of 1964, Daniel Bert was born.

Donald worked twenty-two years for Sherritt Gordon Mines. He retired to Dauphin in 1986. He loves to work with the animals. He keeps two horses out at Wayne Radford's. They enjoy their ten grandchildren.

Our two sons attended the University of Manitoba and became Mechanical Engineers. They both live in Alberta. One daughter lives in Alberta and one in Lynn Lake.

We enjoy keeping in touch with our family and friends.

Raymond and Irene Moffatt Family History

submitted by Irene Moffatt

Raymond, son of Roy and Mary Moffatt, was born October 25, 1935 at home, NW17-27-15. He started school in Rorketon, staying with his Uncle Frank and Winnie Papuga, and Aunt Rose and Nick Marchenski, then finished his education in Magnet. In the fall and spring, he would go on horseback to school. In winter, he would take a team and caboose and pick up Jean and Shirley McKinnon, and later, Mervin McKinnon.

In 1955 to 1958, Ray worked for Manitoba Hydro, then Perpeluk's General Store in Lynn Lake, returning home each spring to work on the farm.

On July 18, 1959, he married Irene, oldest daughter of Donat and Anne-Marie Fortin (Philippot). We lived in uncle Thomas's house at NE 20-27-15, until 1964. we then moved to SE 20-27-15, which Ray had bought from the Nix brothers in 1956. This was to be home for 30 years. In 1994, we moved back to Ray's parents' farm NW 17-27-15, and our son, Dwayne, and wife, Shelly, and family moved to our home place. Ray and Dwayne continue to ranch together.

We have four sons:

Randy, born June 7, 1961, graduated from



Raymond & Irene Moffatt Family, Neil, Dwayne, Randy & Darren

Rorketon School. He attended Red River Community College and obtained his licenced journeyman electrician certificate. Randy married Arleen Biletski on October 12, 1985. They have two children, Rachel and Ryan, and reside in Winnipeg.

Darren, born November 1, 1964, graduated from Rorketon School. He married Michelle Hercun on August 2, 1986. They have three children, Jenna, Shalyn and Dustin. Darren is employed at Simplot in Brandon where they reside.

Dwayne, born January 13, 1967, graduated from Rorketon School. He worked at Ste. Rose Auction Mart and on the family farm. On May 28, 1989, he married Shelley Honish. They have two children, Amber-Lee and Mark. They reside on the family farm.

Neil, born November 11, 1971, graduated from Rorketon School, worked at various jobs, and is presently attending Brandon University, completing his last year in Education.

Roy and Mary Moffatt submitted by Irene Moffatt

Roy, second son of Thomas and Mary Polly Moffatt, was born on March 15, 1913 at home NW 17-27-15. He attended school in Magnet and two years in Ochre River. Roy stayed home and worked the family farm with the help of his brother, Thomas, and their uncle, Bob Pearson. He worked hard and became a farmer at a very young age, being a young boy when his father died.



Roy & Mary Moffatt

In 1935, Roy married Mary Papuga, daughter of George Papuga and Annie Lenastowych. They continued farming on his parents' farm. Times were hard, but his love of farming and hard work made him a successful farmer. Roy was known for his practical jokes, and giving a helping hand in the community. Along with other neighbors, he went out to Meadow Portage to cut logs for lumber for the Magnet Hall. A neighbour could always count on him for a helping hand when it was needed. Mary was found in the kitchen, cooking and baking, be it for the Community Club, a wedding, or a family in time of sorrow. Family, friends and neighbors were an important part of their lives.

Roy passed away in December, 1993, and is buried in the Magnet Cemetery.

Mary now resides in Rorketon.

Thomas and Elza Mae Moffatt Family submitted by Irene Moffatt

Thomas Jr. moved to Magnet in 1911 with his parents, Thomas and Mary Moffatt. He attended school in Magnet and Ochre River, then worked on his parents' farm until 1928, when he left and worked at various jobs in Fort Frances, Ontario, Waskada, and Forrest, Manitoba. Moving back to Magnet, he farmed NE 18-27-15, which was the farm his dad bought from Wilson.

In December 1939, Thomas married Elza Mae McKinnon and they continued to live on the farm. They had two children, Carolyn, born in 1945, and Dennis in 1953.



Elzamae & Thomas Moffatt

In 1956, Thomas, Elza Mae and family moved to Lynn Lake, where he worked for Sherritt Gordon Mines, in the crusher.

In 1973, they moved from Lynn Lake to Leaf Rapids, then moved to Dauphin in 1975, when Thomas retired.

Elza Mae passed away in 1993 and is buried in Magnet Cemetery.

Thomas continues to reside in Dauphin at Spruce Manor.

Carolyn attended Coronation School from its opening, in 1952, until they moved in 1956. She married Cliff Pulfer, and they have two sons, Travis and Troy. They reside in Calgary.

Dennis married Terrie Dyer and they have a son, Clinton, and a daughter, Holly. They reside on an acreage near Calgary.

Thomas and Mary (Polly) Moffatt submitted by Irene Moffatt

Thomas Moffatt was born June 21, 1872 in England, and his wife, Mary Polly Pearson, was born October 9, 1879, in Lancashire County, England.

They first moved to the U.S.A., then to Hamiota, Manitoba, where their first son, Thomas Jr. was born, on January 25, 1911. In the spring of 1911, they moved to the Magnet district and homesteaded NW 17-27-15.

On March 15, 1913, their second son, Roy, was born. They farmed the land and made their home there.

On May 26, 1922, Thomas Sr. died accidentally and he is buried in the Turtle River Cemetery.

Mary's brother, Robert (Bob) Pearson, came from England to help with the farm work. He lived across the road on NE 18-27-15, which he homesteaded.

Later, Mary married Harry Barron and they lived on SE 22- 27-15.

On February 4, 1937, Mary passed away. She is also buried in the Turtle River Cemetery.

Bob Pearson returned to England for a visit, but he became ill and never returned to Canada.

James and Edith (Ackerman) Murray

I was born August 28, 1921, to Len and Edna (Ayners) Murray in Elgin, Manitoba. I spent the first seven years of my life on 36-27-15, on the west side of Prynes Lake. In the fall of 1928, we moved to Magnet NW 14-27-15. I attended Magnet School until 1938 and received grade 10 education. I helped



B: Bernice, Garth, Keith, Russell, & Edna, S: Edith & Jim

at home on the farm and worked in the Magnet store. I worked during the harvesting season around here, Southern Manitoba and in Saskatchewan.

The war started in 1939 and I tried to join-up in 1940, but was told to go home. I enlisted in 1942. I was an engine mechanic in the Air Force. I took my training in Winnipeg, and St. Thomas, Ontario; then I spent a summer in Mont Joli where we were servicing Hudson Patrol planes. I went overseas in January of 1944 where I stayed until September 1944, as casualty replacement for the Normandy Company. We were not needed. In September of 1944, a transport squadron was formed and we were shipped to India. We ended up on the Burma-India border at Imphal. Here our planes supplied the 14th army and the Chindwins. We were in India for a year before the Japanese surrendered and we flew back to England. I arrived back in Canada in January 1946, and was discharged in February 1946. I came back to Magnet where I've been ever since.

On November 6, 1950, I married Edith Ackerman who lived just down the road. We raised a family of five. They are as follows:

Edna Louise, born September 22, 1951, married Larry Roberts (divorced); children Kevin and Lynn.

Russell James, born April 21, 1953, married Deborah Koski; children Erin and Craig.

Keith William, born June 22, 1954, married Connie Richards (separated); children Jared and Sara.

Garth Alvin, born June 16, 1959, married Adele Guillas; children Jason, Myles and Morgan.

Bernice Beatrice, born September 5, 1961, married Max Dillman; children Murray and Amy.

I, Edith, am the fifth child of Beatrice and William Ackerman, born November 29, 1929. I attended Magnet school and for the first five years,

Mr. Ernest Walker was my teacher. He called me Little Red Riding Hood because I started out wearing a red coat and hat. After nine years at Magnet, I took grades 10 and 11 in Rorketon. After a six week course, I was issued a permit to teach. I taught at Ladysmith (near Lavenham) and I think that was the year I got educated. I was 17 and had never been far from home. I lived with a caring family. At school there were ten children in grades 1 to 7, the older ones eager to see if I was a push-over like the teacher before me. I was no push-over, and we all learned. I still keep in touch with some of them. When I attended the school reunion, it was nice to see them as adults.

When we started life together, we took over Jim's father's homestead, with help from the Department of Veterans Affairs. It was a typical mixed farm with milk cows, chickens, pigs and grain, but that was changed, and we went to cattle ranching. We continued to milk and ship cream for many years. We have had a busy life.

Jim helps when needed and cuts hay and wood. He enjoys woodworking. Jim and his sons like to hunt.

We enjoy travelling. The love of fiddle music and dancing takes us all over Manitoba to contests and dances.

I, Edna, daughter of Jim and Edith Murray, was raised in the Magnet district and attended Magnet Elementary School.

I belonged to the Magnet Busy Lizzies 4-H Club and the Magnet Beef 4-H Club.

I attended high school in Rorketon. The first year, we had a long bus ride. The next year, the one-room schools were consolidated and the bus came right to our door.

After high school, I was a nursing student at Winnipeg General Hospital. I failed the first year. I worked in Winnipeg at a nursing home.

I married Larry Roberts in 1973. We met in Winnipeg and were married in Montreal. We lived in Montreal for three years where our son, Kevin, was born. We then moved back to Manitoba and lived in Portage La Prairie for three years. Our daughter, Lynn, was born there. We then moved to Gladstone where I still live. Larry and I parted in 1987. He returned to Montreal and the children and I remained in Gladstone.

I work at the hospital in Gladstone as a nurse's aide. I am a member of the Royal Purple and the Curling Club. My son, Kevin, is employed in Yellowknife. My daughter, Lynn, is a first year arts student at the University of Manitoba.

Jean Person (Murray)
submitted by Jean Person

I was born at Magnet. My parents were Len and Edna Murray, both originally from Elgin, Manitoba and Ontario. I have two older brothers, Jim and Farrell, who still live in the area.

We lived east of Magnet, where our parents and grandparents homesteaded, until I was a year old. We moved closer to Magnet so Jim could attend school. I took grades 9 and 10 by correspondence. We had a happy life. Dad and Uncle Bill used to play for many of the dances when we were young. The whole family would attend, as there was no such thing as babysitters. The stage made makeshift beds. We also learned the old time dances. Dad and Uncle Jack would call square dances, and later on, Jim, Farrell and other young boys took over. The boys were both in the forces. Mom and Dad and I held down the fort.

We had a very active Poultry Club. My girlfriend, Ann Madsen (Liscombe) and I, were the National Poultry Judging Champs in November 1945. We had a trip to Toronto, Hamilton and Ottawa where the National competition was held. I did spend a short time candling eggs at Rorketon, in 1944, where I worked for Bert Ackerman. I worked at the Ag Rep Office and also the Manitoba Dairy

Co-op in Dauphin. While working at the Dairy Co-op, I met my husband, Ed, who worked at the Pool Elevators. We were married in 1950 when we moved to Ninga, Manitoba.

We lived there for five years. While there our three children were born Dennis was born in Killarney. Lois was in such a hurry to get into the world that she was born in the car on the way to hospital. It was the only storm we had all winter. We had to go to Boissevain and we got stuck. Donna was also born in Boissevain on Boxing Day, 1952. They all live in Winnipeg, married and have



Person Family, Lois, Donna, Jean, Dennis & Ed



B: Jack, Bill & Len. F: Jean, Grandma, Cora, Hannah, Mary & Grandpa Murray

"blessed" us with five granddaughters, five grandsons, and one great-grandson.

In 1955, we moved to Plumas where Ed started work with United Grain Growers. We were at Plumas until September 1961, then went to Nesbitt and Ste. Rose. In 1962, we were back at Plumas, back in the same house, where we stayed until 1983 when we retired to Portage la Prairie.

While in Plumas we curled. I was in a choir and took part in many other activities. I also was manager of the Plumas Credit Union for twenty years. We still get back to Magnet and Rorketon as my brothers and some of their families still reside in the area. Each Christmas, the six of us get together for Christmas dinner.

The Hubert Nix Family **submitted by Aurelia Lozinski**

Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Nix moved to the Magnet district in October 1944, from the Bruno Saskatchewan area where Mr. Nix had homesteaded about 1910. He originally came from Wisconsin. Mrs. Nix was born in Minnesota.

They moved to the farm which is now owned by the Raymond Moffatt family. Most of the family came with the exception of Delphine and John Brunen who came about a year later.

Mr. Nix didn't live very long after the move. He passed away in February 1950, and Mrs. Alwina Nix, passed away in July 1955. They are buried in the Roman Catholic Cemetery in Toutes Aides.

After farming for a few years, Virgil and Ralph operated a sawmill at Crane River, one at Garland and one on Lake Winnipegosis.

When the mine opened up in Thompson, Virgil and Ralph moved there. They built several homes there. When they moved back, they continued building houses in Dauphin. They are now retired and make their home in Dauphin.

Aurelia married Joe Lozinski on November 11, 1947. His family also lived in the Bruno, Saskatchewan, area, and moved to the Bay Centre area near Ochre River. Joe and Aurelia attended the same school.

Joe and Aurelia farmed for a number of years in the Ochre River area. Joe also worked for Britsky Building Movers for a few years. The last years before retiring in September 1985, he worked for the Manitoba Department of Highways.

There is a family of four; Gerald, wife, Shirley, have and daughter, Andrea, and they live in Winnipeg. Gerald is a carpenter, Shirley is a nurse and Andrea is a student.

Lloyd and wife, Suzanne, have two daughters, Lorianne and Cassandra. They live close to Dauphin. Lloyd is a truck driver, driving a semi from Dauphin to Winnipeg. Suzanne works at a drycleaning establishment; Lorianne works at Kentucky Fried Chicken in Dauphin, and Cassandra is a student.

Dianne had three daughters, Leanne, Gwen, and Amanda. Diane is a nurse, working at the Dr. Gendreau Home in Ste. Rose and lives at Dauphin Beach. Leanne is living in Dauphin with her son Jesse. Gwen and Amanda are students. Philip is living at home with his mother and is also a trucker, driving from Dauphin to Winnipeg.

Joe passed away November 13, 1994.

John and Delphine had a family of nine. Jerome and wife Mona have one son and one daughter. They lived near Winnipeg for a number of years and now live in Weyburn, Saskatchewan. Son Terry lives at home, and daughter, Lynn, and husband, Bruce, live in Regina.

Carolyn and husband, Gordie Evans, lived in Makinak for awhile, then moved to Flin Flon. They had four children. Carolyn and two children, a son and a daughter, were killed in a car accident near The Pas in September 1977. Son Glen and daughter Donna were raised by grandparents.

Helen married Ron Sweetman. She is a Public Health Nurse, working out of the Dauphin Health Unit.

Rose was killed in a car accident near Ochre River in November 1969.

Martin and Andrew are making their home in the United States at the present time.

Suzanne married Glen Stomp. They have one son and one daughter. They lived near Ste. Rose for a number of years, and are now living in the Weyburn, Saskatchewan area. Son, Lyle, is a student and daughter, Bonnie, will be in kindergarten.

Agnes and husband Rick Rice have one son, Robbie. They lived in Winnipeg for a while, then in Estevan, Saskatchewan. Now they are living in Edmonton.

Hubert and wife Anita are presently in the Weyburn area. They lived in Churchill and Dauphin for awhile.

Delphine passed away in October 1963. Hubert was only two years old then.

Gertrude married Gabriel Commte in August 1957. They have a family of four and live in Regina now. Gabriel taught school in Crane River, in Ebb'n Flow, in Cardston, Alberta, and in Broadview, Saskatchewan, before coming to Regina. Gertrude

works for an optometrist, part time, and also part time in a care home for the elderly.

Michael and wife Sherry live in Regina where he works at Sears. They have three children. Daniel is in kindergarten, and the twins Mark and Melissa are about three years old. Lorraine and husband, Gregg Evans, lived in Regina for a number of years, and now are in Saskatoon where he was transferred by the Saskatchewan. Department of Highways. They have two children, son Jeff, who is in first year university in Saskatoon, and daughter Jaylyn, who is a student.

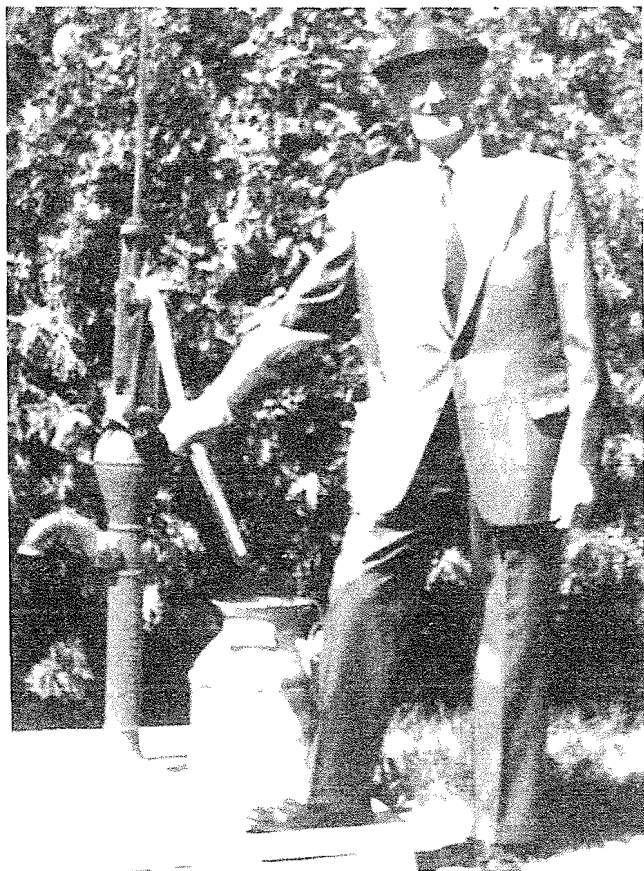
Dennis is working at a cycle shop in Calgary and David is working at a photography shop in Regina.

Phillips Family

submitted by Richard Phillips

Richard Phillips and brother, George Phillips sailed from Londondeiry or Liverpool and arrived in Canada, in 1909.

Richard Phillips married Jane Gartshor Smith, in 1915, in Neepawa. They had seven children, George, Heather, Robert (Bob), Dorthy, Velma, Eva and Sheila. Richard died in 1963 and Jane in 1975. Both were buried in the Magnet Cemetery.



George H. Phillips



Richard W. and Jean G. Phillips

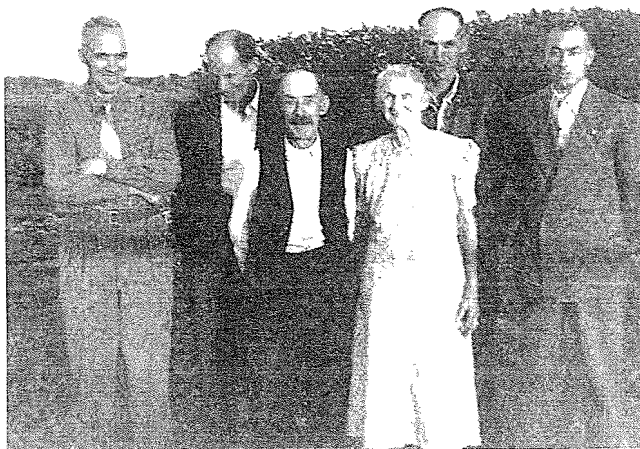
Alfred and Gertrude Preston

Alfred Preston, born April 18, 1874, died in Magnet, February 19, 1966. He married Gertrude on April 8, 1901.

Gertrude Maude Brook, born April 28, 1874, died in Magnet September 2, 1963.

Alfred and Gertrude entered Canada on April 4, 1904, at Halifax. They lived in Toronto, until 1906. Then they moved to Portage La Prairie. In 1910, they moved to Magnet and farmed. They would travel to Makinak by horse and buggy to meet the train for their groceries. Around 1911, the barn burnt, killing all their pigs and burning their hay. They moved to Turtle River where a neighbour had extra feed for their cattle. They stayed for a year. It was here the children started school. They moved back to Magnet until they passed away. They had five children.

Horace (1901) married Fern (1899) on November 19, 1929 and moved from Magnet to



Preston Family B: Horace, Harold, Frank, Rawson F: Alfred & Gertrude

Saskatoon where he worked in the Quaker Oats Mill until he retired. He passed away on November 19, 1977. They had two children Marie and Doreen.

Harold (1905) married Hazel McKinnon (1914-1982) on October 12, 1932. They farmed in Magnet. They had eleven children.

Frank (1908) married Jane (1913) on August 23, 1944. He served in the armed forces and farmed in Magnet, then moved to Maple Creek. They had three children: Robert, Gordon and Betty.

Rawson (1910) married Angeline (1908-1979) on October 12, 1935. They moved from Magnet to Saskatoon where he worked as a milkman until he retired. They had two children; Lorne and Lorraine.

Eleanor (1915) died at the age of sixteen days old.

Alfred's brother Charles's son, Robert Preston, was a bomber pilot and was shot down over England in WWII. On February 28, 1995, an island in Manitoba was named after Robert Preston. Preston Island is on Lake Mistutaykamik.

William (Bill Preston) was a bomber pilot. He was shot down over Belgium. Last spring a monument was erected in his memory, on the location where his plane crashed.

Harold and Hazel Preston

Harold Preston October 23, 1905.

Hazel McKinnon April 4, 1914 - February 26, 1982, married October 12, 1932, at Ochre River.

Harold was born in Toronto. His family moved to Magnet when he was five years old. He attended school at Magnet and Turtle River. He went to school until Grade 8 and went to work at the age of fourteen. He worked at Ochre River harvesting, Francois, Saskatchewan doing farm work and carpentry, Barrows Junction cutting cord wood, Hartney threshing and Benito as farm labour. He also worked on the railroad line from Ste. Rose to Rorketon. In 1928, he bought a tract of land in Magnet. In 1932, he married Hazel McKinnon. They homesteaded in Magnet where they raised chickens, cattle and pigs. Hazel belonged to the Woman's Institute, 4-H, and church group. She did many different crafts and ceramics. Harold did hunting, trapping, sawing, working for other farmers and fishing. Hazel passed away on February 26, 1982. Harold retired at his homestead in Magnet and still enjoys gardening, knitting and skidooing.

They had 11 children:

Laura, born March 10, 1933, married Wifred



Harold & Hazel Preston Family. Dorothy, Albert, Kenneth, Anna, Wayne, Johnny, Delores, Laura, Donnie, Gertrude and Flora.

Smith and resided in Million until his death in 1956. They have two children: Terry and Michael. Laura married John Scott and resided in Million until his death in 1985. They had one child, Jane.

Gertrude, born August 28, 1935, married Edgar Hudson and resides in Million.

Kenneth, born March 8, 1937, married Edith Lundstrom and resides in Magnet. They have five children: Kelvin, Glenn, Gary, Bonita and Bryan.

John, born June 26, 1939, married Joyce Hudson in the fall of 1966. They bought Farrell Murray's farm in Magnet and are still farming there. They have two sons: Neil, married Lisa Fulford in 1992 and they live on the farm, running the operation with John and Joyce. They have one child named Jared. Lyle is presently employed in Brandon doing carpentry work.

Anna, born July 1, 1941, married Sheldon Foster and resides in Ochre River. They had five children: Carol, Conroy, Cindy, Cheryl and Clayton.

Dorothy, born May 18, 1943, married Alun Humphreys and resides in Brandon. They have two children, Alfred and Barbara.

Wayne, born November 1, 1945, married Carole Lundstrom and resides in Preeceville, Saskatchewan. They have four children: Patricia, Dennis, Barry and Donna.

Albert was born August 5, 1948. He belonged to the Club. When leaving school, he went to work. He married Angela Ahmo in 1974 and moved back to his parents' farm to help with the work. After his dad retired, he took over the family farm. In 1981, they divorced and Albert raised the two children on his own. They had two children, David who resides at home with his dad at Magnet, and Lillian and her son, Ryan, reside in Eddystone.

Donnie, born December 7, 1950, married Elaine Fleury, divorced, and resides in Lynn Lake. They have three children: Lorrie Ann, Timmy and Dawn Marie.

I, Deloris, was born June 2, 1952. I grew up on our Magnet farm,, went to the Magnet School until Grade eight, then was bused to Rorketon.

On June 21, 1969, I married Steven Archie Antosko. We lived in Edmonton for six months. We moved to Lynn Lake in February of 1970, where Steve worked in the mine. Steve and I had three girls.

Bernadette Hazel Ann was born January 2, 1970, at Ste. Rose du Lac. She married Kevin Haney in Dauphin on June 6, 1992. Bernadette and Kevin both work and reside in Dauphin.

Tammy Nellie-Mae was born in Lynn Lake on December 17, 1970. Tammy lives and works in

Winnipeg. Dan Goudreau and Tammy had a little boy on March 2, 1995, named Andrew Matthew Jeffery. On October 23, 1995, Granddad Preston met his great-grandson for a four generations photo.

Angela Deloris was born in Winnipeg of December 21, 1972. Angela and Shane Cooke reside in Winnipeg and plan to be married on September 22, 1996.

I worked in Lynn Lake from March 1972 until February of 1982 when we moved to Pine River. Russell accepted a job transfer. I am still self-employed with home-baking, baby-sitting, cake decorating, and selling various crafts like the traditional Pysanky and Ukrainian cross stitched blouses and shirts. Russ and I have two children.

Matthew Russell was born in Lynn Lake, on June 15, 1977. Veronica Mary-Lynn was also born in Lynn Lake, on December 24, 1978. Both children attended Pine River School from grade K-8 then went to Ethlebert. Matthew graduated in 1995, and Veronica will graduate on June 22, 1996.

Matthew had eight years as a Natalka dancer and Veronica is in her twelveth year.

Matthew is currently looking for employment. Veronica is hoping to continue her education at the University of Brandon, going into the child care field.

Flora, June 25, 1954, married Wayne Precourt and resides in Eddystone, Manitoba. They have three children: Jason, Jodi (deceased) and Jaime.

Frank Preston Family

Frank Preston enlisted in the army in July of 1940, in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. He received his basic training in Dundurn, Saskatchewan. After completion, he was stationed in Maple Creek where he met and became engaged to Elizabeth Jane Newby. He was later transferred to Sussex. He served there from February 1944 to July 1945. In August of 1944, Frank met Jane in Portage La Prairie and they were married. Frank was discharged from the army in February, 1946, in Regina.

Shortly after, Frank and Jane purchased the former Joslyn farm , south of Rorketon, and moved there. It is located approximately one mile north of the Roy and Mary Moffatt place.

In June of 1946, they were blessed with a son, Robert (Bobby), born in Dauphin. Two years later, in 1948, while on a visit to Maple Creek, a second son, Gordon, was born. To round out this little family, a daughter, Betty, was born in 1954, also in Dauphin.

While working on the farm, Frank also enjoyed hunting and tending his traplines. However, ill



Frank & Jane

health forced him to retire from the farm. In May 1956, the farm was sold to Teddy Taylor.

Frank, Jane and family moved to Maple Creek, Saskatchewan. Frank worked for a short while as a clerk in the local hotel. Later on, he became a mechanic until he was forced to retire in 1968, following a heart attack.

Frank enjoyed long bicycle rides and putting around in his flower beds. He especially enjoyed the company of his grandchildren and spent as much



Gordon, Betty & Robert Preston

time with them as he could. Frank passed away in Maple Creek in November, 1983, while recovering from major surgery and a stroke.

In November, 1975, Bobby passed away in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan.

Gordon married in November, 1972, in Medicine Hat, Alberta. He has three children: Spencer Frank, born in 1973, Dwayne Curtis, born in 1975, and Stephanie Raine, born in 1977. Stephanie has a son, Tristan Dean, born in 1993. They all reside in Medicine Hat. Gordon, like his dad, loves to hunt, and in his spare time, he fixes cars.

Betty married Harold Tessman in February 1976, in Medicine Hat. They have two children, Michelle Elizabeth, born in 1983, and Shane Robert born in 1985. Both were born in Medicine Hat. Betty and Harold live in Redcliff, Alberta. Betty keeps busy doing genealogical research and is busy compiling a family history book.

Jane still lives in Maple Creek where she is seen working in her flower beds. She remains active in the Legion and is often found playing Bingo with her friends. She also enjoys spending as much time as possible with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Robinson Family

submitted by Evelyn Robinson of Neepawa

John Frederick Robinson was the son of Edward Robinson, a stone mason, and his wife, Kitty Henry. Fred was born September 10, 1883 in Clinton. He took a homestead in the Magnet area. When word came that the railroad was coming through to Magnet and Rorketon he and his wife Nellie Hermiston built a five bedroom home in Magnet.

Nellie was born Helen Young Hermiston, the daughter of Mark Hermiston and Christena Turnbull. She was born on the estate of Upper Hindhope on October 28, 1890, near Jedburgh, Scotland.

Nellie and Fred were married in Portage in 1915.

Fred was the mail carrier to East Bay and Magnet. He received \$366.60 per annum and had to travel through all kinds of weather. He also operated a taxi service and a livery barn.

Nellie boarded teachers, student ministers and elevator agents, one being Ivor Thurston. Many old age pensioners ate their meals at the Robinson's.

Fred and Nellie were both in poor health, and in 1948 they sold their home to Leo Paradis. Leo moved the home to Ste. Rose where it was again used as a boarding house.

They moved to Riding Mountain. Fred died of cancer on March 29, 1952, and is buried in the Turtle River Cemetery.

Nellie worked in various jobs. She passed away in Neepawa Hospital on March 29, 1967, and was buried on April 1, 1967, in the Turtle River Cemetery.

They had one son E. Mark Robinson.

Rob Hermiston, an uncle of Nellie's, boarded with her for some years, and was buried in Rorketon Cemetery.

Coffins were hand made and Nellie lined several. Frank Preston caught double pneumonia and there was no antibiotics. Nellie nursed him back to health.

Edward Robinson

Edward was born in 1858, died 1941 and is buried in Turtle River Cemetery. He lived in Ashfield, Huron County Ontario and then moved with wife and family to Lavenham, Manitoba. He moved again to a homestead in the East Bay district. He lived in East Bay until his death.

He married Catherine Henry (Kitty) on November 23, 1881. She was born in 1858 the daughter of Simon Henry and Elizabeth Jane Deeves. She was asthmatic all her life. She died in 1937 and was buried in the Turtle River Cemetery.

Catherine or Kitty Henry's father was Simon Henry. He was born in 1827 and died in 1910. Her mother was Elizabeth Jane Deeves, born in 1835.

Robert, Simon Henry's father, was Irish and he married Lady Mary Ann Graham of the Royal House of Montrose, near Edinburgh, Scotland.

Mary Ann was disinherited when she married the estate gardener, and when Robert died, she brought her seven sons to Canada. She was born in Scotland in 1791 and died in Clinton, Ontario in 1876.

The last Graham heir, the Earl of Montrose, died in 1981, in Scotland, thus ending the Montrose Earldom!

Edward and Kitty had eight children.

John Frederick, born September 10, 1883, married Helen Young Hermiston, "Nellie" born at Clinton, Ontario, and died March 29, 1952 at Riding Mountain. He homesteaded in the Magnet area and was mail carrier from Magnet to East Bay and back. They had one son, Edward Mark Robinson, born December, 1916-1975.

Nellie married Frederick at Portage on February 23, 1915. They had a boarding house and a livery stable in Magnet. Nellie was born October 28, 1890.

She passed away fifteen years after her husband, March 29, 1967.

Hugh Sincelar Robinson was born March 25, 1884, worked on the railroad at Churchill, entered into rest December 27, 1961, and is buried at The Pas. He married Florence Flowers "Florrie of Lavenham" on July 12, 1906, in Macgregor. She was from England. They had one son, Donald Robinson.

Catherine Jane, or Jean called Dolly, married Jack M. Henry in Treherne on September 26, 1906. She was born October 20, 1887. They had three children: Winnifred May, born December 8, 1914, James Edward Gordon, born June 26, 1916, and Kathleen Jean, born September 11, 1923.

James Edward was born January 26, 1889, died and is buried in the Turtle River Cemetery. He was cared for by Leo Paradis and his wife in Ste. Rose for some time.

David Randolph Robinson, born June 2, 1891, married Janet Jackson McLeod (Jenny) on December 28, 1916, at Portage. David died in Winnipeg June 14, 1972. They had three children: Gladys Eunice Beryle, born April 14, 1921, married Alex Thomson; Douglas Holbrook, born October 20, 1922, married Pauline Kubler; and Jean Lennea, born September 21, 1930, married Joe Lesz Kovics. Joe passed away and Jean remarried Cliff Finnamore.

Angus Ross Robinson was born September 5, 1893, and died December 9, 1960. He is buried at the Turtle River Cemetery. In later life, he married May Rawlins McLeod, widow of Norman McLeod, who was a brother of Janet McLeod of East Bay. May had two girls, Betty and Doreen McLeod.

Albertha May Robinson born June 4, 1899, married Simon J. Whalen of Shergrove, Manitoba, in Neepawa on November 30, 1921. Albertha died June 11, 1966. Simon remarried and died in Winnipeg, in 1993. He was born on July 16, 1897. They had five children: Helen Isabella born January 17, 1923, Florence May born March 29, 1925, Anna Kathleen born August 15, 1927, Bernard Laurie born July 22, 1932, and Frederick born February 12, 1935.

Charles Henry Robinson was born January 20, 1901. Charlie served as a stretcher bearer in the front lines in World War II. He is buried in the Turtle River Cemetery.

Edward Mark Robinson submitted by Evelyn Robinson

Edward was born December 16, 1916, the son

of Frederick Robinson and Nellie, Helen Young Hermiston. He was born on NW 15-26-15.

He was named for his two grandfathers, Edward Robinson and Mark Hermiston. He acquired his education in Magnet, Ochre River and Dauphin.

He worked for a while in Allard's Garage in Dauphin, but times were hard and jobs were few. Mark was a mail carrier and got work whenever he could.

He married Evelyn Ackerman in October 1939, and they moved to the Harry Barron quarter. They lived there for two years.

He then moved to 15-26-15 until 1946.

They had two children.

Eleanor Irene was born April 9, 1940, in Ste. Rose and Robert Wesley was born January 10, 1942, at Magnet. Wesley passed away April 12, 1945, following an operation.

They moved to Riding Mountain in 1946, and they operated a small cafe. Mark worked for farmers and on the C.N. line. In 1951, he became elevator agent at Eden and worked there for Riding Mountain. He was leader of the 4-H Garden Club, steward of the United Church, and a member of the Neepawa Elks Lodge. He was an elevator agent at Eden for over twenty years.

He suffered a heart attack and passed away on September 23, 1975. He is buried in Riverside Cemetery in Neepawa.

Evelyn Ackerman was born October 16, 1920, in Portage la Prairie, the daughter of Sid Ackerman and Emily Thacker. Following Mark's death, I went to work at the training residence for the mentally handicapped called Touch Wood, where I worked for eleven years.

I sold my home in Eden and moved into the Bri Mont Apartments in 1990. I was there for three years, then moved into the Elks Manor in Neepawa, in March of 1993, where I still reside.

Our daughter, Eleanor, married Brian Connolly and they had one daughter, Siobhan Ann. Siobhan was born July 19, 1964. Her father is deceased.

Eleanor married Michael Thomas Gould who was the son of Frederick Gould and Pearl Frieson. He was born in 1944 in Saskatoon. He was manager of Bisco Industrial Supplies for fifteen years. He and Eleanor have since bought the business. They live in Terrace Bay, Ontario.

Siobhan married Mark Malashewshi of Terrace Bay and they have two children, Meaghan Shea born March 18, 1988, and Dylan Rhys, born February 25, 1992. Siobhan and Mark are separated.

Jennifer Lynn Gould was born February 16,

1973, and is taking Kenesislogy in Waterloo University. She is in her fourth year. Patricia Dawn was born January 21, 1975, has taken a chef's course, and is working in Sault Ste. Marie.

David Randolph Robinson

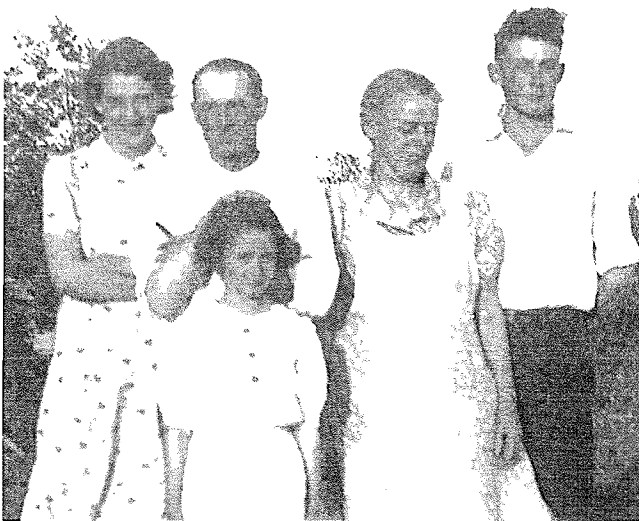
David, son of Edward Robinson and Kitty Henry, was born June 2, 1891. He married Janet Jackson McLeod, Jenny, the daughter of Frank McLeod and Elizabeth Anderson. Jenny was born January 1, 1898 at Powmill Tossaway County of Kinross, Scotland. Her mother, Elizabeth, a widow, married Bob Coutts, and they, too, lived at East Bay.

Jenny married Randolph Robinson on December 28, 1916, in Portage la Prairie. They lived for a number of years in Fort Francis, and Randolph also worked at the Port in Churchill. They moved back to the East Bay area during the depression. They later moved to Neepawa where they lived for a number of years before moving to Winnipeg.

They had three children who attended Blue Bell School in the East Bay district. Randolph worked for the E.F.F. School.

Gladys Eunice Beryle, born April 14, 1921, was married on December 14, 1946. She joined the C.W.A.C. during the war and married Alex Thomson of Winnipeg. They had two children, Carolyn and Wesley. Gladys and Alex live in Winnipeg.

Douglas Holbrook Robinson was born October 20, 1922. He was with the R.W. Rifles during the war, possibly transferring to another unit. He was wounded and was sent home early in the war. He



Robinson Family, Gladys, David Randolph, Janet, Douglas and Jean Lenna

became a postman in Winnipeg and has retired for some years. He married Pauline Kuhler and they had six children: Jim, Fred, Diane, Sharon, Helen and Nancy.

Doug lives in Winnipeg in the winter and spends his summers at East Bay.

Jean Lennea Robinson was born September 21, 1930. She married Joe Lesz Kovics and they had four children, two boys David and Steven, and two girls, Lennea and Joanne. Joe passed away. Jean is now married to Clifford Finnamore and they live in Neepawa.

Angus Ross Robinson is the son of Edward Robinson and Catherine (Kitty) Henry. He was born September 5, 1893. He joined up in the First World War and was stationed in Halifax at the time of the terrible Halifax explosion. Ross lost his hearing at this time. He remained a bachelor for many years, then married a widow May Rawlins McLeod. His wife Esther May was born in Birmingham, England, on March 21, 1893 and died in Dauphin, August 21, 1986. She had two daughters, Betty and Doreen McLeod. Betty and Doreen attended school at Million.

Betty married John Lang of Durston district near Dauphin. Betty is deceased, but members of her family still live in the area.

Ross passed away in the Winnipeg General Hospital on December 9, 1960. He was buried in the Turtle River Cemetery.

Charles Henry Robinson

Charles, youngest son of Edward and Kitty Henry, was born January 20, 1901. He was a bachelor and lived with his parents on the farm at East Bay.

He joined up and served as a stretcher bearer in the front lines in the Second World War.

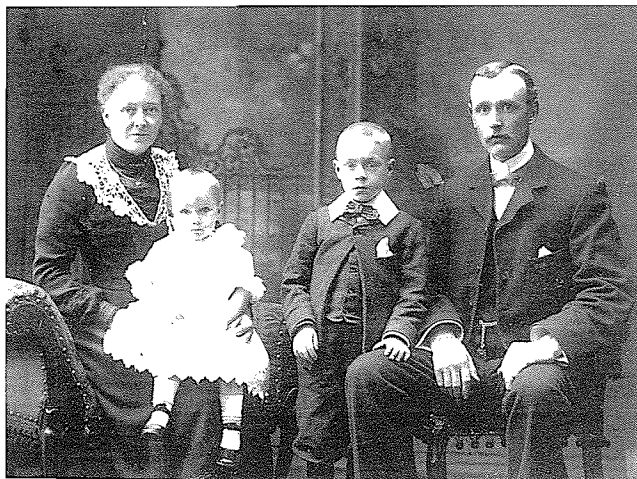
He saw many of his buddies die. I believe Jim Stack of Magnet and possibly Herb Scott was taken off the field by Charlie.

He, too, is buried in the Turtle River Cemetery.

Thomas and Margaret Rushton

submitted by Joyce Rushton, Granddaughter

Thomas Rushton (1876-1935) and Margaret Rushton (1876-1959) immigrated from Yorkshire, England in 1910 and settled in Portage La Prairie. They moved to the R.M. of Lawrence in September 1914, with their three children: Thomas Jr. (age 16), Eileen (age 6) and Hector (age 3 months). The senior Thomas Rushton, Homestead No. 15707, entered the NW 18-27-15W on the 28th day of September 1914.



Margaret & Thomas Rushton, Millicent & Thomas Jr.

A fourth child, Elvie was born in 1920.

A patent was issued to Thomas Jr. for the homestead on the SE 13-27-16W, Homestead No. 16116, on December 19, 1914. Thomas Jr. joined the armed forces on January 6, 1916, 226 Battalion, in Neepawa. He was killed in action on June 28, 1917 at Vimy Ridge.

Thomas Sr. enjoyed entertaining as a singer and comedian at local events such as the Harvest Home Festival. Margaret Rushton was known as a proper English lady and never knew what to expect from Thomas as he entertained. Eileen, Hector, and Elvie attended Magnet School. Sometime in the 1920's, Eileen moved back to Portage La Prairie.

When Thomas Sr. died in 1935, Elvie moved back to Portage la Prairie to live with Eileen.

Hector and his mother remained on the homestead for a few years before joining the sisters in Portage.

Hector married Margaret Sedgwick and farmed in the Oakland District until his death in 1992. They have six children: Judy, Susan, Nancy, Joyce, Nora and Larry. Larry continues the family farm. Eileen married Len Christianson and had three children: Anne, Louise and Len Jr. Eileen lived in Schriber, Ontario, until her passing in 1988. Elvie married Fred Ambrous and moved to Ste. Catherines, Ontario, where she lives with her two children, Brian and Patricia, and her grandchildren.

Frederick Smith

submitted by Margaret Smith

Frederick Smith was born in Tring, England in 1889. He served with the British Forces in India for seven years and was with the Reserve in England during the Boer War. He came to Canada in 1906. He married Lillian Sims who was born in Kingsly, Manitoba. They had four children: Anita, Richard,

Charlie and Delphine. The family moved to Magnet in 1940 after Mr. Smith retired from his trade as baker in Gilbert Plains. Mrs. Smith was postmistress from 1948 to 1958 at Magnet. They then moved back to Arden, Manitoba, where they had earlier resided.

Richard (Dick) and Margaret Smith submitted by Margaret Smith

Dick came to Magnet in 1939. His first job was working for R. J. Wilson at the Magnet General Store.

In 1946, he married Margaret McKinnon. They bought their first quarter section, SW 22-27-15, and started to farm. His first tractor was a 15-30 steel-wheeled International. He cleared all the land with it. He also worked the land with a four horse team.

Dick delivered the mail by horse; then he graduated to a 1928 Chevy car. That made the trip a lot easier.



Dick and Margaret Smith Family; Larry, Jim, Roy, Willis, Dick, Margaret & Linda

We have five children in our family, and they grew up on our farm at Magnet. The children started school at the age of six. Jim received his education at Magnet School. Larry and Linda received part of their education at Magnet. Then Magnet School closed, and they went by bus to Rorketon School to complete their education there. Willis and Roy received all their education at Rorketon School.

My dad, John A. McKinnon's parents, came to Canada from Scotland in 1878. In 1909, my dad bought a homestead in the Magnet district, where our oldest son, Jim, and wife, Donna, live now. My mother, Elza Cook, and her family came to the Million district in 1907. My dad broke his first land with one ox and one mule.

Jim is a farmer. He stayed at home and helped on the farm. He married Donna Bass, and they live

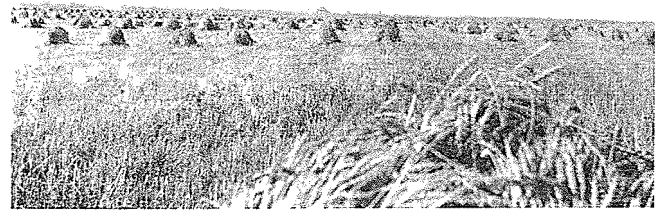
on the farm that was known as my father's homestead. They have two children: Darren and Tammy.

Larry attended A.C.C. in Brandon and studied mechanics. He married Doris Dano. They had two children: Greg and Amanda. He now lives and works in Dauphin.

Linda married Robert Smith and they now live in Brandon where she works at Hill Crest Nursing Home. They have two sons: Jason and Evan.

Willis attended Red River Community College and is an electrician. He lives and works in Kamloops.

Roy attended A.C.C. in Brandon. He studied mechanics. His home is at 100 Mile House, British Columbia.



Stooked wheat field

Smith, Jim and Donna

Jim Smith, son of Richard and Margaret Smith of Magnet, married Donna Bass, of Meadow Portage, in November 1967. The first winter, we worked in Lynn Lake.

In the spring of 1968, we came home to farm. We bought the land SW 17-27-15, from Jim's uncle, Donald McKinnon.

This home quarter was originally homesteaded by Jimmy's grandfather, John McKinnon in 1909. This land has never been out of the family.

We began mixed farming in 1968, and to supplement our income, Jimmy worked out on construction work. A few years later, he bought his own cat and began doing custom work for the neighbors in the area.

Over the years, we have purchased more land, but the farm remains the same, a cow-calf operation and grain farming. We also raise a few quarter horses.

In 1969, we had a son, Darren, who farms a few miles away.

In 1976, we had a daughter, Tammy, who now lives in Dauphin.

Isadore Lawrence Stammen

Isadore Lawrence Stammen, his wife Mary and their eight children moved to the Magnet district where they set up farming in the spring of 1944. Their ninth child, Joan, arrived several months later, at the Ste. Rose Hospital. This was the second move for the family. Isadore and Mary Rauw were married in 1927, and they lived in Dayton, Ohio, until the Depression, at which time they moved to Humbolt, Saskatchewan, and farmed nearby. Isadore was born in 1896, in Ohio, and grew up in Saskatchewan. He served with the Canadian Army in the first World War in the Siberian campaign. Mary Rauw was born in Minnesota in 1903 and also grew up in Saskatchewan. They married in Dayton, Ohio.

The first years in Magnet, Isadore had one of the two threshing machines in the district, so he did custom threshing. The first year, the crew worked right into November getting the crops threshed. They



Isadore & Mary (Rauw) Stammen

threshed well past dark and as the machines had no lights, a lantern was hung on the front to light the way.

Mary died in the spring of 1949.

Isadore farmed until the mid 60's when he moved to Rorketon, spending the winters in Winnipeg with his eldest daughter's family. Over the years, Isadore was quite active in the community and served as trustee for the Magnet School. He spent many hours working on St. Anthony's Church in Magnet when it was built. He died in the spring of 1972.

Charles, the eldest child, took up farming and worked winters in Lynn Lake at the Sherritt Gordon Mine during the winter. He died as a result of a tractor accident in 1958.

Alice married Aurel Fortin and they had three children: Lynn, Ron and Janet. Lynn is married to Richard Harnish and lives in Duncan, British Columbia. They have two children, Alana and Jonathan. Ron is married to Ruth Holland and works in Winnipeg as salesman for Weidmann Bros. Grocers. Janet works for a building engineer in Winnipeg. Aurel died in 1979 and Alice married Jim Coady in 1991. They are both retired and live in Winnipeg and Phoenix, Arizona.

Raymond also farmed in the district for many years, spending his winters working in Edmonton and Vancouver in the carpentry trade. He moved permanently to Vancouver in 1988 and is now semi-retired.

Jerome (Jerry) married Rita Boisvert and they have two children, Cynthia and Randy. Cindy is married to Perry Sobkowich and works for a pharmaceutical company in Winnipeg. Randy lives in Vancouver and works for SuperValue stores. Jerry and Rita are retired and live in Winnipeg.

Marion married Bernard Farlette and presently resides in Terrace, British Columbia where they own a Fabricland Store. They have four children: Neil, Lori, Valerie and Jason. Neil is married to Wendy Christie and works as a Mechanical Engineer in Vancouver. Lori married Ron Knoedler and lives in Terrace, British Columbia. They have a daughter, Allison. Valerie, who lives in Vancouver, has a Bachelor in Fine Arts and works in the health care field. Jason also lives in Vancouver and works for the Research Council in the computer field.

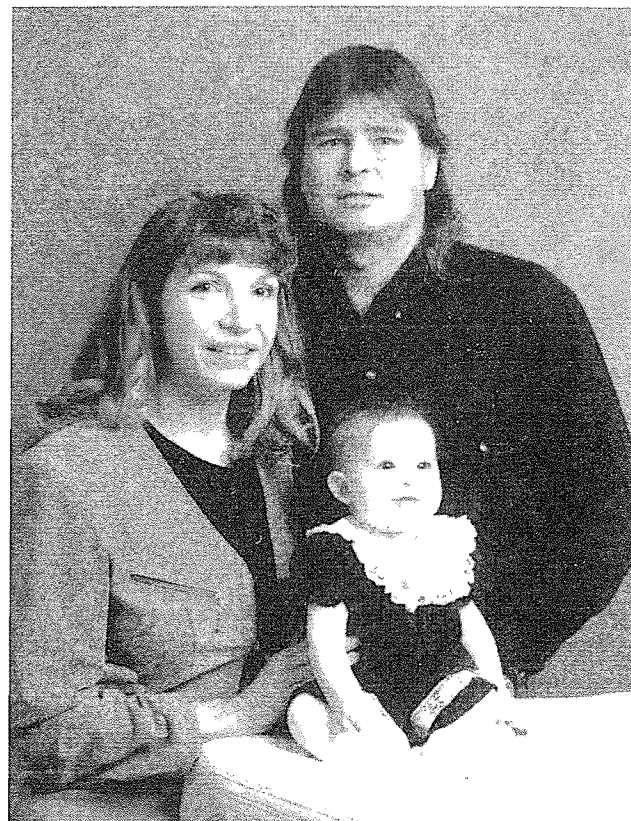
Donald graduated from the University of Manitoba with a BSc in Agriculture. He was awarded the Lieutenant Governor's Gold Medal for his scholastic achievements. He married Muriel Johnson. He died tragically in an automobile accident in 1963. They had two children, Dale and Kim.

Dale, who has a Masters degree in Music, is married to Kim Brockett, and presently resides in Seattle, Washington. Kim, who holds a Bachelor of Phys. Ed and of Education is married to Brad Gusdal, and resides in Winnipeg. They have two children, Erik and Hayley.

Kenneth continues to farm the home place and is married to Doreen Dumas. They have two children, Brenda and Richard. Brenda has a Bachelor of Human Ecology degree. She is married to Barry Schumborski and resides in Seba Beach, Alberta. They have a baby daughter, Caitlin. Rick lives in British Columbia and operates a trucking business.

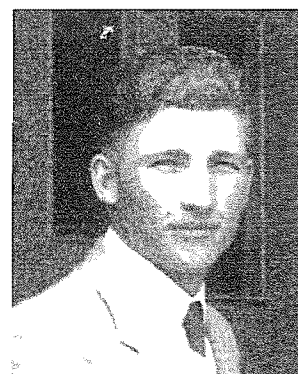
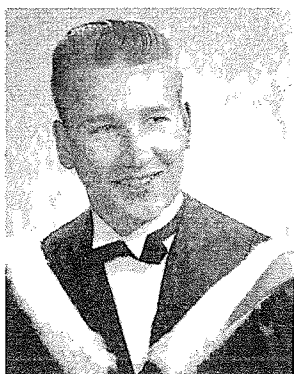


Rick, Doreen, Ken & Brenda Stammen



Diane married Claude Chepil. They lived for many years in Lynn Lake before moving to Terrace, where they own a paint and wallpaper store. They have two children, Lisa and Garrett. Lisa is attending the University of Victoria, majoring in Geography. Garrett is taking a computer technologist course in Victoria.

Joan is the traveller in the family and has lived in many places in Europe, India, South Africa and



Stammen Family. Donald, Raymond, Joan, Ken, Diane, Alice, Marion, Jerome & Charles

South America as well as the States. She presently resides in Corvallis, Oregon, and spends her winters in Mexico.

The last time the family gathered together was in May, 1989, for Ken and Doreen's 25th Wedding Anniversary. We are hoping to be reunited once again at the R.M. of Lawrence Homecoming in 1997.

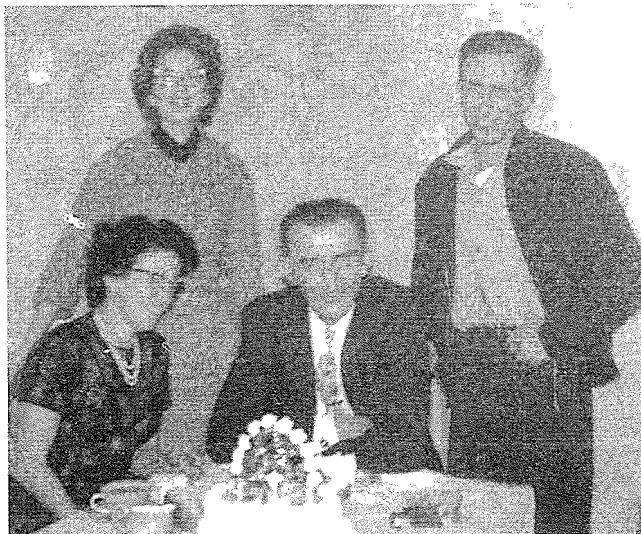
Nick and Catherine Stammen

Nick's parents, Mathias Stammen and Francis Hein, were married in 1882. Mathias Stammen was born at St. Sebastian, Ohio, on March 17, 1857. Francis Hein was born at Mercer County, Ohio, in 1862.

They settled in Canada in 1903 with a family of five. In 1904, Francis Stammen gave birth to twins, Nick and Louise. Francis died not long after their birth.

When Nick was eight years old, he went to live with his uncle and aunt in Ohio, where he attended school for four years. He then came back and lived with his oldest sister, Mary, Mrs. Bill Ebert, in Annaheim, Saskatchewan for a number of years. Nick returned to Ohio where he worked for the next three years.

In 1937, he married Catherine Hilbert, born in 1910, daughter of George S. and Martha Hilbert. She received her education in Annaheim. She then spent the next ten years working at a post office and telephone exchange. After six years living on a farm in Annaheim district, Nick and Catherine moved to British Columbia. There he worked in a lumber mill for six years. They then moved to the Magnet area where they bought a farm and spent the rest of their working days.



Nick & Catherine Stammen, Mary Ellen & Gordon

Nick and Catherine were very active in their community and church committees. Nick was leader of the 4-H Calf Club at Magnet for a number of years. They devoted their time with love and enthusiasm.

Nick Stammen died at the age of 75 years, on March 25, 1980 of cancer. Catherine Stammen died at the age of 74 years, on March 31, 1985, of kidney failure. They are both resting in peace in the Ste. Rose Cemetery.

They had two children, Gordon, born in 1939 and Mary Ellen, born in 1943. Gordon took over the farm which he is still farming. Gordon, like his parents, enjoys being active with his community. He was on the Ste. Rose Parish Council for a number of years. He is presently a board member for the Dr. Gendreau Personal Care Home since 1984. He also served as a board member for the Manitoba Pool Elevators of Makinak for five years. Gordon has been a Knight of Columbus member for the past fourteen years, serving in various positions including Grand Knight.

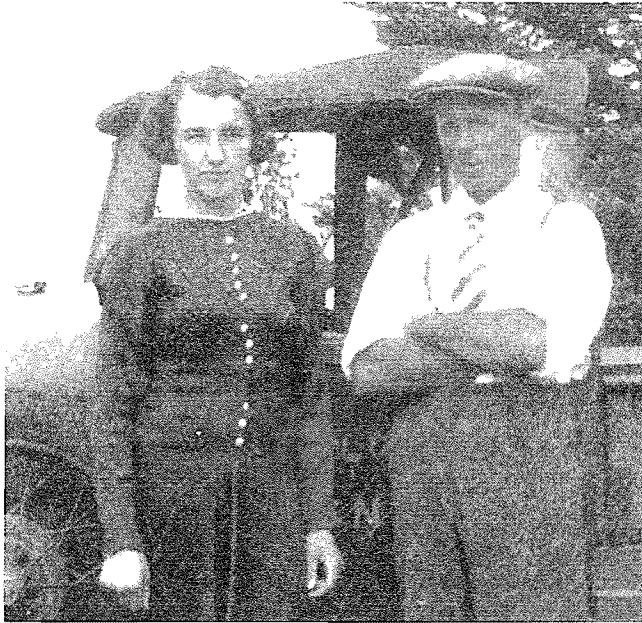
Mary Ellen was employed at the Bank of Nova Scotia in Winnipegosis. In June of 1969, Mary Ellen married Abe E. Bergen of Winnipegosis. Abe owns and operates a tire shop in his home town. They have four children, Richard, Ronald, Ruth and Raymond. Tragically, Mary Ellen died in a car accident on February 1, 1993, while on a trip to Grande Prairie, Alberta.

In June of 1995, Gordon married Paulette (Lansard) Gamache of Laurier, daughter of Isidore Lansard and Lilliane Trudeau of Lorette, Manitoba, and grand-daughter of Jean-Marie Lansard and Beatrice Laberge, formerly of Toutes Aides. They have four children, Michelle, Donald, Dominic and Justin Gamache.

Edward Proctor Taylor

Edward (Ted) Proctor Taylor was born in Colton Parish, Lancashire County, England, August 16, 1899. He was the eldest son of John Proctor and Elizabeth (Pearson) Taylor.

Ted worked as a farm labourer in his early teens. On August 16, 1917, he enlisted in the British Army and served with Kings Liverpool Regiment, 5th Battallion. On April 5, 1920, he was discharged from the army, and later that year, he immigrated to Canada and settled in the Magnet area. He worked for his uncle, Thomas Moffatt, and other farmers in the area. In 1922, he purchased and farmed, NW 20-27-15, which he later sold to his brother, Tom. In 1925, he purchased the SW 19-27-15 for the cost of \$256.00 which was a lot of money at the time. He



Gwen & Ed Taylor

worked hard and cleared the land by axe and horses.

On February 28, 1939, Ted married Gwendolyn Brown, daughter of Samuel and Helen Brown, of the Million district. They raised four sons: John, Sam, Robert and Fred. Over the years, he raised cattle, sheep and horses. He endured some very hard times. Ted purchased more land which three of his sons still farm and live on today.

In the early seventy's, Ted returned to his homeland to visit relatives and to see the vast changes in the country over the years since he had left.

Ted was a longtime member of the Royal Canadian Legion, Lawrence Branch #87.

On August 7, 1978, Ted passed away at the Ste. Rose Hospital at the age of seventy-eight, after a lengthy battle with cancer. He was laid to rest in the Magnet Cemetery, close to the land he had farmed.

(George) Frederick Taylor

Fred Taylor was born to Edward (Teddy) Taylor and Gwen (nee Brown) at Ste. Rose du Lac, on May 25, 1949, the youngest of four boys.

The Coronation School, a short walk of one and a quarter miles, provided Fred with his elementary education.

Spending money was attained through the trapping and snaring of rabbits, foxes and coyotes. In his early teens, he worked for neighbouring farmers for \$5.00 a day. This proved to be more profitable. Fred withdrew from Rorketon High School after successfully completing his Grade 10. In 1966, Fred started working for a large grain farmer at Outlook, Saskatchewan.



Fred & Edith Taylor & family

In 1967, Fred travelled to the Yukon Territory to work on Diamond drill rigs for Midwest Diamond Drilling.

In the winter of 1967-68, he went diamond drilling underground for INCO in Thompson.

On June 8, 1968, Fred married Edith Mary Bonnett of the Freedale district.

Edith, the youngest daughter of Gordon and Margaret Bonnett, was raised on a small farm just west of Rorketon until 1959 when the family moved to the Freedale district. There she attended the Freedale School with her brothers. Living two and a half miles from school gave her reason to go to school with horse and cutter. Edith's brothers numbered eight and she has one older sister. Edith's mother passed away in 1965. It was for this reason that her youngest brother, Richard, moved in with Fred and Edith.

When they married, Fred and Edith decided to remain on his family farm, working with his father, Teddy. Farm life proved enjoyable. During the winter months of 1969 to 1974, Fred worked out on the drill rigs in order to make the much needed cash to invest in the farm. While Fred was away working, Edith and his father maintained the farm.

August 21, 1973 brought total devastation of grain crops and gardens by a hailstorm that wiped out everything in its path. The family recalls huddling in the kitchen of the small family house, embracing each other as hailstones the size of baseballs crashed through the windows and rolled onto

the kitchen floor. Although discouraged, the family continued on.

In September 1974, with the completion of a fair harvest, Fred and Edith took on the task of building a new home which remains on the homestead today. August 8, 1978, the family was saddened by the passing of Grandpa Taylor, at the age of 78, of cancer.

Wanda was born in 1969 and Candice was born on August 28, 1978. She became great company for her older sister, Wanda, and Jennifer followed on August 15, 1980.

Over the years, Fred became involved in many extra curricular activities. His favorite pastimes were curling in winter months and fishing in the summer.

Fred held many public offices. In Education: 1978-79 Parent Council Representative at Rorketon School; 1980 to 1988 School Trustee on the Duck Mountain School Division, 6 of the 8 years as Board Chair Person. Fred viewed this experience as being one of the most challenging and stressful times of his life, but this did not discourage him from his commitment to the education of children. He enjoyed the many new friendships and associations he developed with fellow board members and division educators. He respected them all.

During the period of the mid 1980's, environmental concerns caused the Provincial Minister of Natural Resources to call for the establishment of a board to deal with the Dauphin Lake Basin. The main function of the board was to address deficiencies and attributes concerning agriculture, fisheries, wildlife, sport and recreation. The board's authority was to work closely with all user groups and provide the guide lines to the Minister of Natural Resources.

Fred was elected to the executive and became founding chairman.

This was one commitment of which no remuneration was granted. He felt that he owed this to future generations and advocates the importance of preserving the environment.

Fred was a 4-H leader for eleven years. He was involved in the Credit Union and was first elected, in 1975, to committee, and eventually to directorship.

Edith had many community and volunteer activities of her own. She was a 4-H leader for 16 years, and head leader for three of those years. She then went on to represent her local region as Regional rep for the Ste. Rose district for two terms, not running concurrently. She is currently acting as a representative for Makinak Pool elevators and secretary-

treasurer for Sub District 705. In 1995, she started working for Manitoba Crop Insurance as a Crop Adjuster.

Wanda (Marie Taylor) was honoured to give the Valedictory Address at her graduation ceremonies in 1986. In her graduation year, she played an active role as Student Council Co-President of the Rorketon Student Council. During her pre-teen and teen years, she was very involved in 4-H and became a leader and a 4-H Ambassador for Manitoba. In 1985, along with another local student, Wanda pioneered efforts to get the community involved in the Year of the Youth celebrations around the world.

Wanda took an accounting course at Assiniboine Community College in Brandon. She worked in Flin Flon for a year and then moved to Winnipeg in 1990. She takes university courses at night school. She is currently working for King Optical Group in Sales and Marketing.

On December 24, 1995, Wanda became engaged to Kelly Bezdietny of Cooks Creek.

Candice Dawn Taylor also attended Rorketon School and took a very active part in 4-H. She represented the local 4-H Club at district level and then on the Regional Council. She then went on to the Manitoba 4-H Council as a representative. Candice skipped her team to the High School provincials in 1995. She is currently completing her final year in high school and is engaged to Darryl Luke.

During her childhood days, Jennifer Jane Taylor could often be found with the animals. She had an understanding of and a way with animals that few people get to experience.

Jennifer attended Rorketon School until 1994. In 1995, she moved to Winnipeg to attend Laureate Academy, a private school with very specific teaching in academics. She attended evening classes at Panache Modeling school and has graduated as a professional model. Jennifer was also involved in 4-H, taking part in the livestock projects. Jennifer is currently looking forward to Driver's Education.

Most recently, in October of 1995, Fred was elected to the office of Reeve for the R.M. of Lawrence, a new commitment which he looks forward to addressing.

At the date of this writing, Fred and Edith operate the family farm with the help of their children.

John Edward Taylor

John Edward Taylor was born in Rorketon, on September 29, 1939. He received his education in Million, Freedale and Coronation Schools.

In 1959, John married Lois, daughter of John

and Jean Hutchinson. They farmed on the SE 19-27-15 until 1966 when they moved to Thompson, where he worked for INCO. They raised three children: Susan, Sharon and Calvin.

In 1976, they moved to Hinton, Alberta, where John works for Cardinal Coal Mines and where he presently resides. Susan and Calvin are also working and residing in Hinton while Sharon works and resides in Red Deer.

Robert William Taylor

Robert William Taylor was born in Rorketon, on June 23, 1947. Robert received his education at Coronation School. After leaving school, he worked in various places, for farmers and in the mines. In 1965, Robert started working for Midwest Diamond Drilling and continued with that company until 1974.

In 1967, Robert married Rose, youngest daughter of William and Mary Dumas of Ste. Rose. They resided in Flin Flon for the first eighteen months, then moved to the farm.

In 1974, Robert and Rose purchased the "Rorketon Freight Lines" along with Ken and Doreen Stammen. In 1988, the business was sold and Robert and Rose returned to full-time farming on the SE quarter of 24-27-16, where they presently reside.

On June 23, 1968, their son, Kim, was born in Flin Flon and received his education at the Rorketon School. Presently he is working and living in Mission, British Columbia.

On March 9, 1971, their daughter, Leslie, was born in Ste. Rose. She received her education and graduated from the Rorketon School. She is presently working and residing in Winnipeg.

Samuel Proctor Taylor

Samuel Proctor Taylor was born on January 19, 1943. I went to Freedale School from 1949-1952, then attended the Coronation School from 1953 to 1958. After staying at home for a while, I went out to work at various places.

In 1965, I married Valie Miller, eldest daughter of Mary and Tom Miller of Fork River. We started out mixed farming and still do today, on the NE 24-27-16.

We had two children, Darcy and Derwin.

Darcy was born in 1967 and attended the Rorketon School for her education. School buses were running then to transport children to school. In 1986, she married John Hill, son of Agnes and Melfort Hill of Rorketon. They farm at Rorketon. They have three children, two going to school,

Kristan, 10, Cody, 7, and Trent, 1 year and three months.

Derwin was born in 1976 and attended school at Rorketon. He graduated in 1994. He is presently employed.

Thomas William and Mary Zondlo Taylor submitted by Mary and Son Orville Thomas Taylor

Mary Zondlo Taylor was the second daughter born to John and Sarah Zondlo on September 21, 1918. She lived in Moose Bay until she was thirteen years old, at which time she moved to Million. She attended school until she was sixteen. Upon leaving school, she worked for Mrs. Florence Crozier for two and one-half years and for Mrs. Cook for six months. Her wages were five dollars a month. It was at Crozier's farm that she met Thomas William Taylor, an Englishman, who had immigrated to Canada in 1920.



Ted & Tom Taylor

Thomas was born at Coulton, Lancashire County, England, January 8, 1901. He spent his younger years in the Coulton district and in his early teens worked as a farm labourer in Northern England and Scotland. In 1920, he emigrated to Canada, to the Magnet area, where his uncle Thomas Moffatt and family lived, as well as Uncle Bob Pearson, his mother's brother.

His brother, Ted Taylor, had homesteaded west of Moffatts, about a mile away, and during the following four or five years, between them, they acquired the "North Quarter" for "Tommy", as dad was commonly called.

During the following years, Dad worked on various farms around Portage La Prairie and west. He tried logging in British Columbia but returned to

Manitoba. Then in the winter, he fished commercially on Lake Manitoba, head quartered at Delta. Here he became a fish buyer and eventually moved back to the "North Quarter", where he fished on Lake Dauphin and north in the Crane River area, buying fish in Rorketon.

In 1929, Dad went back to his homeland, to see relatives and friends, but returned to Canada. The "North Quarter" now took on a different atmosphere as he turned his hand to farming.

In 1938, he married Mary Zondlo. They continued to farm there until the spring of 1943, when at that time, they purchased the Henry (Harry) Hindle farm just to the south. Here, they stayed until they moved to Dauphin in 1981.

During the 43 years they spent on the farm, he improved the land and cleared more land. Also, in the fall, out came the nets for repair, as fishing was in his blood.

They had five children, but only three survived infancy: Orville, Roger and Elaine.

Orville Thomas Taylor was born in Ochre River on April 15, 1940. He married Adeline Carol Smigelski in Rorketon on May 18, 1968. They lived on the Taylor farm for a short time and later moved to The Pas where they continue to reside. Orville works in construction and Adeline works as a bank teller. They have two sons, Thomas Michael and Mark Orville, born June 16, 1969, and January 23, 1973, respectively. Both sons live in Winnipeg at this time. Thomas works for the IRS and Mark is a mechanic. Mark married Corrie Sandele Dewulf, on September 2, 1995. They have a five year old son, Tyler David.

Roger William Taylor was born on July 28, 1944, in Ste. Rose du Lac. He married Olga Josephine Yaroway on November 18, 1967, in Ste. Rose. They lived in Flin Flon, Brandon and Rorketon during their married years. Roger operated Rorketon Service centre from 1977-1980. Roger and Jo had three children, Christopher Thomas, Tammy Lynn, and Kimberly Dawn. Roger died on February 7, 1981. The family lived in Rorketon until the children completed school, then Jo moved to Dauphin. She works as a nurse at the Dauphin General Hospital. Chris was born on August 31, 1968. He resides in Winnipeg with Jackie and their two daughters, Simone and Ashley, ages six and four, respectively. Chris is a lead guitar player in a local band. Tammy was born on August 22, 1969. She lives in Red Deer with Don and their daughters, six-year-old Jessica, and one-year-old Carlee. Tammy has trained as a hairdresser. Kimberly was born on August 5, 1973. She lives in Grandview



Tom Taylor

with Warren, and their one-year-old daughter, Kelsey. Kimberly is a trained secretary.

Elaine Dorothy Taylor Hansen was born on April 28, 1947 in Ste. Rose du Lac. She was an elementary school teacher in Weiden, Thompson and in Winnipeg. She married Neil Hansen on December 8, 1973, in Winnipeg, where they resided for twenty years. They had two daughters, Allison Janelle and Krista Annette. Elaine continues to live with her daughters in Winnipeg, where she is vice-principal at Bairdmore Elementary School in Fort Garry School Division. Allison was born on July 3, 1977. She graduated from Fort Richmond Collegiate in June, 1995, and is currently a one-year Rotary Youth Exchange Student near Grenoble, France. Krista was born on August 26, 1979. She attends Fort Richmond Collegiate where she is in grade eleven.

In 1968, Orville purchased the west half of 18-27-15. Tommy semi-retired and hobby farmed until 1981.

Again in 1979, Tommy and Mary returned to England for a most enjoyable visit.

George and Ann Tocker submitted by Ann Tocker

George and Ann grew up in the Esterhazy, Saskatchewan district, George in Willowdale, south of the beautiful Qu'appelle Valley, on a farm, and Ann in the Fertile Belt/83. They first met each other in December 1941, at a Christmas concert. They didn't see much of each other as they both worked in different areas in Saskatchewan. Not too many teenagers had cars in those days.

They got married January 12, 1943, before George enlisted in the army. After his army discharge in August, 1946, they answered an advertisement, "Farm land for sale" of Mr. Fred Robinson of Magnet. Mark and Evelyn lived on the land NW 15-



George & Ann Tocker

26-15. After the Tockers bought the land in November, Mark and Evelyn left the district. George and Ann also bought an east quarter. It was just what they wanted, cattle country and they could lease more land for grazing and hay land.

They farmed successfully until leaving the farm May 24, 1970. They sold the farm and buildings that they had built, a new barn and house, to Ron and Phyllis Marchenski of Rorketon.

The Tockers had no children. They liked the area and made many friends. They did their shopping in Rorketon for hardware and groceries, got their mail in Magnet, and attended the Roman Catholic Church.

After selling the farm, they moved to Dauphin. George took a course to train as a correctional officer and did his duty faithfully for thirteen years at the Dauphin Correctional Institute. Then he took early retirement, so Ann and he could travel, go fishing, and enjoy the great outdoors. He liked wood carving and loved to visit with friends. George developed cancer and passed away February 21, 1994. He is buried south of Esterhazy, Saskatchewan. Ann sold their home and on July 28, 1994, she made a sad move, leaving many dear friends behind. She lived in an apartment until June 15, 1995, when she bought a house at 543 Stanley St., Esterhazy, Saskatchewan, where friends are always welcome.

Arnold Turnbull

Arnold (Buster) Turnbull was born in 1914, in Linden Township, Wales, North Dakota. His parents, Johnina and William Turnbull came to Wales. An 1906 from Dunston Durham, England. The oldest son, Joe, was born in England. They moved to Canada in 1916. Four girls, Marie, Nina, Edith and Ada and two boys, Arnold and Jack, were born in Wales. When they moved to Canada, they settled around Ste. Rose and East Bay area for some time. About 1919, they moved to the Micawber district, about six miles east of Toutes Aides. They made a living by keeping a few cattle, fishing and working out. If they shipped cream, it had to be taken to Rorketon. Poor roads and hard times were common.

Three girls, Frances, Margaret and Florence and one son, George, were born while they were in this



William Turnbull Family

area. They moved to Ochre River, in 1928, where they farmed and kept livestock.

Arnold returned to the Abbottshall district in 1939 where he stayed with his sister, Marie, and husband, Ross. In 1942, he married Eveleen McKinnon. He moved to his present residence in 1943 where he farmed and ranched. In 1957, they adopted a son, Lindsay, and in 1961, they adopted a daughter, Marlene. There are two granddaughters, Tammy and Theresa, and one grandson, Cody. Buster still has some cattle which he enjoys looking after. What a change in these last years with good roads and electricity for all to enjoy.

The Wrenshall Family submitted by Doreen Scott

My Grandfather, Benjamin Wrenshall, came from Manchester, England as an infant with his parents, as part of a large family. The parents soon passed away and the family became separated. When Grandpa came west, from Ontario, as a young man, he worked at a variety of jobs. He was involved in the North-West Rebellion in 1885 in Saskatchewan, hauling ammunition. In the late 1870's or early 1880's, he married Sarah Jane McChesney, also from Ontario. After a few years as a drayman, he started farming in the Salem district, 13 miles south of Portage la Prairie. Here they had a mixed farm. They milked cows and churned butter to sell, often twenty pounds a week. Grandpa and one of the boys cut wood and hauled it to Portage to sell to make extra money in the winter. They raised three sons: Thomas, Robert and Ben Jr. They lost three daughters in infancy. When the mother died in 1910, Grandpa came north and brought his three sons aged 24, 20 and 13 to homestead SW 15-17-15. He said land on the Portage plains was too expensive to set up three sons. Uncle Tom later went back to Portage la Prairie. He worked and lived there the rest of his life. He worked at the Portage Airport during the war.

Uncle Ben worked in several places before settling in the Dauphin area. He and his wife were one of the first residents of "Happy Haven", a seniors' residence.

My father, Robert (Bob), the second son stayed on his homestead and later, in 1918, married a teacher Mary Houston, who was born in the south of Ireland. She first came to Toronto, later to Winnipeg, and then to Magnet. She was lured by the many posters with their promises of a wonderful life of plenty in the Golden Land of Opportunity. She was musical and played the organ in the United Church for several years. She organized and played

piano for many Scottish and Irish Concerts and other activities for fund raising and pleasure. She was also active in the Magnet branch of the Women's Institute. She performed the usual tasks of a pioneer homemaker. The one art she was never able to conquer was to milk a cow.

My dad worked on the farm, SE 16-17-15. When his father and brothers first came from Portage la Prairie, in 1910, they had loaded everything on to a CNR boxcar and come to Makinak, the closest station to Magnet at that time. From there they travelled to Magnet by wagon.

Life on the homestead was hard and lonely. They soon made a home for themselves. For the first few harvest seasons, my dad and Uncle Tom drove their stock teams back to Portage and helped harvest there to make extra money.

My father was active in the church affairs in the early days. He helped establish the Magnet Cemetery. He was the first Secretary-Treasurer of the Magnet School District No. 1601, in 1912. Together, he and my mother stayed on the farm and raised one daughter, Doreen, who took high school in Winnipeg, and later taught school in Blue Bell and Million. Doreen married Gerald Scott in 1943.

Mother passed away with a heart condition in January 1955. My dad stayed on the farm for a while but due to failing health, he shipped the cattle and sold the land to Kenneth Preston. He then moved the house to Rorketon town. There he grew a garden and flowers. He became interested in curling and made many new friends. He enjoyed his grandchildren, Allistair of Gladstone and Malcolm Scott of Million. He died in May 1963 and is buried in Magnet Cemetery.

Zastre, Joseph and Leontine (Paradis)

Joe and Lina (as she was known to her friends and neighbors), moved in 1939 from Cayer to homestead in Magnet (NW 7-28-14), presently owned by R.J. Highfield. After homesteading there for approximately three years, they moved to NE 27-26-15, which was previously homesteaded by Frank Shiellington and is now owned by Tom McKinnon. They resided on this quarter until 1961. Then they moved to Abbotshall 7-28-14, which is now owned by Young John Inkster Jr. They lived there for a number of years, then moved to Dauphin, and later to Winnipeg where they both passed away in 1988.

Joe and Lina had a total of twelve children, eight boys and four girls. The oldest, Maurice, married Blanche Fabbri; they have two sons and two daughters. The oldest daughter, Lois, married Robert



Joe & Lina Zastre & Family

Randall and has a daughter, Allison. They live in Halifax. Son Mark lives in Toronto, daughter Ruth lives in Vancouver, and son Norman married Lori Clissold and they live in Edmonton.

Next, daughter Lucille married Otto Filz and they live in Winnipeg. They have a son, Francis, who lives in Vancouver and a daughter, Charlene, who lives in Winnipeg.

Son Donald lives in Winnipeg.

Edward married Francine Bouchard. They have twelve children and live in Prince George. Son Michael married Susanne Reul and they live in Victoria. Daughter Joanne married Gordon McGowan and live in Prince George with their children, Vanessa and Kristain. Son Vincent lives in Chilliwack. Daughter Theresa lives in Burnaby. Daughters Christine, Bridgette, and Rachel live in Prince George. Sons Peter, Lawrence, twins Arthur and Daniel and youngest son Gerrard, also live in Prince George.

Joe and Lina had a daughter, Arletta, who passed away in 1956.

A son Paul (Skip) lives in Brooks, Alberta, with son Tyler.

Dave married Florence Baschuk. They live in Brooks, and have six daughters. Jeanette married Paul Haseloh; they have two girls, Casandra and Taylor, and live in Fox Creek, Alberta. Joan, who has a son, Evan, lives in Edmonton. Daughter Jaqueline and Jennifer also live in Edmonton. June and Jo-Ann live in Brooks.

Daughter Annette married Bob McKinnon and lives in Leduc. They had three children, one son, "Little" Richard, who passed away May 21, 1973, Shawn who lives in Leduc, Alberta, and daughter Shannon who lives in Edmonton.

Son Marcel married Alvina Penner. They live in Vancouver and have four children. Sons Neil and Kent, daughters Connie and Amanda also live in Vancouver.

Son Raymond married Donna Krywczka. They have a combined family of four children, sons Kristopher and Christopher, and daughters Tracy and Aimee-Ray. They live in Winnipeg.

Son Werner (Vern), lives in Winnipeg.

Daughter Denise married Rick Treyturik. They live in Winnipeg, and have three children, son Scott and daughters, Sharmaine and Sebrina.

Methley District

Store

Methley is situated on the south east border of the R.M. of Lawrence. How fortunate the little community must have felt when on April 13, 1922, H.A. Roberts and son started to build a general store. In 1923, the post office was opened. It became part of the store and was called Locre Post Office, "Locre" meaning Methley in the Belgium language. In 1937, the name changed to Methley Post Office from which the town derived its name. Roberts remained in business until 1934, when he sold the store to Mr. George Dustan who operated it until 1945. Mr. Dustan was a carpenter by trade. He had a small shop next to his store where he built a variety of items including coffins for families in the surrounding districts. In 1945 he sold the store to Mr. Alfonse Brunell who continued the business until 1949. In turn he sold it to Mr. McKinnon who operated the store for a year. Mr. and Mrs. Robert Plamondon then bought the store in 1950. Ten years later, in 1960, because of the relatively easy access to larger shopping centres, Methley store and post office closed its doors.



Methley Store

Train

The train was like the sun and the moon; no one ever got tired of watching it go by. It shaped our lit-



Train going through Methley

tle community, a link to the outside world. What excitement when the whistle was heard to announce its arrival! The C.N. station was on the same side of the tracks as the store. The train stopped at Methley, on the way north, to unload its shipment, including the mail. The folks would gather at the station. This would give them an opportunity to visit and some would pick up their empty cream cans. After the train was gone, it was on to the store to wait for the mail to be sorted. It stopped on the way back to pick up the full cream cans, egg crates and all the freight that was to go further. Not only did the train have an impact on the small community, but the rail road tracks were also used by the school children, for a direct and easy going route to school. Nature Study was a favourite subject for the children who always looked forward to that special day when they could walk along the tracks in search of flowers, weeds, or anything of interest along the way. In the spring when the ditches on both sides were filled with water, an old plank was used as a makeshift raft. There was so much for the children to do and all because the train went through the small town.

The conductor, on occasions, would take a few children in the engine room and give them a ride to the stockyards. What a thrill!

Stock Yard

The stockyard was a special enclosure for the cattle. It was a busy place, especially in the fall when the farmers shipped their livestock. From there they were loaded into the freight cars and shipped to Winnipeg.

Summer Dwelling

In the summer, the natives would come to Methley to pick seneca roots. A small tent village would spring up behind the store. The natives then

became part of the Methley community for a few weeks.

Curling Rink

The curling rink was built by volunteer help in 1952-1953. It was situated on SW 3-26-15 and was the only curling rink north of Ste. Rose. It had two sheets of ice with a waiting room. The building was left vacant for several years, then it was taken apart for the lumber by H. John Brunen with Henry Rath.



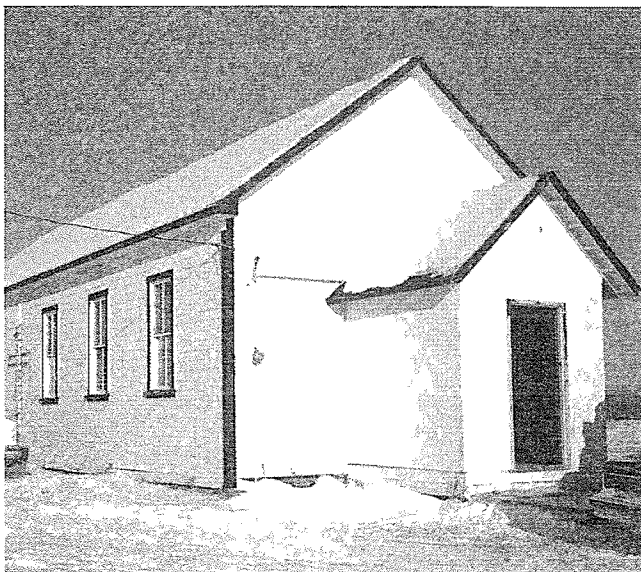
Methley Curling Rink (#2)



Methley Curling Rink (#3)

Church

In 1940, a small white church was constructed a short distance from the four corners, towards Methley Beach, about a quarter of a mile from Pete Talpash's. It was considered a mission of Ste. Rose



Methley R.C. Church

Parish. Father Lafaille was the priest responsible for having the church built. In approximately 1954, the church was doubled in size. Some of the priests that served the small country church were Father Gerald Labossiere, Father Jean-Paul Isabelle, Father Levasseur, Father Masse, Father Florido Turgeon, and Father Joseph Alarie.

In approximately 1963, the mission was closed and the building was moved to Skownan. The Skownan parishioners were grateful for the church. It serves an active community.

Methley School

The one room school house was built in 1921, across from the store. Because there was no hall, the school was the centre for various activities. During concerts and socials the desks were pushed to one side to make room for dancing. The local musicians supplied the music. In the winter time, the horses were kept in Mr. Cayer's barn called the "School Barn."

By-Law No. 110 - May 4, 1921

The Rural Municipality of Lawrence formed a

school district to be known as Methley Number 2055.

It was proven to the satisfaction of the Council that there were at least ten children of school age residing in the district.

The teacher of Methley School, in 1922, was E. A. Wheatley.

Class List

Grade	Students
grade one	Albert Eardley
	Margaret Eardley
	Fred Gronbeck
	Axel Gronbeck
	George Lepine
	Floride Lepine
Grade three	Frank Neault
	Alberta Eardley
	Joseph Laderoute
	Mary Neault
	Rosie Neault
	Olive McGeorge
Grade four	Hazel Boxell
	Robert English
Grade five	William Eardley
Grade six	Ethel Boxell
	Edna Gordon

Teachers of Methley School

Teachers	Dates
A. L. Sloan	Sept. 1924-April 1925
Donalda Softon	1924-1925
H. F. Dietrich	1926-1927
M. D. Hall(first term)	1927
Mrs. Mary Wilson (second term)	1927
On September 20, 1927, the school was closed for stormy weather.	
On November 22, 1927, the day was very cold and only a few students attended.	
On June 20, 1927, nobody attended school because of heavy rain and very bad roads.	
Mary Wilson	Sept. 1928-Mar. 1929
Mrs. B. Leary	April 1929-June 1929
Mrs. B. Leary	1929-1930
G. E. Ray	1930-1931
Mary Wallace	1931-1932
On March 2, 8 and 30, no pupils attended because those days were after a dance.	
Phyllis I. Mann	1932-1934
Feb. 6-10 no pupils attended because of extreme coldness.	
Winnifred Clarke (first term)	1935-1936

Pearl J. Tuck (second term)	
Pearl J. Tuck	1936-1937
M. J. Niola Ross	1937-1938
Margaret Ross	1941-1942
M. J. Niola Ross	1942-1943
Dorothy E. Cody	1943-1944
Miss K. Stourk (first term)	1944-1945
Marie T. Meyer (second term)	
Marie T. Meyer	1945-1946
Marie A. Montsion	1946-1947
Bernice M. Saucy	1947-1948
George Paulin	1948-1949
Annastasia Prediger	1949-1950
Frances Horeczy	1950-1951
Olga Budzey	1952-1953
Rita Boisvert	1953-1954
Cecile De Classe (first term)	1954-1955
Marie Adam (second term)	
Marie Adam	1955-1956
Orest J. Tymchuk	1956-1957
Marie Luke	1957-1960

The Methley School building was moved to Magnet. It replaced the Magnet School that was previously destroyed by fire.

Dane McCarthy School

Dane McCarthy School, No. 2208, was situated on SW 27-26-15, on the east side of Highway 276. It was built in 1952, measuring 40x22x28'. It was a modern school with a teacherage attached. Twenty to thirty students could be accommodated. It was heated with oil. The teacher was the caretaker. Because there was no well on the site, drinking



Dane McCarthy School

PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF MANITOBA

HALF-YEARLY RETURN

Of attendance at the School District of Lawrence (Diane M. Carthy) for the Half-Year ending, June 30th, 1957.

N.B.—The Legislative Grant for the half year is not payable to any school until its half-yearly Return is fully and accurately filled up from the school register certified to by the Secretary-Treasurer and the Teacher and sent to the Department of Education

AGE	GRADE	NAME OF PUPIL	CHECK (✓) NON-RESIDENT PUPIL'S ONLY	ACTUAL ATTENDANCE FOR TERM	POSSIBLE ATTENDANCE	AGE	GRADE	NAME OF PUPIL	CHECK (✓) NON-RESIDENT PUPIL'S ONLY	ACTUAL ATTENDANCE FOR TERM	POSSIBLE ATTENDANCE
6	1	Reiland, Christine		94½	120						
7	1	Krasch, Albert		110	120						
7	2	Reiland, Bernadette		110	120						
7	2	Zastre, Marnell		109½	120						
11	3	Reiland, Ralph		107½	120						
9	3	Reiland, Theresa		110	120						
9	3	Zastre, Annelle		100	120						
12	4	Reiland, Dennis		107	120						
12	4	Krasch, Annelle		114½	120						
10	5	Zastre, David		106½	120						
13	6	Zastre, Paul		108½	120						
14	7	Krasch, Charles		108	120						
14	7	Reiland, Joseph		104	120						
15	8	Reiland, Sylvia		106	120						
13	8	Stammar, L. W. Jr.		110½	120						

HALF-YEARLY RETURN OF ATTENDANCE

TO BE MADE BY EACH TEACHER AT THE END OF EACH TERM

School District of Diane M. Carthy
No. 2268 in the Province of Manitoba

1. During the six months ending June 30th, 1957, the school in this District was kept open on legally authorized teaching days, with pupils in attendance each month as follows:

	DAYS OPEN	NO PUPILS ENROLLED
JANUARY	21	
FEBRUARY	20	
MARCH	21	
APRIL	16	
MAY	22	
JUNE	20	
TOTAL	120	AVERAGE MONTHLY ENROLLMENT 15

NOTE—In no case should PART OF A DAY be counted a full day in the above, and teaching on Saturdays should in no case be included, nor on any holiday, nor during any vacation for which no arrangement has been made according to law.

2. During the above term, legally authorized teaching days (not counted above) were lost as follows:

(1) Days spent by the teacher in attendance at Teachers' convention as authorized by law—0

(2) Days lost through sickness of the teacher, for which the regular salary was paid—0

(3) Days lost by reason of the use of school building for a poll at Municipal, Provincial or Federal Election—0

(4) Days lost through closing of school by Health Officer as per his certificate enclosed herewith—0

3 The Trustees for this School District for this half-year are:

I certify the above to be correct:

Secretary-Treasurer _____

Teacher _____

TEACHERS EMPLOYED DURING THE HALF-YEAR (IN THIS ROOM)

NAME IN FULL	Class of Certificate	No. of Certificate	Number of days taught	Annual Salary	Am't. Earned Jan.-June	T.R.F. Due Jan.-June
Walter, Sharon	Permanent	970	120	2400	1440	72

If cottage, fuel or board supplied free, state value per annum \$ 50.

For Department Use Only

Corresp. \$ _____

B.B. \$ _____

Lib. \$ _____

T.R.F. \$ _____

SUMMARY OF ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCE OF PUPILS FOR THE HALF-YEAR ENDING JUNE 30th, 1957

NOTE—To find the Average Attendance divide the aggregate in each case by the number of Legally Authorized Teaching Days school has been kept open during the term. For the present half-year the number is _____ days

	ENROLMENT (Only Pupils who actually attended to be counted.)		Total Boys and Girls	Aggregate	Average (Correct to 100ths.)
	Boys	Girls			
1. Of Resident Pupils	8	7	15	1604	14.16
2. Of Non-Resident Pupils					
3. Total Res. and Non-Res					

Certificate: Permanent or Interim Permanent

Grades Taught I - VIII

THIS SHEET TO BE LEFT IN REGISTER

water was obtained at the well at Willy Lepine's place, 300-400 yards away.

Some of the teachers who taught at the school were Mrs. Edna Barnett, Miss Sutterman, Mr. Schura and Audrey Pich.

Audrey Pich was the teacher for the term 1961-1962 at a salary of \$3,600 a year. The rent for the teacher was \$50.00.

In the 1961 spring term, the enrollment was eleven pupils. The school was opened one-hundred and fourteen days, seven with no school because one day the teacher was snow bound, two days no one was present because of a storm, one day the teacher was sick and three days the teacher was in the hospital.

In approximately 1963, the school was closed permanently.

In 1967, Nick and Sylvia Biletski bought the school and moved it on their farm. It was then renovated outside and inside. The roof was lowered two feet. It is a beautiful home that one can be proud of.

FAMILY HISTORIES

Auguste and Mathurine Brunel submitted by Jean Louis Brunel

Auguste was born May 17, 1885 in Carro, Brittany, France and Mathurine was born January

31, 1889 in (Coin de l'Or) Malestroit, Brittany, France. They attended the same school in St. Abraham, Morbihan, France. They both came to Canada in April 1911 and were employed by Baron Octave de la rue du Can who had left France in the late 1800's to escape a revolution between the church and the state. The Baron settled in Ste. Rose du Lac to farm and ranch. He owned SE 19-25-15 by Lake Dauphin where he raised horses for the North West Mounted Police. Dad played a major role in raising and training these horses and Mother was in charge of the kitchen.

They worked for the Baron until 1915-1916. Dad took a homestead in 1915 on NW 27-25-15 in the R.M. of Lawrence and built a log house there. It is still standing today. This house was built by Paul Pinette. Dad chose this location because of the abundance of grass to raise cattle and the opportunity for expansion.

Mom and Dad were married in 1916 and farmed on the homestead for eight years. They moved back to Ste. Rose to be close to the schools for their growing family.

Their family consisted of six children: Alphonse married Cecile LeBlanc; Jean Louis married Germaine Lepine; Gonzague (he died accidentally in 1957) married Cecelia Flower; twin girls, Leonie married Arthur Hopfner and Therese (who died in 1989) married Mait Tinlin; and Francois who died at birth.

In 1933, they decided to move back to the R.M.



August Brunel Family

of Lawrence, across from the homestead on SE 28-25-15. Over the years they acquired and cleared more land. Then the sons decided to each go their own way.

In 1942, Dad bought the Joe Hamelin farm west of Ste. Rose. He continued to help on that farm until they retired to Ste. Rose in 1958. They both enjoyed gardening and won many prizes for their vegetables at the Agricultural Fairs in Ste. Rose.

Mother died in 1972 at the age of 83 and Dad died in 1978 at the age of 93.

Jean Louis and Germaine Brunel (Lepine)

Jean Louis, son of Auguste and Mathurine, was born in Dauphin on May 7, 1917.

For the first seven years, I lived on NW 27-25-15 in the RM of Lawrence. From our farm I remember seeing the first train go through Methley (Locre at that time) in 1924. How exciting that was! My family moved back to Ste. Rose to farm, so my brothers, sisters and I could attend school.

In 1933 we moved back to the SE 28-25-15 and began clearing the land. The clearing of the land was done by hand using axes, horses and chains. Trees were pulled out with teams of horses. We were able to clear 50 acres of land a year. In 1937 our first tractor was purchased and the clearing and breaking of the land became much easier. During this time we were raising cattle and growing wheat.

I remember the 6:00 am trips to Methley by horse and buggy to deliver the cream to the train. The cream was then delivered to the Ste. Rose Creamery.

In 1940 I acquired the original homestead NW 27-25-15 and SW 21-25-15.

On November 3, 1942 I married Germaine Lepine (born in Forget, Saskatchewan on July 5, 1922) in Valpoy. We started farming on the E 28-25-15. As the years went on, we acquired more land for our growing cattle and grain operation. In 1971, J.L. Brunel & Sons Ltd. was incorporated.

We have five children:

Paul: born January 11, 1944, married Elvier Beasse on April 12, 1969 and they are living in Ste. Rose. They have two children: Robert, born March 28, 1975, and Jennifer, born October 28 1977. Robert is presently studying at the University of Manitoba and is enrolled in the Agriculture Diploma Program. Jennifer is also enrolled at the U of M taking Psychology. Paul farms with his brother, Emile, and Elvier is the Director of Pastoral Care at the Ste. Rose General Hospital.

Emile: born May 6, 1946, married Irene Delaurier on July 5, 1969 and they are living on the

farm. They have four children: Derek born June 4, 1970, Dominic born July 17, 1973, Celeste born September 19, 1980 and Marc born August 6, 1985. Derek is actively involved in the farm, Dominic is enrolled at the University of Manitoba and is taking Civil Engineering, Celeste is presently in Grade 9 and Marc is in Grade 4 at Ste. Rose School. Emile farms with his brother, Paul, and Irene is a housewife.

Eugenie: born September 28, 1950, married Lloyd Bass on July 28, 1973 and they are living in Ste. Rose. They have two children: Kevin born February 17, 1976 and Allison born July 29, 1978. Kevin is presently employed at the Ste. Rose Co-op and Allison is presently in Grade 12 at Ste. Rose School. Eugenie is an LPN at the Ste. Rose General Hospital and Lloyd owns and operates Ste. Rose Autobody.

Annette: born January 31, 1955, married Gerald Chammartin on June 7, 1980 and they are living in Winnipeg. They have two children: David, born November 26, 1982 and Bryan, born June 16, 1985. David is presently in Grade 7 at Niakwa School and Bryan is in Grade 5 at Ecole Guyot. Annette is presently working part time for the law firm Thompson Dorfman Sweatman as a word processing operator. Gerald works for the City of Winnipeg Parks & Recreation Department as a Foreman/Utility 4.

Michelle: born April 6, 1959, is presently living in Swan River. She has one daughter Shari born June 29, 1978. Shari is presently in Grade 12 at SVRSS. Michelle works at the Swan River Hospital in the Health Records Department.

Germaine and I are semi-retired and still living on the farm. We are enjoying travelling and our 11 grandchildren. I enjoy reading, visiting with friends and enjoy the times I get to work on the land. Germaine enjoys gardening, especially her flowers, and doing a variety of crafts.

Our whole family have fond memories of picnics, playing baseball and swimming at Methley Beach with neighbours, the special Sunday outings to Manipogo Beach when the children were small, and in later years camping, swimming and fishing there.

Germaine and I have fond memories of curling at the Methley Curling Rink, the store in Methley, our little Methley Church, Father Masse stopping for a meal or a rest at any time (even when we weren't home), voting at Gerald Hopfner's home, many get-togethers with neighbours and shopping in Rorketon in the early years.

Joseph Debienne and Family **submitted by Rachel E. Croy (Debienne)**

My father came early in the spring of 1922, from Lovilla, Iowa, to locate a homestead in Locre, Manitoba. After duly filing for his homestead in Ste. Rose du Lac, he sent word for his wife and his family of six to come and join him. Our eldest brother, Joseph, drove us in his Model T Ford. Our family consisted of my mother, Marie, my sister Marie, age 16, myself Rachel, age 14, brother Paul, age 8, brother Marcel, age 5, and brother Emile, age 3.

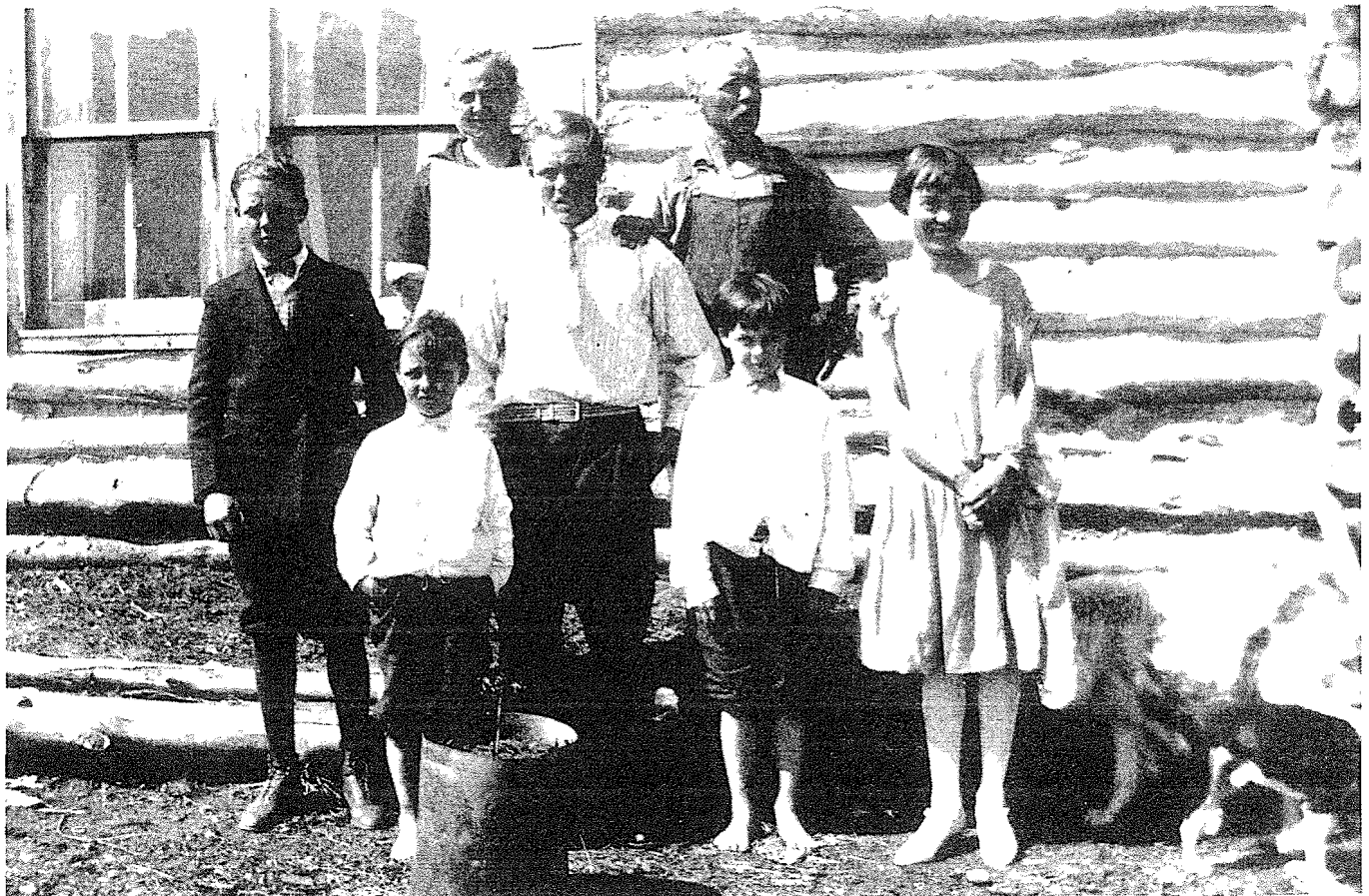
Upon reaching Ste. Rose we cleaned up, and were ready for a joyous reunion with our father. We then drove to McCarthy's farm, about five miles from Ste. Rose where we had to leave the car because the roads were impassable with the car beyond that point. We transferred all our belongings into Dad's wagon, and then travelled another ten miles finally arriving at a house we could call home. After a short period of time, my brother Joseph left home to find work with the Railroad Extra Gang. Later during the winter he found employment in a logging camp in Ontario as a cook's assistant. My sister Marie went to Winnipeg and after taking a course in stenography, got a job in an office.

The little hamlet called "Locre" changed its name to "Methley" and my young brothers started school there. Eventually the community started to have the occasional dance at the schoolhouse, and a violin player volunteered to supply music. My ten year old brother, Paul, often played for some of the dances.

With the help of neighbors we built a log house on the homestead. This was no easy task because it was difficult to find poplar trees that were straight enough to be used as logs. These were difficult years because, amongst other hardships, we lost some of our horses due to a disease called Swamp Fever. Eventually my father sold the homestead and rented a farm near East Bay where my three younger brothers attended school. In the meantime, I got married and moved to Estevan, Saskatchewan, and was later followed by the rest of the family. My brother Paul and I are the only survivors now. I am living with my daughter in Burnaby, British Columbia and Paul and his wife live in Regina.

The Debiennes

Joseph Benohi Debienne was born in Riety, France, on October 29, 1878. Marie Delamaide was



Maurie (Delamaide) & Joe Debienne, Paul, Joe, Rachel, Emile & Marcel

born in Lille, France, on February 12, 1884. They met and were married in France, in 1903. Their first son, Joseph Benohi Ovide Debienne, was born in Devion, France on November 5, 1903. A daughter, Marie, was born on June 25, 1905 in Barlin, France. A short time later, the family emigrated to Sceaman, Kansas, in the United States. They lived there for several years while Joseph Sr. worked in the coal mines. Young Joseph attended school in Sceaman for a year and a half, and Rachel was born there on December 25, 1907. In 1909 the family returned to France where they lived for four and a half years. Next they travelled back to Kansas for a year, then on to Hocking, Iowa where Paul was born on January 29, 1914. Young Joseph was thirteen years old by then and he went to work in the deep seam (underground) mines as a powder monkey. Marcel was born in Melrose, Iowa on June 23, 1918, and Emile on September 1, 1920, at Lovilla, Iowa.

After five years in Iowa, Joseph Sr. decided to head north. He had heard of farmland available in Manitoba and went to stake a homestead claim. The family, now made up of six children and Marie, waited in Hocking until Joseph had found a place.

In 1922, Marie and the children, in their Model T touring car, left Lovilla with oldest son Joseph at the wheel. They crossed the border into Canada at Emerson, Manitoba on May 15, 1922.

They drove as far as Ste. Rose then travelled to their homestead by horse and buggy.

The family kept the homestead until 1930. Joseph Sr., Paul, Marcel and Emile all left that year to join Joseph Jr. in Estevan.

Joseph Debienne Jr.

In July 1922, eldest son Joseph travelled to Brandon and found work on a CNR crew for the summer. The next winter he worked as a cook's helper in a lumber camp in Ignace, Ontario. The following summer he got hired on again with a CNR extra crew and stayed with them until 1925. He was laid off in Moose Jaw and he decided to go to Estevan where he had heard there was work in the coal mines. Within three days he was hired at the Big Lump Mine, located south of Estevan's Sunset Drive-in Theatre.

Joseph worked at the mine. In 1930, Joseph married Ina J. McMaster of Estevan. They lived on a small farm along the Souris River, east of the Estevan generating station. They had a son, James Joseph, born December 6, 1930 and a daughter, Donna.

In 1939, Joseph worked in the coal mine until 1957, when a dynamite charge blew off his right

hand, blinding him in the right eye and deafening him in the right ear. After one year of sick leave, he returned to the mine as a watchman until his retirement in 1969.

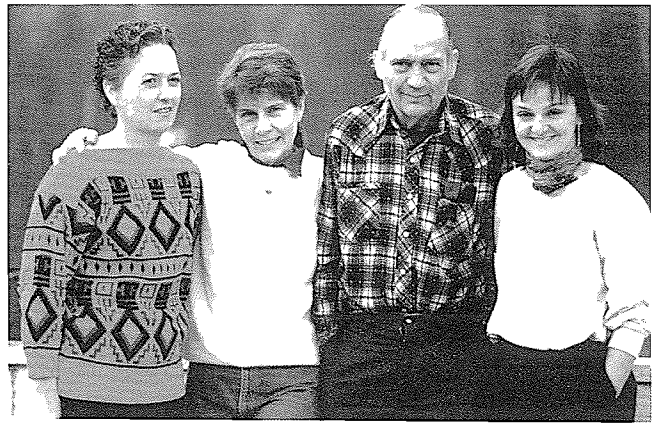
Ina Debienne passed away on May 5, 1966. Joseph then married Clara M. (Crouse) Storey on July 6, 1968.

Marie Debienne

Marie married Lou Hall. They lived in Methley for a time, then Dauphin, and then in Hartney, Manitoba. During this time they had two daughters, Shirley, born on December 21, 1929, and Thais, born on July 8, 1931. The family moved to Vancouver, British Columbia.

Rachel Debienne

Rachel married Henry Carey on June 13, 1927 in Dauphin, Manitoba. Henry was working with Rachel's brother, Joseph, at the Truax-Traer Mine. Rachel joined Henry in Estevan where they had two children: Roy, born on March 29, 1931, and Gloria,



Henry Carey's children, Joyce, Gloria, Roy & Lynette



Roy, Rachel, Joyce, Henry & Gloria - The Careys

born August 4, 1934 and was adopted in October of that year. The family lived near Estevan until 1937, when they decided to take up farming in Methley. Joyce was born there on November 17, 1940. That same year, Henry enlisted in the army as a cook and worked at Camp Shilo until 1944. Rachel stayed on the farm, raised the family, and farmed on a smaller scale. In 1947, Rachel and Joyce moved to Winnipeg and then to Penticton. The rest of the family followed in 1948. Henry and Roy went to work in logging camps, and Gloria lived with Rachel's sister and brother-in-law in Vancouver for a year. In 1950, Rachel and Henry were divorced, and, in 1952, Rachel married William (Bill) Croy.

Paul Debieenne

Paul Debieenne joined his brother in Estevan shortly after Joseph and Ina were married in 1930. Paul worked at the Peterson Mine in Shand, Saskatchewan and also at Yergen's Farms. During the depression years, he "rode the rods" and found work at 9 Mile Camp in Hope, British Columbia. He returned to Estevan in 1936 and went to work at the M & S Mine. In 1938, he married Elizabeth (Betty) Bourquin. They lived at the Crescent Mine site, then in Estevan for two years, and then at the M & S Mine Camp. During these years they had two sons, Norman Paul, born in November, 1939, and Raymond, born on July 19, 1941.

In 1945, Paul went to work for the Dominion Electric Company in Taylorton, Saskatchewan. From 1951 to 1955 he worked at the Briquette Plant. In 1955, he was hired as assistant Chief Engineer at the Regina General Hospital. In later years he was promoted to Building Superintendent and retired in 1977 as Director of Property and Building Management.

Marcel Debieenne

Marcel arrived in Estevan in the spring of 1930. He lived with Ina and Joseph on the farm and took correspondence courses. He worked on a farm near Carnduff, Saskatchewan in the summer of 1932. That winter he was employed at the White Hope Mine, one mile west of the Estevan generating station and the M & S Mine. For the next two summers he worked for Co-operative Dairies and in the local mines during the winters.

On May 17, 1941 he married Rose Bourquin, Elizabeth Bourquin's sister and they lived with Ina and Joe on the farm. Marcel worked part and then full time at the power plant in Taylorton, Saskatchewan until it closed in 1950. The family then moved to Estevan where Marcel worked at the

generating plant. They had three children: Diana, born April 27, 1947; Sheryl, born July 24, 1952; and Douglas, born March 27, 1954.

Emile Debieenne

Emile found work at the Jewish and M & S Mines and the S.P.C. He had a welding shop in Bienfait and then was a salesman for Forney Arc Welders, and then back to S.P.C. He resigned from there to run Emile's Camp Grounds south of Regina.

He married Lillian Bourquin in November, 1941. They had a son Dale, who was born in January, 1945. Dale attended Valley View School in Estevan and Martin Collegiate in Regina. A second son, Gary, was born September 4, 1947 and daughter Shirley was born November 21, 1951.

The Dustan Family History

submitted by Bill Dustan

My parents, George and Elizabeth Dustan, and their four children moved to Methley, in 1934, and opened a store with a post office. During the war years, my father also worked for the Prairie Farm Assistance.

On New Year's Eve, during the 1930's, my father always held a New Year's Eve Dance at the Methley School. There was no charge and there sure were some great parties.

In 1944, we moved to another farm in the Methley area and farmed until 1947, when my parents sold out and we moved to Calgary.

On the Honour Roll, my father was a veteran of the First World War and was a charter member of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch #87 in Rorketon. My brother, Ronald, was overseas during World War II and was wounded in Italy. After the war, Ronald married Doris Laycock and moved to Calgary. He passed away in 1959.

My sister, Helen, was also overseas in the army with the Army Postal Corps. I was in the R.C.A.F. for a short time at the end of the war.

At the present time, Ella, her husband, and children live in Vancouver. Helen and her children live in Vancouver also. Doris and the children live in Calgary. My wife and I and our children also live in Calgary.

Arthur and Leonie Hopfner

I came to Manitoba with my parents, Jos and Mary Hopfner, and brother, Emil, in the fall of 1935. The winter was spent with my brother, Bill, who had moved to Ste. Rose a year previous. That winter we hauled logs for our future home on section 33-25-



Art Hopfner's Wedding Day

15. The house we had been living in was an older building that was moved from Ste. Rose.

In the spring of 1936, we moved to Methley, bought a saw mill and built a barn and chicken coop. We also sawed lumber for neighbours. It was then time to break land, 40 acres in 1936. Dad bought more land, ending up with 9 quarters having 1440 acres by the end of 1959.

Mom and Dad were both born in Millerville, Minnesota. In 1914 they moved to Lake Lenore with their six children: Bill, Alphonse, Ray,

Virginia, Rob and Emil. It was here that I was born in 1917.

In 1940, I married Leonie Brunel. We have nine children: Janet, Joseph, Dwight, Caron, Glenn, Ivan, Mary, Lois and Carmel, nineteen grandchildren and two great grandchildren. We moved to Ste. Rose in 1946 so that our children could be closer to a school for a good education while I continued farming with my sons.

The farm is now a company named Hansen Creek Farm, three of our sons are involved. Leonie and I are both in our seventies and we help as best we can in this business called farming.

Chris and Rose Hopfner Sr.

Chris Hopfner was born on July 10, 1891 at Millerville, Minnesota. In 1912 he emigrated to Canada with his family. He married Rose Butala and they farmed in Lake Lenore, Saskatchewan until 1942. They had four children, Alf, Alice (Mrs. Ray Bauer), Gerald and Emmett.

Rose died in July of 1949. After his wife's death, Chris lived with Alf and his family until 1978 and then moved to the Leisure Senior Apartments in Ste. Rose. He passed away in September, 1982 at the age of 91 and is buried beside his wife in Ste. Rose.

Alf and Thera Hopfner

Alf was born in Lake Lenore, Saskatchewan, where he attended school and lived on the farm until 1938. He came to Ste. Rose where he bought a quarter section of land at Methley in the R.M. of



Mr. & Mrs. Art Hopfner & Family



Taken at 50th Wedding Anniversary of Alf & Thera Hopfner - Oct. 1995

Lawrence. He spent his summers there and went back home to Lake Lenore for the winter months.

While Alf was in the Air Force, he was stationed, Eindhoven, Holland. There he met his future wife. After the winter he went into Germany and then back to England. Eventually he got permission to return to Eindhoven, Holland, where on October. 9, 1945, he married Thera Van den Heuvel. Immediately after the wedding, Alf had to return to England and from there back to Canada arriving home in Methley in March, 1946. Thera came to Canada on the Mauritania with hundreds of war brides. Their children are:

Chris and his wife Pat have three children and now live in Guelph, Ontario. After completing university, Chris went to work for the Bank of Montreal and at present is vice-president of Community Banking for the Bank of Montreal.

Wayne and his wife Mary Jane have four children and now live in Dartmouth. After completing his education Wayne joined the Royal Bank and has worked for them ever since. Wayne is now area manager in Halifax.

Dale and his wife, Monique, live in Ste. Rose and have three boys. They purchased the Ste. Rose Hotel.

Jim and his wife, Susan, also reside in Ste. Rose and have two children. Jim is a teacher at the Ste. Rose School.

Debby and her husband Greg Kiryluk live in Ste. Rose and have two girls. Debby is employed as a register nurse in Ste. Rose hospital.

Gordon Hopfner

In 1967, after the accidental death of his father Emmett Hopfner, Gordon joined Alf and Thera Hopfner family. His mother Kathy (Storozinski), passed away in 1958 when Gordon was five months old. Gordon lived with Alf's family until his death in 1982 at the age of 24. Gordon is laid to rest in the Rorketon Cemetery beside his mother and father.

Louis Robert Lardinois

submitted by Julie Pierce

Louis Robert Lardinois was born in LeRoeulx, Belgium on November 29, 1884. He emigrated to Canada in 1910 where he took a homestead in Valpoy, Manitoba. He was a cabinetmaker, learning his professional skills at a very young age in Belgium.

He married Anne Marie-Louise (nee Brunel) in 1925 at Ste. Rose de Lima Church in Ste. Rose du Lac, Manitoba. He built the Blue Bell School in 1917, the cost of which, was \$1,700.00. Shortly thereafter, they moved to the United States. They had one daughter who resides in St. Clair Shores, Michigan.

Louis continued his carpentry skills in Detroit, Michigan, working at the Book Cadillac Hotel, the Maccabees Building, and Pom - McFate. He retired from the U.S. Public Health Service Hospital in 1961.

History of Fred and Rebecca Parish

Fred Parish was born on August 22, 1888 in Whittlesey, Cambridge, England. He grew up and attended school with ten brothers and sisters. He worked in the brick yards until he immigrated to Hamiota, Manitoba, in 1912.

Rebecca Tinkler was born on September. 2, 1888, in Benwick, Cambridge, England. She received her education there and immigrated in 1913, to Hamiota, Manitoba.

Fred and Rebecca met in Hamiota and were married on Febuary 28, 1916. Their daughter Louise was born on July 12, 1917. Their son George, was born on October 27, 1918.

Fred worked as a farm hand in the Hamiota area until the spring of 1923 when they moved to their homestead SW 5-26-14. This homestead was situated two and one half miles east of Methley. A two room frame house was built, as well as a log barn in a clearing cut out of the bush. More land was cleared and cultivated for a vegetable garden and fields to grow grain as food for the horses, cattle and chickens.

Many other families were moving to the area.

One family, was Rebecca's sister, Joan, and her husband Jim Sparrow, also from the Hamiota area.

George and Louise Parish attended Methley School. They walked two and one half miles on a bush trail and they would see wolves crossing the trail in front of them. Classes at the school started in April and ended in December, after the Christmas concert put on by the teacher and the pupils. In later years the school ran for the full term.

An over abundance of mosquitoes made the picking of the plentiful, delicious wild fruits, a painful experience at times. The singing of whip-poorwills was always enjoyable from a distance.

There were many happy times at Christmas concerts, dances, and socials, and also the picnics at Lake Dauphin, now known as "Methley Beach".

Babysitters were unheard of in those days. All children, including babies, attended the gatherings. Fred Parish was a very talented singer and sang at concerts and socials. There were also whist drives and "surprise" house parties. People from other districts attended the concerts, dances and socials. The Powney and Burtonshaw families, to name a few, attended from Valpoy.

During the winter months, Fred cut wood to heat the home, and cut cord wood which was hauled to Methley railway siding, and shipped out. Fred also trapped weasels and snared rabbits for their pelts.

Rebecca knit socks and mitts for the family, hooked rugs, and made patch-work quilts during the winter time.

In 1929, the family moved to another farm, two and one half miles west of Methley. They had a larger house, more cultivated land, and better roads to travel to school and the post office. They were also nearer to other neighbours.

Years later, George was married to Dahlia Hiebert of Laurier. In January of 1942, Earl joined the army and went overseas. They now live in Sidney, British Columbia.

Louise (see Earl and Louise Coutts).

In 1943, Fred and Rebecca sold the farm and moved to Forrest, Manitoba. Fred worked in the "Sally Ann" in Camp Shilo. In 1946, they moved to the village of Riding Mountain, Manitoba, where Fred was CNR express agent and caretaker of the curling rink.

By this time, Fred and Rebecca had five grandsons; Ronald and Brian Parish, and Keith, Barry and Raymond Coutts. These grandsons are now married and have children and some grandchildren of their own.

Fred and Rebecca did not live to see their great

grandchildren. Fred passed away on October 13, 1965 and Rebecca passed away on November 10, 1968. Both are interred at Riding Mountain.



Fred Parish



Rebecca Parish

George Robinson

This is the history of George Robinson, son of John Henry Robinson and Annie Walker Rogan.

My father, John Robinson, was born on November 8, 1880, in South Cockerington Lincolnshire, England. He was raised by his grandparents, Anthony and Sophia Robinson, in a little place called Saltfleetby, St. Peters, Lincolnshire.

At the age of 25, in 1905, he left England and came to Canada.

John Henry Robinson married Annie Rogan in Eton, Manitoba on March 12, 1913.

My mother, Annie Rogan, daughter of John and Elizabeth Rogan, was born in Coatbridge, Scotland on June 3, 1891. She came to Canada at the age of 16 to be with her sister, Elizabeth Hutchinson.

John and Annie Robinson had seven children: Elizabeth "Mary" married Grafton Hopkins, Annie Henrietta married Ron Boxell, Violet Sophia married Roy Foster, Elsie May married Slim Lunsted, John "David" married Isabel Mills, George Francis married Theresa Brasseur, and Jean Quenellian married Edward Hudson.

My parents farmed in the Methley area. In 1936 or 37 they moved on to farmland 6-26-15, and lived there until 1949 when they moved into Methley and Dad became janitor of a one-room school.

I was born on a farm in Methley, on March 20, 1924, attended school in Methley, and helped on the farm.

With the war over, I set sail for home on November 15, 1945. I left Southhampton on the Queen Elizabeth II, landed in Halifax on November 18, 1945 and was back in Winnipeg.

One year later I went to British Columbia and worked in the Frazer Mills and a few other odd jobs. My mother suffered a couple of heart attacks so I returned home.

In September of 1948, I went to Saskatchewan

to work on a farm near Lampman and went back to this farm again in 1949.

It was here in Lampman that I met Theresa Brasseur, daughter of Harvey and Irene Brasseur. We were married on November 3, 1949 and moved back to Methley to take up the farm that my parents had left. We stayed until August 1953 then moved back to Saskatchewan where I worked on the CNR until I retired in 1984.

We had five children, Dwight, Alice, Joanne, Shirley, and Gail. Alice, Joanne, and Shirley were born in Ste. Rose, while Dwight and Gail were born in Saskatchewan.

On August 17, 1954 my mother passed away and is buried in the Magnet cemetery. Shortly after her death, my father moved to Saskatchewan to live with us. He was a very strong support for our family, so when he suffered a stroke in 1963 and gradually deteriorated mentally, it was heartbreaking but necessary for him to be placed in a nursing home. He died April 15, 1977 and is buried beside my mother in Magnet Cemetery.

In 1967 we bought a restaurant in Carlyle, a town in south east Saskatchewan. We called it Terry's Grill and operated it until the end of 1975. We then moved to Kenosee Lake, sixteen miles north of Carlyle.

Our children now have children of their own: Dwight has three boys David, Bryan, and Wyatt and lives at McCreary Manitoba; Alice (Jack Trusty) have three children, Dahinda, Eoin, and Penny, all living in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan; Joanne (Jim Merkel) and their three daughters live in Carlyle; Shirley (Paul Tremblay) and their three children, Amanda, Brandy, and Roland live part of the time in Moose Jaw and the other part of the year in Maple Creek, Saskatchewan; Gail and her son Evan live in Moose Jaw.

We have four great grandchildren Brandon and Cydney, Dahinda's two children, Vanessa is David's daughter and Joshia is Eoin's son.

Harry Smith Family **submitted by Laura Scott**

Harry Smith (1891 - 1957)
Elizabeth Isobel (1885 - 1953)
Wilfred (Bill) (1928 - 1956)

Harry Smith was born in Starston, Norfolk, England on March 29, 1891.

On December 21, 1916 Harry married Elizabeth Isobel Russell at Camberwell, England. Harry was then a private in the Army in World War I. Harry was wounded in the war in 1920 and discharged from the Army in Winnipeg June 18, 1920.

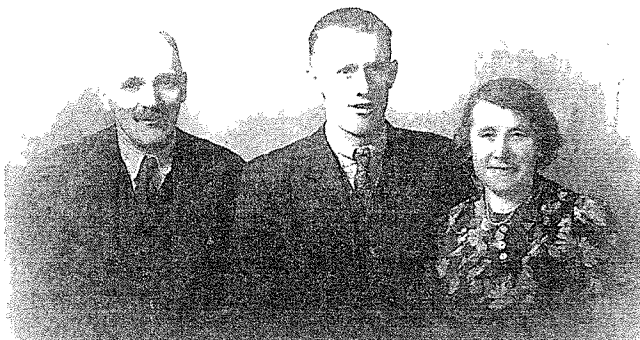
Harry and Elizabeth (Bessie) immigrated to Canada where they homesteaded in the Valpoy district of Manitoba. On April 20, 1928, Wilfred Wharton was born in Winnipeg and Harry and Bessie adopted him. He was called Bill by most of his friends. In the early 1930's the Smiths moved to



Mary Scott (Henry's Mother)



John L. Scott (Henry's Father)



Harry, Bill & Elizabeth (Russel) Smith

the Methley district where Bill grew up and helped his parents with the farm. On December 29, 1952, Bill married Laura Preston of the Magnet district. On January 1, 1953, Bill's mother, Bessie, died; Bill and Laura stayed on the farm with his dad.

Bill and Laura had 2 children Terry William born on July 24, 1953 and Michael Harold on December 11, 1954. Bill died on January 29, 1956. Laura and boys moved back to the Magnet district where Laura later married John Scott of the Million district.

Harry Smith sold his farm in 1956 and moved to Kelwood. Harry died in 1957. Terry William married Leona Zywna of the Rorketon district and they have 2 children, a girl Tracy and a boy Jeremy. Terry farms in the Million district.

Michael married Doreen Hudson of the East Bay district and they have 2 girls, Brandi and Tanya. They reside in Dauphin.

Million District

Following is a poem written by Jake Heesaker, of Million, in 1934.

Million

There's a place in Manitoba
That you ought to live to see;
The people there are hustlers,
You can learn that truth from me.
They haven't got a village,
They haven't got a town,
But they have a lively district
And you cannot keep them down.

Chorus:

It's Million, Million;
M-I-L and L again, I-O-N spells Million.
It's the folks! It's the place!
And they take up lots of space,
For they are big men in Million.
There are Norsemen and Canadians
There are English, Dutch and French
But when it comes to playing,
There are none stays on the bench.
It will pay you well and handsome
A little time to take,
To make a trip to Million,
To old Million by the lake.

There is Crozier, Cook and Carter,
There is Turner, Dome and Brown;
They are always up to something
And they haven't time to frown.
They are always up and doing,
For improvement they're a rage
If it isn't Scott or Masters
Then it's Weaver, Holmes or Bage.

There is Alf and Al and Andy,
There is Jim and Dave and Bill;
And when there's something to be done,

They do it with a will.
There is Tom and Dick and Harry,
There is John and Bob and Jake,
If you want to meet the live ones
Come to Million by the lake.

For the C.C.F. they're working now,
And a differences soon you'll see
In the feeling of the people
Up and down the whole country.
They are boosting for the "Commonwealth",
To spread the good news 'round,
And they're scourging Grits and Tories
Wherever they are found.

By Jake Heesaker (1934)

Million

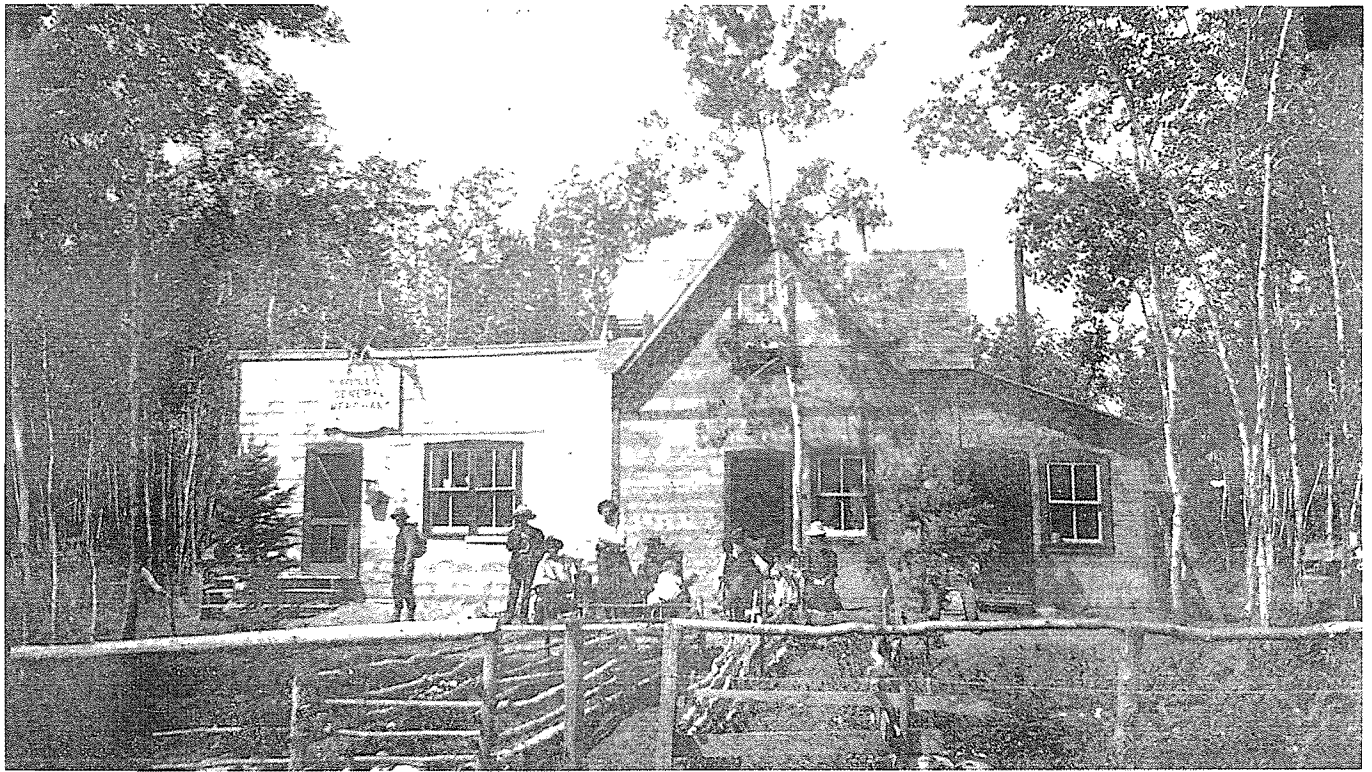
submitted by Marjorie and Elsie Mckinnon

Million is a small community within the R.M of Lawrence. It may be small in size, but it is large in heart.

The name derived from the early settlers who thought they found an "Eden". The land had been known as "Unauthorized Territories". It was not yet surveyed. There was a lot more in our little district then one can imagine.

Dick Warren's Store

This business opened in 1893 on NE 14-26-16 and was the first store in the area. Dick built an addition to their home from which he operated a general store. Later on, Charlotte became the post-misstress. Because Mr. Warren was a blacksmith by trade, a blacksmith shop was added to the business. The bulk of the business was shoeing horses and sharpening plow shears. He died in 1920. His daughter, Jessie, took over the store business with a friend Samuel Scott. The store was opened until 1928.



Million Store

Samuel Scott's Store

In the early 1900's, Samuel Scott owned and operated a general store which later included the Post Office. It was situated on SW 6-26-15. In 1930, Mr. Scott closed the business and moved to Saskatchewan.

Records show that in 1918 a druggist by the name of Peter Durie lived in Million on SE 27-26-16 and in 1924 he opened a drugstore in Benito.

John Irving

In 1924, Mr. John Irving owned and operated a store at NW 18-27-16. He lived on the same quarter. He was also a mechanic.

Post Office

In 1907, the Million community received postal services with Mr. McCormik as the first postmaster. The next postmaster was Charlotte Warren. In 1928, Samuel Scott became the postmaster. The post office was in his store. He was the postmaster until 1930. Mr. Bernard Barrow became the next postmaster and moved the Post Office across the road on SW 30-27-16. He continued as the postmaster until he passed away in 1951. Pete Fediuk operated the Post Office for the summer of 1951. Olive Weaver then became the postmistress until 1953. Marjorie McKinnon then took over until 1956. Olive took charge again until 1966. Then Marjorie ran the Post Office until it closed in 1969.

School

Million S.D. No. 1603

"Only a building", some folks say,
A place for sparrows and mice to play.
Rundown, forgotten — an eyesore too!
Oh speak little house, as you used to do.

When your walls were filled with the youth of yore,
And the Union Jack was a badge you wore.
Tell how you nurtured them one by one,
From six to sixteen, every daughter and son.

Of humble folk from every land,
Who toiled together, with heart and hand.
Tell of the children, tall and small,
Dark and fair, you cradled them all.

Through snow and sleet, dust and heat,
They trudged to this spot where the four roads meet.
Here they studied, and here they played,
Till their lessons were done, and they all went away.

Rich with memories of childhood days,
When a country school house moulded their ways.
Tell of Christmas, those shimmering nights,
When children sang songs by candlelight.

And tell of summers so warm and still,
When meadowlarks sang at the window sill.
Tell them dear school, that you're much, much more,
Than peeling paint, an old eyesore.

Tell them you symbolize all that was good,
Of love, and honour, and brotherhood.

By: Dorothy (Heesaker) Lucking.

In 1912, the Million School, No. 1603, was built by Ed Miner. It was situated on SW 18-27-16. The first teacher was Miss Lindsay from Tate, Saskatchewan. She boarded with her aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Irving. Mrs. Gladys Jackson, Edillen Robbin and Joy Begg also taught there.

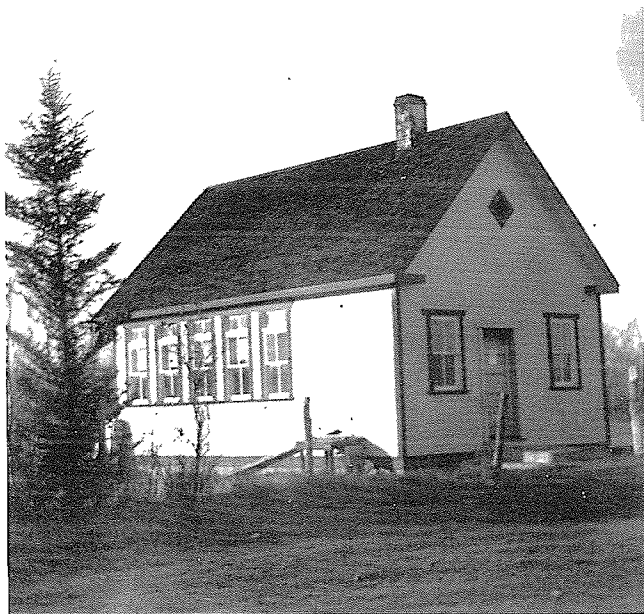
The school was heated with a large wood stove and water was brought in from the well in the school yard. The students carried in wood and swept the floor. There was a barn in the school yard for the children's horses if they rode or drove to school.

There was always a Christmas Concert at the School, with all the students taking part. It took a lot of hard work to prepare for this event. The concert ended with Santa Claus and lunch for all.

The school was used for all social functions in the community: public meetings, dances, church, school Christmas concerts etc.

The Million School was closed in 1967 and all the students were bused to the Rorketon School.

The school was sold to John Scott and the teacherage to Orville Taylor.



Million School

Coronation School

The school was situated on NE 36-26-16. Because it was opened the year of Queen Elizabeth's Coronation, 1953, it was named Coronation. It was a one-room school house with grades 1 to 8. Because there was no teacherage, the teachers would stay at McKinnon's, Turnbull's or Ethel Robbins'. Mr. Frank Preston hauled the wood for the wood stove. Mary Taylor was the caretaker.

When Barbara McKinnon taught at Coronation School from 1958- 1959, only eight students were in attendance. To keep the school from closing, she would bring Terry Smith and Margaret Bage from Million and they would return with her in the evening.

The school closed in June 1967. Kenneth Preston bought it in October of 1967. He moved it on his farm and renovated it to use as their home.

Teacher: Coronation (1957-1958)

Margaret Linton-Permit

First Students:

Valerie Oliver	Beverly Robinson
Fred Taylo	Gilli Bage
Robert Taylor	Elaine Taylor
Roger Taylor	Mervin McKinnon
Stanley Robinson	Thomas McKinnon
	Sam Taylor

Teachers of Coronation:

Barbara McKinnon	1958-1959
John F. Solomon	1959-1960
Michael Heschuk	1960-1961
Albert Michael Baschuk	1961-1962
Fred Werbiski	1962-1963
Victor Mazier	1963-1964
James E. Cassidy	1964-1965
Sylvia Hrushowy	1965-1967

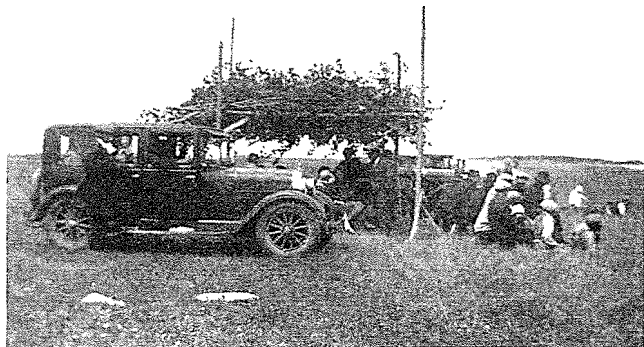
Ladies Social Group

In the 1930's, the Ladies Social Group met in different homes about once a month for a social visit and tea.

The Picnic Resort

The social event of the year was the picnic that was held on the shore of Lake Dauphin. The grounds were mowed and the booths were built. Homemade ice cream, made by Mr. and Mrs. Weaver, was kept overnight, packed in ice, in Mrs. Tom Scott's cellar and was sold. People from outside the district attended. Eventually, like so many other events, the picnic also became a thing of the past.

June 26, 1924, Saturday evening, Million and



Picnic

Rorketon played a friendly baseball game at Foster's Park with Million winning by a few runs.<excerpt Dauphin Herald>

Hall

In 1936, the Million Community formed a committee and decided to build a new hall. Volunteers helped cut the logs that were used for the hall. Rex Carter, of Million, and Ned Bonnett, of Rorketon, sawed the logs. The flooring was bought in Riding Mountain.

There were many social events held in this hall over the years. Like so many small places, the community dwindled away, and the hall was closed. In 1954, it was sold to Bob Bage who dismantled it. After this, only the post office and a public pay phone remained. The pay phone was removed in 1966. The post office was closed in 1969.



Million Fur Farm

The Million Fur Farm

In 1936, at the age of sixteen, Fred Chuipka went in partnership with his younger brother, Walter, and started a mink ranch which became known as "The Million Fur Farm." The ranch became a successful business venture. Because capital was needed to expand, Walter went to Ontario to work in the mines leaving Fred to operate the ranch. In the early 1940's, due to war in Europe, the fur demand fell and so did the price. The mink ranch ceased to operate.

Family History

Bernard and Florinda Barrow

submitted by Marjorie McKinnon (Barrow)

My parents were Bernard and Florinda Barrow (Osborne). They came to Canada from England in approximately 1913-14. They first went to Winnipeg, then Makinak, and later arrived at their homestead in the Million district.

Mr. Barrow was postmaster at Million from about 1928 until the time of his death in 1951. He also lit the fire in the school stove every morning when needed and carried wood in for many years. My parents also "boarded" the local Million teachers all those years.

The Barrows had one daughter, Marjorie. Marjorie went to work at age 16 and got married at age 20, but continued to live in Million.

I went to Million School and completed grade eight. I went to work at age sixteen and in 1939 I married Clarence McKinnon from the Magnet district. We resided in Million, purchasing the "Rex Carter place" in 1943 and living there until my father passed away, at that time we moved to the Barrows' farmstead.

Clarence and I had two children. Barbara was born in 1941, and Jack was born in 1942.

Barbara started teaching at age 18. In winter she drove horses and caboose and picked up half of her students along the way. She taught in many different schools. In 1976, she married Norman Morrisseau. They have one son, Kevin. Barbara and Norman both drive the school bus and run a cattle ranch.

At about 18 years of age Jack went to work on the Hydro Dam at Grand Rapids and then worked for Manitoba Hydro in Winnipeg. When his father died in 1966, he returned to the farm. Jack married Magdaline (Maggie) Pich, daughter of Paul and Mary Pich, of Moose Bay. He later went to work for Department of Highways and farmed. Maggie

taught school in Freedale first and later in Rorketon. Jack passed away, in 1988, leaving two sons, Brent and Kirk and his wife Maggie.

I now live in Dauphin in the Kinsmen Villa with a number of friends and family from the Rorketon area. I visit the farm in Million often and really enjoy "spoiling" my three grandsons!

Thomas George and Henrietta Carter

Thomas George Carter married Henrietta Barnett in 1903. Their son, Rex, was born on August 31, 1904.

Tom and two brothers-in-law came to Canada in April, 1910. On July 1st that same year, Rex and Henrietta sailed from England on the Empress of Ireland. Eleven days later they joined Thomas Carter at Million.

Their first house was built of logs with a sod roof. In the winter of 1912, their house burned to the ground taking nearly all their worldly possessions. Now the logs prepared for a barn had to be used to build another house.

In the meantime Mrs. Carter's parents had emigrated to Banff, so she took Rex and headed for Banff to seek employment. She soon acquired a job as head professional ironer at Banff Springs Hotel, and Rex attended school there. In 1913, they returned to Million, and Rex attended the Million School two and a half miles away from the farm.

As Rex grew older, he custom-threshed and broke land. The Carters traded their oxen for a team of horses in 1916. When Rex was 17 years old, he was working on the homestead with his parents. At age 19, Rex went out threshing, pitching sheaves for 34 days at \$3.00 a day. In the spring of 1924, Rex bought a Fordson tractor for \$550.00 and a breaking-plow. He broke land for \$8.00 an acre. A plow-share would last about 100-125 acres. He burned



Rex, Minnie, Dorothy, Don, Marilyn, Henrietta & Tom Carter

distillate in the tractor at 19-20 cents per gallon, using 18-20 gallons a day. By 1932 Rex had two tractors and two separators. Rex hired Ned Bonnett to run one separator and later Rex sold him the smaller one. Rex custom threshed and broke land for 21 years.

The Carters hauled their grain 26 miles to Ste Rose by horse. It was a two-day round trip. When the railway came to Rorketon in 1924, it made grain delivery much easier. Rex sawed wood in the fall for \$1.00 an hour. This paid the taxes on the quarter section. By this time they had milking cows and the cream was shipped by boat across the lake to Dauphin. They also had 300 laying-hens and shipped eggs to a hatchery in Winnipeg. In later years they had three incubators and custom-hatched chickens for neighbours at \$10.00 a hundred. Rex delivered the chicks and often did not get paid until fall.

In January, 1938, Rex met his future wife, Minnie Hindle. They were married in St. Paul's Church in Dauphin on November 5, 1938 and took over the family farm. Chickens were our main source of income. We kept from 200-300 laying hens and shipped eggs to a hatchery in Winnipeg.

Rex and Minnie had three daughters and one son. Marilyn was born while we were in Million, and Dorothy, Don and Linda were born while we were at Brookdale.

In 1943, Rex bought a farm in the Mentmore district. We sold our farm in Million for \$1,000.00. Together with Rex's parents we moved to our new home. Rex's parents lived with us until we had a house built for them in Neepawa. Because there were a lot of stones on this farm, we sold it and bought a quarter section south of Brookdale. Later we bought the adjoining quarter section.

In 1950, Rex sold his machinery and together with Ned Bonnett bought the IHC business in Brookdale. This did not work out, so we had to buy machinery and start farming again. Luckily we had not sold the farm at the time. Rex continued to farm until 1975. We sold our farm at Brookdale and had a house built in Neepawa where I still live. Rex acquired a job at the Legion Hall and worked there for a few years until he became ill with cancer.

Our eldest daughter, Marilyn, was killed in 1987, in a car accident, leaving a void in our lives. Marilyn was a fitness instructor for women in Gull Lake, Saskatchewan. She had two children: Shawna, Mrs. Ray Lamborn, of Odessa, Texas and Les of Calgary. Our second daughter, Dorothy, Mrs. Larry Kuan, has two children, Carman and his wife, Lynn, live in Morinville, Alberta and Leanne, Mrs.

Joel Hedlin, lives in Saskatoon. Don, our son, lives in Winnipeg and is presently working as security at Palliser Furniture. Linda, Mrs. Ken Hunter, our youngest child, has three children: Mark and wife, Lesa, of Morinville, Melanie of Minot, North Dakota and Michael of Weyburn, Saskatchewan.

We have seven grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

Rex was a member of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 23 Neepawa.

Rex passed away June 23, 1995, in Neepawa Hospital at the age of ninety years and ten months, after much suffering from a long battle with cancer.

Tom Carter died in 1954 at age eighty-seven years of age and Henrietta Carter died in 1978 at age ninety-eight years of age.



Fred & Alice Carter

The Chambers / Alder Family

Ellen Emma Crook, daughter of John and Jane Crook, was born March 23, 1881, in England. Her parents passed away in approximately 1887 and she was placed in the care of an uncle. She attended boarding school, and often spoke of how very lonely she had been there.

She worked as a bookkeeper until 1904, when she married Arthur Charles Chambers, son of William and Lucy Chambers of Grove Farm, Marlborough, England.

Arthur and Ellen had a son, Stuart, and two daughters, Jane Reeve and Greta Helen. In 1912, they immigrated to Canada and homesteaded at Million. Another daughter, Florence Joan, was born at Million.

Arthur suffered with lung disease and passed away on January 2, 1918.

Life was very difficult for Ellen and her young family. Stuart left home to work in a mine and passed away in 1955. When she was fourteen, Janet Reeve went out to work as a domestic, at Ochre River, until she married Cecil Allan Freed in 1923. Greta Helen married Elmo Burton and they farmed at Swan River where they raised a family of five sons and four daughters. She is the only surviving member of Ellen and Arthur's family. During the summer months she resides in Portage la Prairie, near her daughter, Mary Schmitke. She spends the winters in Calgary with her youngest daughter, Ellen Thibodeau.

Joan married Sid Clark of Million and they had a daughter, Irene. Joan suffered terribly with diabetes and passed away while still quite young. After her death, Sid moved his family to Winnipeg. Irene is married to Jim Cunningham. They live in Thompson and have two daughters.

In later years, Ellen married William Robson (Bob) Alder. They continued farming at Million. Bob had also emigrated from England. He was a quiet man Bob and Ellen had a daughter, Betty. She developed childhood diabetes and passed away when she was very young. She rests in the Million Cemetery.

Bob and Ellen stayed in their home until approximately 1960, at which time Bob's health was failing. They moved to Cecil and Janet's farm at West Curtis. They settled into a quiet, contented life and were able to enjoy some good years. They now rest in Hillside Cemetery, Portage la Prairie.

Jacob and Mary Cook

submitted by granddaughters Margaret, Eveleen and Ethel

Jacob Henry Cook and Mary Anna Helmkey came from Whitchurch, Ontario to Hamiota, Manitoba. In 1907, they moved to Million.

They had seven children:

Delta married Art Schmaus

Elza married Johnnie McKinnon

Clifford married Mary McKinnon

Orville never married. He served in WWI, was wounded and returned home.

Flossie married George Crawford

Ruby married Jack Dyer

Earle passed away as an infant.

Jacob Cook passed away in 1929. Orville remained at home with his mother and farmed for many years. Later he built a garage in Rorketon, worked there for many years, and then went to British Columbia. Mary Anna passed away in 1948. They are buried in Million Cemetery.



Jacob & Mary Anna Cook

Jacob Norbert Heesaker

Jacob Norbert Heesaker was born on October 3, 1889, in Green Bay, Wisconsin, to Peter John Heesacker and Cornelia (VerHagen). He was the third youngest son.

Jake attended St. Boniface Catholic School and West De Pere High School. He graduated from Madison University (around 1908) with a teacher's certificate. As teachers' wages were very minimal, he left home and travelled around California, working at odd jobs. In California, he met Dave Mitchell and Alfred Rasmussen, and they discussed homesteading in Canada.

They came to Canada, in about 1910, and in 1913 these three men homesteaded land together at Million just a short ways from the shores of Lake Dauphin. Dad's homestead was SW 25-27-17. Million consisted, at that time, of a school, post office and store.

Jake worked on the C.N. Bridge gang and travelled extensively on his job. He also followed the harvesting, but always went back to his homestead for the winter. Jake took up his homestead close to his brother, Albert, who also came to Canada to homestead. Albert worked for Manitoba Hydro in 1930.

In 1916, Jake took a trip back to Green Bay, where he met and fell in love with Mary Matilda Agnes Wilmet, they married on June 25, 1918, two years after they met.

Jake joined the U.S. Army in July, 1918 and left on August 15th for a camp in Illinois. From there he went to Florida, but the war ended before Jake was sent overseas.

After he was discharged in 1918, he brought his bride to Canada. It was very cold the day they arrived and "Grandad" Crozier took them home for a hot meal. They were also met by a "Million" mosquitoes, which they were sure was how "Million" got its name.

Their first son, William, was born in 1919 and only lived 12 hours. Sarah Dorothy was born on November 5, 1920; Albert Edward, on March 7, 1922; Eugene Victor, on November 22, 1924; Arthur William, on September 26, 1925; Edward Ernest, on April 28, 1927 and Cordelia Carrie, on November 27, 1929.

In 1941, Dad got his first tractor and then a more modern one, in 1953. He got his first Model T truck in 1932.

Many nights were spent at card parties and other social gatherings.

Mother was a home person and her family came first. Both he and mother were always quick to help out the neighbors when called on. Dad was active in the Red Cross and worked for the Nursing Station in Rorketon. He was a member of the Pool Elevators and many Co-operatives. He became a member of the C.C.F. Party in 1933 and was a staunch worker for the NDP.



Jake & Mary Heesaker's 50th Wedding Anniversary, Dorothy, Jake, Art, Mary, Gene, Carrie, Ed & Al

In his spare time, he enjoyed reading about nature, astronomy and history, and was always interested in world affairs and sports.

In 1965, Dad and Mother decided to move to Dauphin, finding the farm too hard to manage alone. The farm was rented for a few years and then sold. They lived in "Happy Haven" until Dad passed away on February 14, 1974. Mother moved to Carman where she enjoyed life until her passing, on October 13, 1983. They are buried in the Carman Greenwood Cemetery.

Sarah Dorothy (Heesaker) Lucking

Sarah Dorothy (Heesaker) Lucking was born on November 5, 1920, at Million, the eldest daughter of Jake and Mary Heesaker. She attended Million School and received a grade-eight education through correspondence courses.

I helped my parents in and out of the house with many tasks, and during my early teens worked for neighbors, off and on, doing casual labor.

In 1939, I worked around Dauphin and in 1940 worked at the King's Hotel. There I met Freeman Lucking and we were married on May 25, 1941. We lived in Dauphin until July, 1945, when we moved to Carman where Freeman became manager for Safeway Stores.

Seven children were born into this marriage:

Eileen Mae, April 25, 1942 (deceased July 14, 1943).

Phyllis Doreen, February, 8, 1944; married Clayton Cox, March 28, 1964 and have four children.

Kathleen Mary, June 16, 1948; married Alvin Cox, July 30, 1966 and have two children.

Elizabeth Ellen, March 1, 1952; married George Neufeld, June 26, 1971.

Alfred Charles Freeman, March 21, 1953; married Debra Young, April 28, 1973 and have three children.

Evelyn Dorothy Jane, September 10, 1958; married Greg Karmazenuk, January 16, 1982 and have two children.

Lorri-Ann Shelley, July 2, 1962.

Dorothy and Freeman have been very active in public life while in Carman, and received many awards for their services in organizations. Dorothy got the "Citizen Of The Year" for Carman in 1985. Freeman spent 20 years as counsellor for the Town of Carman.

The Luckings celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on May 25, 1991, and still reside in Carman at 72-3rd St., N.W.

Albert Edward Heesaker

Albert Edward Heesake was born on March 7, 1922 in Million, eldest son of Jake and Mary Heesaker.

Al took correspondence courses up to Grade seven, and then completed Grade eight in Million School.

Al and Gene dug the well on the farm to 56 feet in 1939. He worked for Rex Carter, and then in 1940 he went to College (Dominion Youth Training). He worked for John Strasdin, farming, and then left for Ontario. His first job was on the Trans Canada Highway at 25 cents per day, 12-hour days, and then went to work in Timmins Gold Mine.

In 1941, he went to Vancouver and worked at the Britannia Beach Mine until 1943 when he joined the army.

He married Olga Myhre in Barrie, Ontario on July 24, 1943.

After three years in the army, he was discharged on April 3, 1946.

He took a D.V.A. refresher course, and went to night school to study Math and Physics. In 1951 he graduated from U.B.C. with a B.Sc. in Physics.

He worked as an x-ray engineer for five years. Then he took his teachers' training and for twenty and a half years taught school at Vancouver Tech.

Al and Olga had four children:

Marlene Alma - June 25, 1944

Beverly - June 25, 1947

Douglas Alan and Jo-Ann - December 19, 1957

Al now resides in Costa Rica.

Eugene Victor Heesaker

Eugene Victor Heesaker was born November 22nd, 1923.

He attended Million School and completed Grade 8.

Following school, he worked for the following people: John and Gerald Scott, Clarence McKinnon, Charles Strasdin, Hugh Crozier, Rex Carter and Dick Stark. Between jobs, he helped Mom and Dad on the farm.

Eugene went to British Columbia in 1940. He worked in Wells, British Columbia in a gold mine and in Britannia Beach, British Columbia in a copper mine.

Gene joined the Canadian Army in 1943, and served in Canada, England and Northwest Europe. He was discharged on April 30, 1946.

He commenced employment with the City of Toronto on May 1, 1946, and retired 40 years later on April 30, 1986. He held many positions with the Department of Public Work, up to the position of

"Supervisor of Street Services", overseeing 700 employees, 22 foremen, four superintendents. During the last 15 years of service, he was also in charge of writing specifications for all new equipment (over 600 pieces of rolling stock) and purchasing same.

On December 29, 1945, Gene married the former Miss Shirley Wood. Shirley served in the Canadian Women's Army Corp. during the 1939-45 war. They have one son, Gene Peter, who married Cynthia Jones on August 12, 1989; they have two children.

Eugene joined the Canadian Corps. Association (a National Veterans Organization) in the fall of 1945, serving in many capacities. He was Provincial President for five years and has served as Dominion President since 1964. He has travelled all over the world on behalf of the Veterans and their families. Shirley has been Secretary of the Canadian Corps. since 1948. They both still work every day on behalf of Veterans and their families, and Canada as a whole.

Arthur William Heesaker

Arthur William Heesaker was born September 26, 1925.

He was the son of Jake and Mary of Million.

Arthur attended Million School through Grade eight. Besides working on the farm in the summer, Art fished commercially on Lake Dauphin in the winter. He worked for Rex Carter at harvesting and drove a truck for Charlie Strasdin. Also worked in the mines at Flin Flon.

Art began working for the Manitoba Pool in 1948, building elevators, until he retired in 1988.

Art married Ila Audrey Todd of Bethany, Manitoba, on June 29, 1957. They lived in Bethany until June 1963, when they moved to Winnipeg.

After he retired, Art bought the old Roy farm at Elie in 1989. He greatly enjoys his garden and yard. The Roy farm was Ila's maternal grandparents' home. Art and Ila had four children:

Tod Arthur - June 1, 1958

Michael William - April 2, 1960. Married Kathleen Pastrick July 14, 1984 and they have two children.

David Miles - May 29, 1961

Valera Kathleen - June 12, 1972

Edward Ernest Heesaker

Edward Ernest Heesaker was born April 28, 1927.

I attended Million School from 1936 to 1942, completing Grade eight.

I then helped Dad on the farm, except in the fall when I worked on local threshing outfits for about two months each year.

In 1946, I worked on the CNR four months, until freeze-up. That winter I worked in the gold mine at Pickle Lake, Ontario. The next six years were spent cutting pulp in Northern Ontario, near Dryden.

The last year I cut and peeled pulp in Ontario, I got rooked into fighting a forest fire near where we were cutting. I spent over 50 hours straight on a fire hose at 50 cents an hour. Good thing it finally started to rain. From 1948-1950, I returned to Manitoba for about two months in the fall, to help a farmer harvest.

From 1953 to 1957, I worked in British Columbia, in Vanderhoof, Vancouver and Squamish, and then on the Island at Tahis and Port Albernie. I returned to Manitoba in 1957 and spent one year at home on the family farm.

I then moved to Carman, where I worked on a potato farm for 18 years. After that I worked for the Carman School Division as a bus driver for 17 years, retiring in 1992. Of those 17 years with the Midland School Division, six were spent putting in eight hours a day as caretaker, in addition to the bus-driving.

I am still living in Carman.

Cordelia Carrie (Heesaker) Weaver

Cordelia Carrie (Heesaker) Weaver, born November 27, 1929.

She was the youngest daughter of Jake and Mary of Million.

Carrie attended Million School through Grade nine.

She worked on the family farm until 1947, when she married Drue Weaver. They moved to Vanderhoof, British Columbia. For 22 years, she and Drue had a dairy farm. In 1973, they sold the dairy herd and farm. In 1974, they moved to a new home on Nulki Lake and went into beef cattle.

Carrie and Drue had 8 children:

Gordon, August 3, 1948

Charlotte, January 24, 1950

Judy, July 28, 1952

Darrell, April 11, 1955

Karen, August 15, 1956

Christopher, December 26, 1959 (deceased October 19/70)

Glenn, February 14, 1962

Philip, July 9, 1964

Drue passed away on January 16, 1992.

The Rollings Family **submitted by Violet Hermiston**

Josh and Alice Rollings along with brother, Joe Rollings, homesteaded side by side, one mile north of the Warren homestead, in the Million area.

The brothers were in World War I. Joe brought home his mother and sister along with an English War Bride.

Josh and Alice had two sons, Sidney and Cecil. Midwife, Charlotte Warren, along with her daughter, Hessie, attended the birth of Cecil.

The families eventually moved to Ontario.

John (Bay) Sanders

John came from England. He was in World War I, spending most of the time at Vimmy Ridge in France and other parts of Germany. He was a telephone lineman by trade.

He lived on the lake shore, half a mile from the Heesaker's farm. He was known for his flocks of white Leghorn chickens. He shipped many crates of eggs by train to Winnipeg.

Laura Scott

Laura Hazel Preston was born on March 10, 1933, oldest child of Harold and Hazel Preston of Magnet.

Laura received her education at Magnet School and later worked at the Ste. Rose Hospital. On December 29, 1942, Laura married Wilfred (Bill) Smith of the Methley district. Bill and Laura farmed with his dad at Methley until Bill died on January 29, 1956. Bill and Laura had two children, Terry William and Michael Harold.



Michael Smith, Terry Smith, John Scott, Jane Scott, Laura Scott (seated)

Laura and the boys moved back to Magnet to Laura's parents' after Bill's death.

On October 22, 1960, Laura married John Henry Scott of the Million district. John and Laura farmed in the Million area.

They had a daughter, Jane Hazel, born on December 12, 1964. Jane received her early education in the Rorketon area then went to Brandon University (1984-89), where she received her B. A. degree. Later she went to University of British Columbia where she received her Masters Degree in Fine Arts. Jane still resides in British Columbia.

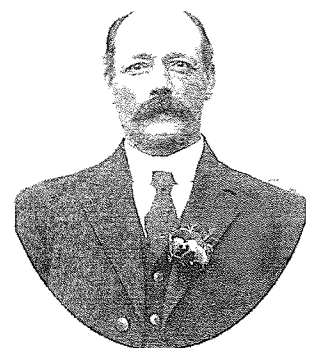
John died March 18, 1986, and Laura still resides in the area.

John L. Scott **submitted by Jane H. Scott**

In the late 1890's, my great grandfather, John L. Scott, came to this area from Minden, Ontario (Haliburton County). The origin of the Scott family name is Irish. John L. Scott homesteaded near the shore of Lake Dauphin on the quarter section SW 28-26-16 in what is now the Million district. His wife, Mary, was previously deceased in Ontario by this time. He was joined in Manitoba by six of his eight children, who travelled by train to Winnipeg in 1902. His eldest son, John, was married and remained in Ontario with his wife. His daughter, Mary, had married Wright Lindsay and moved to Saskatchewan. William, Sam, Thomas (my grandfather), Kate, Richard and Margaret joined their father. The four sons homesteaded in the area, William on SW 32-26-16, Sam on SW 6-26-15, Thomas on SE 32-26-16 and Richard on NW 28-26-16. Thomas married Sarah Jane Booth of the East Bay district. Kate married Ben Wyatt of Decker, Manitoba. Richard married Jean Hunter. Margaret married Robert Irving of Million.

John L. Scott served as councillor (in what was

Sam Scott





Mr. & Mrs. Richard Scott & Mr. & Mrs. Robert Irving

then the R.M. of Ochre River) from 1904-07. William Scott was a councillor in 1908 and Sam Scott held the position a few years later in 1914. John L. Scott died in 1923 at the age of 89 years.

My grandpadrents, Thomas (1868-1942) and Sarah Jane (1885- 1951), were married in 1912. Thomas homesteaded his quarter section SE 32-26-16 in 1905, having worked out for other people for three years after coming to Manitoba in 1902. Thomas and Sarah Jane had three children, John, Gerald, and Elsie.

My father, John Henry Scott, was born on August 11, 1913 in Ochre River. He went to school at Million and helped his father on the farm until he began doing custom-work for other people, break-



Andrew, Arthur, Jane, Isabella, & Wesley Sitting: William, (Jack), & George Sub. by Norman Booth

ing land and threshing. He inherited the farm from his father, bought land of his own, and was involved in mixed farming for the rest of his life. He was also a commercial fisherman on Lake Dauphin for many years.

In October, 1960 he married my mother, Laura Smith (Preston), who was a widow with two children, Terry and Michael. I was born in December, 1964. My parents continued to farm until my father's death in March, 1986 at the age of 72. At that time, the home quarter which was the original homestead, was passed on to me.

Gerald Scott 1915-1990

Gerald was the second son of Thomas and Jane Scott (Booth). He was educated at the Million School. He and his brother, John, worked at home on the farm and then started winter commercial fishing on Lake Dauphin, as soon as they had finished elementary school, which was all that was available in this area at that time. They cleared the land and had some cattle. Later Gerald bought a Model A Ford truck. With this first truck which was used on the lake when they could, they managed to get to Rorketon and to a few other places, though the so-called "roads" were a series of mud holes joined by scraper filled sloughs for many years.

He lived with his parents, until he married Doreen Wrenshall in 1943. At that time, he built a new house on his own farm, across the fence from his parents, which he had bought from his Uncle Billy, William R. Scott in 1936. He continued commercial fishing on Lake Dauphin, mid-November to the end of January. During the war, the men had to fish at night due to the planes from Dauphin Airport doing target practice during the day. He quit fishing when he became lame from a back injury.

On his own farm, SW 32-26-16, he cleared a few acres of land each year.

He was interested in the community. He helped "get out" logs, have them sawed and helped build the Million Community Hall, which was a centre for dances and parties for many years.

His wife Doreen, who had been a teacher, but had grown up on a farm, worked hard, too. She liked cooking, sewing for herself and the children and knitting and crocheting. In February, 1992, due to poor eyesight, she retired to a seniors' residence in Dauphin. Gerald and Doreen raised a family of two sons, Allistair and Malcolm. Both boys worked on the farm while they attended Million School. They were both interested in sports and looked forward to the Annual School Sports Day for the rural schools. They also took part in the annual Christmas con-

certs. Later, Allistair completed his high school at Rorketon Collegiate. He went on to obtain his B.Sc. Degree at Brandon University, his B. Ed. at the University of Manitoba and his B.A. in Social Studies from Brandon University. He has been teaching at William Morton Collegiate in Gladstone for about 25 years. He married Faye Macks of Plumas, also a teacher. They have two daughters, Lorelei and Janine, both doing well in school and interested in piano and band. Faye now works in the Credit Union.

Malcolm, the second son, remained on the farm with his parents and later acquired land of his own. On the death of his father, in January, 1990, he took over the operation of all the land and cattle. He runs a beef herd, cow - calf operation. He is gradually getting more modern machinery, sheds, etc. He is looking forward to having his home farm, SW 32-26-16, recognized as a Centennial owned farm by 2003. He is a member of the Rorketon Volunteer Fire Department. He has received a Fireman of the Year plaque every year. He takes an interest in community affairs and always finds time to help a neighbor.

The original house on the farm, a two-storey model, was built of good solid oak logs. When Gerald built his house in 1943, he had the old house moved to the barnyard where he poured cement for a floor. It has been used as a granary ever since. Once Gerald had to reshingle the roof.

The Warren Family

submitted by Violet Hermiston (granddaughter)

Richard Warren was born on board a ship, crossing from Cornwall, England to Canada on March 16, 1834. From his arrival in Canada until early 1883 he resided in southern Ontario in the Orillia area. Also, during that time, he married Charlotte Agnes Brownell. Charlotte was born somewhere along the St. Lawrence River. Her mother was Elizabeth Lee. During this time children, John, Elvina, Jane, Anne, Caroline, Alberta and Etta were born.

The Warrens arrived at Portage La Prairie, the end of the CP Rail Line in the spring of 1883. They then traveled by ox team and sleigh to Eden, Manitoba. Here, in 1884, on May 28, their last daughter, Jessie was born, and son, Charles Henry, was adopted in Eden. They lived there for about 10 years. They then moved to the east side of Lake Dauphin in the early 1890's and then to the Million area, where Richard and Charlotte spent the remainder of their days. At this time, the Million area was an unorganized territory, and they were considered



Charlotte & Richard Warren

squatters. The Warrens later homesteaded in Million.

It was there that Richard added onto the family home and set up a combination general store and post office. The store which was run by Richard and his daughter, Jessie, was open from 1900 to 1928.

Richard passed away in 1920, at which time Jessie and Sam Scott, a family friend, took over until 1928.

A blacksmith shop was also added, as Richard was a blacksmith by trade. He shod horses and sharpened plow-shares, a very important trade at the time. Supplies for the store were hauled in from Ste. Rose du Lac by horse drawn wagons or sleighs, depending on the season. He also raised and sold light draft horses which were in demand. Coal oil for lamps and lanterns was a very important item sold in the store.

The Warren's store and home were at times used as a stop-over for the settlers as they proceeded to their homesteads.

Charlotte Warren was the first postmistress for the Million area. She also sorted mail for Moose Bay. She was a mid-wife and did a considerable amount of nursing for the local families. Charlotte nursed her daughter, Jessie, granddaughter Violet and husband, Richard, through the small-pox epidemic in 1914.

Bernard Barrow eventually took over the post office in Million and Joseph Cordon was the postmaster at Moose Bay. Joseph used to walk the ten miles to Million twice a week to pick up the mail for Moose Bay. He was also an artist and the Moose Bay schoolteacher.

Richard and Charlotte's son, John (Jack) Warren, married Caroline Coulter of Neepawa, Manitoba. They lived in Makinak where he ran a



Mrs. Richard Warren & Cynthia (Warren) McDougal

livery stable, horse and buggy taxi, and drove settlers to inspect their homesteads.

Daughter, Elvina Warren, married David Ellis, a Welshman. They lived in Neepawa before moving to Dubuc, Saskatchewan.

Daughter, Jane Warren, married Mr. Williams and moved to South Dakota. After Mr. Williams died, their son, John, was raised by Richard and Charlotte. He was accidentally killed in a hunting accident at the age of 16 or 17. He was survived by his mother and sisters, Agnes and Etta. Jane then married Nathaniel Whalen and they had one son, Gordon.

Daughter, Anne Warren, married William Coutts (of Scotland) in the Neepawa district. They homesteaded in East Bay and eventually settled in Makinak where he was a mail courier for the region North of Makinak.

Daughter, Caroline Warren, married Dougall McKinnon and lived at East Bay. Their only child died at birth. Caroline eventually moved to Calgary where she married Neal Nielson, a rancher of Tabor, Alberta. There were no children from this marriage, and Neal died in the 1930's. She then married William Byron in 1946. They lived in Tabor and are both buried there.

Daughter, Alberta Warren, married Ed Forrster of Calgary, Alberta.

Daughter, Etta Warren, was engaged to marry Samuel Scott. They had built and furnished their house, but Etta died before the marriage took place. Sam Scott stayed with the Warren family and later moved to Mozart, Saskatchewan with the Hunsley family (Jessie Warren).

Adopted son, Charles Henry Warren, married Maud Burton and they moved to Franklin, Manitoba. They had no children.

Youngest daughter, Jessie Warren, married Harry Whalen of Minot, North Dakota in 1903. He

was a logger, and they lived in the Pine River/Star City areas. Their daughter, Violet Elizabeth, was born on August 13, 1904 in the homestead log house of her Uncle Nathaniel Whalen (NW 18-27-16). Son, Charles ("Bruce"), was born on July 21, 1907 in the Million area. Jessie remained with the Warrens to raise her family and to help run the general store. She became a nurse, learning this and midwifery, from her mother, Charlotte. Her daughter, Violet, attended school in Makinak as the Million school was not yet built. Jessie married Ernest Hunsley, in 1923.

Violet Whalen, Jessie's daughter, married John "Robert" Hermiston, in 1921. He was the second son of Mark and Christina Hermiston of East Bay. They farmed in East Bay until 1927 and then moved to Mozart, Saskatchewan to buy farm land. Jessie and Ernest Hunsley along with Jessie's son, Bruce Whalen and family friend, Sam Scott, moved to Mozart to farm in 1929. The Hunsleys along with Bruce and Sam are buried in the Haglof Cemetery in the Municipality of Elfros, Saskatchewan.

Robert and Violet (Whalen) Hermiston's adopted son, R. Grant, was born on July 15, 1937 and adopted daughter, Audrey Elizabeth, was born on March 8, 1940. Grant Hermiston left the farm in the spring of 1955 for British Columbia to follow a career in communications. Robert, Violet and daughter, Audrey, moved to Mission, British Columbia in the fall of 1955 where they bought a fruit farm. Audrey died of cancer in October, 1987 and Robert passed away in December, 1987 at the age of 91. Violet Hermiston is now residing in Kamloops, British Columbia along with her son, Grant and family. She will be 92 on August 13, 1996.

Charlotte Warren died on November 26, 1916, and husband Richard died on October 28, 1920. A. B. Crozier was the undertaker for Richard Warren. The Warrens are both buried at Oakridge Cemetery in Million.

Gordon and Annie Weaver

submitted by Gordon Bennette Weaver

Gordon Bennette Weaver was born on August 28, 1881, to Charles and Julia Weaver of Bristol, Vermont.

He came to the Winnipegosis area, in 1904, where he worked in logging camps, and also as cook, carpenter and trapper. He homesteaded in Magnet in 1907, but didn't move there until 1914. He married Annie Bennett Briggs on September 10, 1913.

Gordon was in the Canadian Army 1916-1919.

In 1926, he moved his family to the farm at Million on the shores of Lake Dauphin. He had to work out, at farm and carpenter work in Southern and Northern Manitoba. He farmed and fished commercially until 1946. Gordon enjoyed his orchard and grafting which he had learnt from his father. He and Annie moved to Terrace in 1946 and later in 1947 moved to Vanderhoof.

Due to failing health, they moved back to Million, in 1952. In 1965, they moved to the seniors' home in Ste. Rose and then moved to the new Happy Haven Home in Dauphin, in 1966. Gordon passed away on December 19, 1973 and was buried in Riverside Vermillion Gardens. Gordon and Annie had six sons: Bennette, Lynnton, Nelson, Drue, Charlie and Donald.

Bennette Oakley Weaver, oldest son of Gordon and Annie Weaver was born on July 12, 1914, at Fork River.

He moved with his parents from Winnipegosis to the homestead at Magnet. He lived there until his parents moved to Million, in 1926. He helped his parents develop the farm and engaged in commercial fishing in the winter.

Ben also rode the freights from east to west, looking for work. Due to a knee injury, Ben was rejected by the Army. He remained on the farm until 1947 when he went out to work in Vanderhoof with his brothers in the sawmill. He shipped his Allis Chalmers tractor and plow with which he did custom-breaking in the summer to British Columbia.

On December 19, 1948, Ben was fatally wounded in a hunting accident and is buried in Vanderhoof Cemetery.

Drue Elden Weaver, third youngest son of Gordon and Annie Weaver, was born on May 10, 1922, at Magnet, Manitoba. He attended Million School through grade eight. In the summer, he helped on the farm and in the winter, he helped his father and brothers with commercial fishing on Lake Dauphin. Drue and his brother Nelson worked at many places in Manitoba and Alberta. Many times they were kicked off the "freights".

Drue joined the army in 1940, and spent his training in Winnipeg, Port Arthur, Ontario, Camp Aldershot, Nova Scotia, St. John's, New Brunswick and Camp Debert. In 1941, he was shipped overseas where he took a Driver's Mechanics course in England.

He was shipped out to France and landed outside of Caen. He fought in the battles of Normandy, Falaise Gap and Seine River across France to Belgium, and Holland from Holland to Germany until the end of war. He was discharged on October

13, 1945. He left for Vanderhoof in 1946 where he worked cutting pot props and in sawmills. In 1947, he returned to Million and married Carrie Heesaker. Drue and his brothers, Charles and Don, ran a sawmill in the winter, and in the summer he worked for the Department of Highways and on construction jobs. He spent many years dairying and later went into beef cattle. Drue passed away, in 1992, from cancer, after having two open heart surgeries. (For children refer to Carrie Weaver Heesaker).

Lynnton Emmett Weaver

Better known as Lynn or L.E., I was born the second of six sons to Gordon and Annie (Briggs) Weaver, on June 6, 1917. We lived in Freedale on the NE 27-27-16, four miles south of Rorketon.

I started school in Freedale, for six weeks.

In 1927, we moved to Million where I completed Grade 8, in 1933. We moved, as did a lot of people in those days, because of the Soldier's Settlement Board gave veterans a loan to start farming. My dad was a World War I Veteran and he qualified for a loan.

After I turned 16, I worked out every summer. My first job was for a farmer. I earned \$5 a week for nine weeks and I bought a \$34 horse. From 1934-41 I worked in various places, threshing at Westlock, Alberta for \$2.00 a day, putting crop in at Wainwright, Alberta, and in Sioux Lookout at a Beaver Lumber yard as a carpenter's helper for thirty-five cents an hour. In 1940, I went to Woodlands to visit Bill O'Brien who used to live up here. Then I went to Sudbury, Ontario and worked in the mine as a driller's helper for sixty-three cents an hour plus \$2.00 a day bonus for footage. I travelled mostly on the freight train as most workers did in those days.



Olive & Lynn Weaver with daughters Elaine, Lorraine & Lynda

In 1941, I built my house on the SE 18-27-16 quarter.

On May 2, 1942 I married Olive Bonnett in Dauphin. We had three children: Elaine in 1943, Lorraine in 1945 and Lynda in 1947.

We farmed and fished, but it wasn't very profitable. In 1951, we bought Ross La Pier's eighteen-acre fraction and went more into grain and cattle.

In 1953, in our 1948 Fargo truck, we drove to Vanderhoof where I worked at logging with my three brothers. We came back to Million in 1954. About that time the electricity came in. I opened more land slowly. Raymond Pinette and Bill Robbins were the cat operators. I bought some sheep from Melvin Johnson and raised sheep for a number of years. In 1956-57 the weather was very bad and since we had no crops I went to work for C.P. as a diamond driller. From 1969-74, I worked on and off for the R.M. of Lawrence and at other jobs as well as farmed.

In 1974, we sold the farm to my daughter Lorraine and Dan Iwanchysko. We kept the horses and garden and I continued to work for the R.M. until 1982 when I turned 65 and retired. I kept my horse, Scout, and built a small wagon and a sleigh which I used to haul the wood I cut. I had a horse mower and cut hay and hauled it with the small rack that I had built. We spent six winters house sitting in Dauphin for a couple who went to Texas every winter.

In the fall of 1991, we moved into Spruce Manor in Dauphin, where we presently reside. At that time I sold my horse and was sad to see him go as I had worked with and enjoyed horses all my life.

We have seven grandchildren and two great grandchildren. We belong to the World Wide Church of God and are both very involved in our church life.

I enjoy reading and watch T.V. a lot. We play crib and whist and enjoy our life.

Lynda Beasse

Lynda, third daughter of Lynn and Olive Weaver of Million was born in April, 1947.

I attended the Million School up to Grade 8. Then, for Grades 9 and 10, I moved on to the Rorketon High School. We enjoyed the school curling bonspiels.

In January, 1966, Laurent Beasse and I were married, and between 1968 and 1973, we had four children, two girls, Susanne Lynn and Michelle Elaine, and two boys, Mark Laurent and Kirk Owen.

In 1974, we moved to Edmonton, Alberta. Laurent took on a welding apprenticeship and got

his ticket in welding. I went back to college, finished my high school and took a stenographer and bookkeeping course and multiple computer courses. I have a computer accounting job with a service company associated with the oilfield.

Our oldest daughter, Susanne, married Richard Clary in 1989. They have two children: Jacqueline Lanisse, born in 1991 and Calahan Neil, born in 1994. Rick works in the oil patch; Susanne has worked for the Alberta Government for the past eight years.

Michelle married Randy Dubrule in 1993. They have a little girl, Amanda Corliss, born December 18, 1995. Randy is an accountant. Michelle works as a customer service manager for an office supply chain store. They live in Saskatoon.

Our oldest son, Mark and Liz Flett were married at Canmore, Alberta, in 1994. Mark works at an auto parts store. Liz is a manager at one of the larger retail chain stores. They are both broadening their horizons, with correspondence courses. Mark is interested in writing and Liz in working on an accounting degree. They live in Edmonton.

Kirk is a hardware clerk at a West Edmonton Mall retail store. He also works part-time in security at branches across the city and outlying areas.

Laurent and I have recently bought a twenty-seven acre parcel of land, all jackpine and sand, just out of Smokey Lake, Alberta. That is where we plan to retire.

Dauphine Anne Weaver

I was born on November 22, 1950 in the Ste. Rose du Lac Hospital, middle child of David Nelson and Annie Weaver. I attended the Million School for the first eight years of my education. My teachers were Audrey Pich, grades 1-4, Marie Szport, grades 5-6, and Sylvester Didur, 7-8. There were only two more teachers after that, Stanley Galay and Adeline Smigelski.

I took grades nine and ten in Rorketon, quit school in grade 11, and went to Thompson where I worked at Ken's Restraunt. I also worked at Jack's Inn, just outside of Dauphin. In 1968, I went to Snow Lake where I met Gerry Hanson. He is originally from Davin, Saskatchewan.

We were married on January 13, 1969, in Snow Lake.

Our oldest child, Cathy Eileen, was born in Snow Lake on September 5, 1969.

Our middle child, Lisa Maureen, was born in Ste. Rose on May 4, 1972.

Our youngest, Bennett Lawrence, was born in Dauphin, on July 23, 1976.



D. N. Weaver & Family

We bought the farm from Mom and Dad in 1975. It consisted of the home fraction, NW 31-26-16, where Grandpa Weaver had settled when he first came to the lake, and the fraction next to it, NE 31-26-16 (where the Million School had been). Over the years, we acquired several more quarters of land.

Our children all attended and graduated from Rorketon School.

Cathy is living in Brandon. She is married to Blair Chernoff. They have two daughters, both born

in Brandon. They are Chelsa Dawn born on October 15, 1992 and Sasha Raine born on May 11, 1994. Blair is a chef by trade and Cathy is working at The Superstore.

Lisa is living in Winnipeg. She graduated from Success Career College and is now employed at McDiarmid Lumber.

Ben moved to Alberta in January of 1995. He is now employed at Sonoco, a company that makes paper cores. He is currently living in Edmonton.



Gerry & Anne (Weaver) Hanson. Inserts - Lisa, Ben & Cathy

Donald Anson Weaver

I was born on May 21, 1930, at Million, on the shore of Lake Dauphin, youngest child of Gordon Bennette and Ann Bennett Weaver (Briggs). I attended school at Million and Fork River. In February, 1946, I moved to the Cariboo Region of British Columbia, and then to central British Columbia. In the spring of 1947, I moved to Vanderhoof where I still live today.

My principal employment has been in agriculture and forestry.

I married Marjorie Irma Stewart in 1955 and raised six children: Douglas Nelson, Donald Archie, Daniel Lee, Stanley Arthur, Laurie Ann (Wallace) and Valerie Jean.

Annie (Zondlo) Weaver

I was the fifth child of John and Sarah Zondlo. I was born in Moose Bay on November 6, 1926. My family moved to Million while I was still very young.

Everyone worked hard. To clear the land, one had to use an axe and shovel to dig out the tree roots, so it was back-breaking work. We always had a garden and Mom made the best bread baked in an outside oven. Dad did a little fishing with the help of my brother, Pete. One year the ice was still quite thin, 4-5 inches, when a wind got up and the ice started to break up. They went for a wild ride, lost a few nets, but got home safely.



John & Sarah Zondlo

In the fall, Mom used to go to different neighbors and plaster their buildings when needed. That was hard work, so we used to help her by mixing the clay, water and horse-manure, tramping it with our bare feet so it would be nice and smooth. Mom used to spin wool into lovely yarn, and we girls knit it into socks, mitts and scarves for us and for sale to our neighbors, socks \$0.50 per pair and mitts \$0.25 per pair.

After Dad passed away I quit school to help at home. In 1945, I went by train to Dauphin where I worked for six months. Then I went to Brandon and worked for Brandon Packers returning home at Christmas time.

On July 12, 1947, I married Nelson Weaver who had been in the army as a dispatch rider. He had enlisted in May, 1942, and was discharged in 1945. He was a farmer who lived a half-mile from our

place, so I did not move very far. Our crop got hailed out on July 28, 1947, but the fishing was good that winter.

Nelson bought a quarter, SW 20- 27- 16, from Mr. and Mrs. Fred Barnett who then retired to Neepawa. We also had bought Billy Turner's quarter, NW 20-27-16 and leased a few more. We had many good times curling in winter and enjoyed many weddings and dances. We used to put our caboose on the one-ton truck and take the neighbourhood children to movies in Rorketon on some Saturday nights.

We had six children.

Joyce P. was born July 12, 1946. Joyce went to Million School up to grade eight and then was bussed along with other children to Rorketon. She went to Toronto and stayed with an aunt there while she worked as a bar waitress; worked in British Columbia, Fort McMurray, Alberta and Dauphin; took one year of nursing in Alberta then went to Thompson and completed her R.N. there. She graduated in June, 1992 and is now employed in San Antonio, Texas. Her one son, Jeffery, was born April 25, 1971, is now in Edmonton. He is a chef but enjoys other kinds of work, too.

Corinne Myrtle was born May 26, 1948. Connie went to Million and RCI schools and worked at home. On November 6, 1965 she married Gilbert Highfield. They lived in Lynn Lake, Snow Lake,



Sarah Zondlo, Lillian, Pete, Martha & Annie

Flin Flon, and Steinbach. Gilbert is a miner, so they went where the jobs were. Their home now is in Sherwood Park. Gil is employed in Snow Lake at present. They have two children: Cheryl Lynn who lives in Edmonton. She was born in Lynn Lake, March 19, 1966; David was born in Snow Lake, October 26, 1968, is a miner and is presently in Thompson.

Anne, born November 22, 1950.

Debra Joan was born June 8, 1954. Debra went to Million and RCI schools and worked at various jobs in Dauphin, Ste. Rose, Fort McMurray and Flin Flon, where she was employed with M.T.S. She is now with M.T.S. in Dauphin. She married Bruce Telfer on May 24, 1985, and he works for CNR. They have two children: Barrett (born December 8, 1984) and Chantel (born July 4, 1986) and both go to Henderson School.

Sandra Marie was born December 17, 1955. Sandra went to Million and RCI schools, worked in Thompson, Fort McMurray and Flin Flon. She was employed at the Bank of Montreal in Dauphin for 14.5 years. At present, she is living with Ken Chetyrbok on his farm. While growing up, the children all did their share of work.

After all the girls left, I went to work at Hanchar's store for five years. In 1975, Nelson and I retired from the farm and moved to Dauphin. I then worked for Orville Barker for two years until he sold the store to Tony Lubinecki in 1977. I continued to work in the store until it was sold in 1985.

Nelson and I did some travelling. Nelson being a farmer at heart, worked for H. Strang in Dauphin until he retired when he was seventy years old.

Nelson was born January 24, 1919 in the Freedale district. He was the third son of Gordon and Annie Weaver. He was a great hunter and fisherman. Even when retired he still enjoyed hunting, fishing and bowling. He was proud of his family. On November 16, 1993, he passed away. I still enjoy my garden and I do a lot of volunteer work.

Martha Stelmach (Zondlo)

I was born in Moose Bay, but later moved to Million where I took all my schooling. I worked in Dauphin and in 1943, I joined the army (CWAC). I spent some time in Vermillion, Alberta, and the rest of the time in Winnipeg. After the war was over, I got out of the army and worked in Winnipeg for two years. In 1948, I went to Flin Flon and married Mike Stelmach in 1951. We had one son, Wally, who is now teaching school in Maples Collegiate in Winnipeg.



Mike & Martha (Zondle) Stelmach

Lillian Kubat (Zondlo)

I was born in the Million district, youngest daughter of John and Sarah Zondlo, and attended school there until 1948-49. When Mom could no longer take care of the farm, she found a job and we moved to Prince George, British Columbia for a few months.

In the spring of 1949, Mom found a job in St. Brieux, Saskatchewan. We made our home there until 1952. During that year, we moved to Flin Flon where I am presently residing with my husband, Mervin. We have a family of three children and four grandchildren. Our daughter, Lila, resides in southern Manitoba, our son, Lyle, resides in southern Saskatchewan and daughter, Brenda, resides in the Flin Flon area.



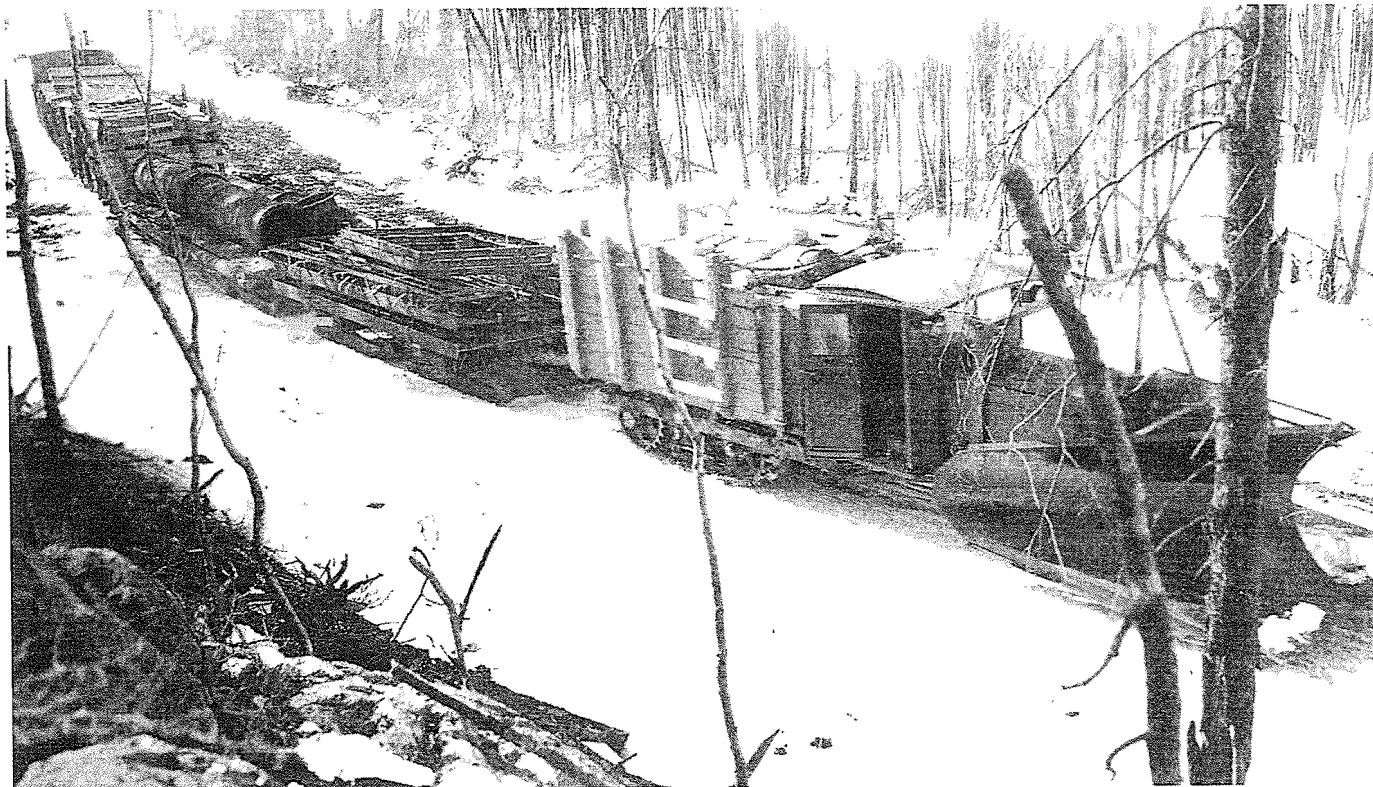
Mervin & Lillian (Zondle) Kubat, Lyle, Lila & Brenda with Chelsea & Sasha

John and Sarah (Biletski) Zondlo

In the early 1900's, John came to Canada from Galicia, Austria; he went as far as Moose Bay where there was a little settlement. Thomas and Dora Biletski were settled in that area. They had also come from Austria when their daughter, Sarah, was about three years old. On May 18, 1916, John and Sarah were married and settled on the NE 27-28-17. Times were hard and wages were about \$1.50 per day, if you could find work. In 1932, they bought a quarter section from Jack Irving in the Million district. The Million Cemetery was on this quarter. When John and Sarah came to Million, they had four girls and one boy, and then in 1935 another girl

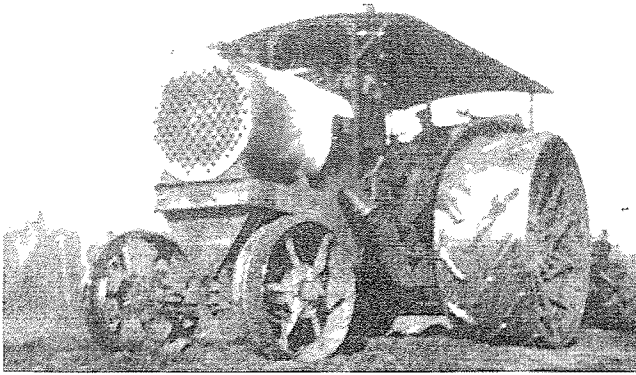
was born. The children all attended the Million School. Money was scarce, so the girls went to work for farmers who could afford to pay \$5.00 a month. Two of the girls got married in 1938. John passed away on October 31, 1940. That left Sarah short handed on the farm. On October 31, 1947, Pete, the only son, passed away. He had an enlarged heart as a result of rheumatic fever as an infant.

In 1948, Sarah sold the farm, and she and her youngest daughter moved to Prince George, British Columbia and then St. Brieux, Saskatchewan where Sarah worked for a few years before moving to Flin Flon. She worked there until she retired and continued to reside there until her death on June 3, 1974.



Transportation before railway service

Photos of Interest



Early steam engine tractor



Mr. & Mrs. Scutt



Snow Plane



Mike Rehaluk, Alex Pulak, Omalin Budzey, Jean Rehaluk, Mersil Budzey, Mary Rehaluk



Saw Mill Operation



Going to choir practise: Nurse Hill, Mary, Kay Stark, Mary Storozinski



F: Mrs. Eddie Lacey, Elsie Bonnett B: John Robinson, J. Lacey, Charles Bonnett & Charles Lacey

Moose Bay District

It was to be called "Moose" after the strength of this graceful animal who roamed the area. Because it was situated on the shore of the bay on Lake Dauphin, it was to be known as "Moose Bay".

Mr. Tom Biletski was one of the first settlers in the area. In 1918, he moved to Moose Bay and built a house on the shore of Lake Dauphin. Thomas was a very good carpenter and blacksmith. He owned and operated a blacksmith shop on 34-27-17. His son, Tony, followed his father's footsteps and became an excellent carpenter. Tony started a saw mill and a fish box factory on the shore of Lake Dauphin. In the winter, the logs were hauled and cut into four foot length lumber to make the fish boxes. Six employees cut and bundled the pieces for the

fish boxes. The fishermen from Lake Dauphin, Lake Winnipegosis and Lake Manitoba came to buy the bundles. All that was required was to nail the boxes together. The small, fresh-fish boxes measured 16 x 24 x 10 inches high and were sold for twenty-five cents. The frozen-fish boxes were 16 x 30 x 16 inches high. They were sold for thirty-five cents.

In one year, five thousand fish boxes were fabricated. The employees were paid ten cents an hour and worked twelve hours a day. Everyone who worked at the fish factory considered themselves lucky. It was a job.

In 1939, Tony sold the sawmill to his brother, John. He went into the lumber business, selling lumber all over the district. He operated the sawmill for another ten years. He then sold it to Mike Beyak from Winnipegosis who moved it across the lake onto an island.

First Post Office

From 1914-1927, the first post office was in operation with Mr. J. Cordon as the postmaster. It situated on 35-27-17.

He was also a teacher and an artist. His home was decorated with some of his fine art. He painted a flag for the Moose Bay School. It had a picture of a moose in one corner. At parades, school children would march, proudly displaying the beautiful flag.

By Lake Dauphin there was a small log building which was used by the pioneers for church services. In early 1900's, Mr. Cordon dismantled it and used the solid oak logs to build his home.

Moose Bay Store

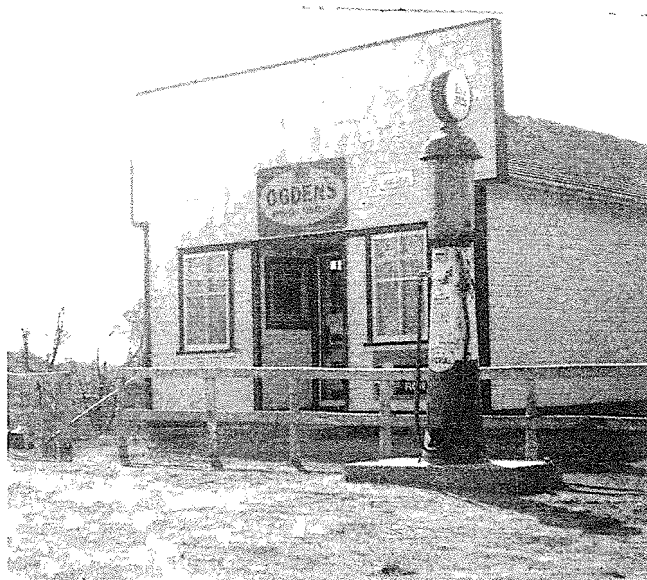
submitted by Christine Frith (Chiupka)

In 1935 Mike and Annie Chiupka started the first general store on the lake shore SW 3-27-17 in 1935.

Since there was no electricity at that time, soda pop was placed in ice water to keep cold. Perishable items were kept to a minimum. Fresh fruit was sold only after a trip to Dauphin for groceries. To help



Fish Fry - Anne Pich, Alice Hrushowky & Anne Chiupka



Mike Chiupka's Store at Moose Bay

keep things cold in the summer, there was an ice shed. The ice was cut in blocks and stored for summer. Sawdust was layered to keep it from melting. Ice was used in the store and some was used for making ice cream. On Sunday afternoon, people would come to buy our homemade ice cream.

The Moose Bay School was located right across the road and students spent their precious pennies on candy.

Kerosene lamps were used for light and in winter a box stove stood in the middle of the store. Wood was used for cooking and heat. Log cutting "bees" were set up. A gas powered engine cut the wood. This machine was carted from one place to the next until eventually everyone had the wood necessary for the winter.

When the weather turned really warm, the family moved their kitchen to what we called the "summer shack". All cooking bread making, and canning was done here.

When electricity was installed, a fridge and a cooler were bought for the store. An ice cream cooler was added as well. Fresh meat could now be sold. It was during this time that Mike bought a radio. People would come down in the evenings and listen to various programs. Later Mike purchased one of the first television sets in the area. Everyone was equally interested to come and watch T.V. and visit.

Along with the store, an Esso dealership was added in 1945. One hand-operated pump was used for car gas and fifty gallon barrels were used for tractor gas. An oil shed was built for storage. In later

years, farmers put up gas tanks on their property and these were filled on site. All gas products were hauled in from Ste. Rose.

In 1948, an addition was built to the store. This area became the living quarters and the back of the store then became the post office. Stamps and money orders were sold. Mail was delivered weekly. A caboose was used in the winter and a horse and buggy in the summer. People would pick up their mail and newspapers and do their shopping at the same time. It was a day when the people would discuss various problems they were having with machinery, vehicles, etc. One was always willing to help the other. In 1969, Micheal received a plaque commemorating twenty- one years of service to the post office.

Sunday was a day of rest. After church, people would come from all over the area including Weiden, Million and Oak Brae. They would swap stories and have some fun. Sometimes they would go fishing and a huge fish fry was held at the lake. A lot of visiting was done while the children took the opportunity to go swimming. Horseshoe tournaments were a common sight at the store. There were many baseball games played on the school grounds. In the winter time, checkers were played. Before electricity, boards were set up around the box stove and kerosene lamps were lit. With the coming of electricity, a game of cards was enjoyed as well.

In 1941, Mike moved the store across the road from the school, NE 3-28-17, and had the gas pumps and a pay phone installed. Mr. Dutchuk was the first to deliver the mail from Rorketon to Moose Bay. Mr. Steve Mazier then got the contract. He delivered the mail to Moose Bay until 1959. Lynn Weaver finished Steve's contract. In 1961, Mike Pich had the contract until the post office closed in 1969. The people of the surrounding area then had to go to Rorketon to pick up their mail. Mike continued to operate the store and gas pumps until 1973. Keith and Geraldine Bonnett purchased the business and continued the operation. The only change was in the fuel, which went from Esso to bulk Shell fuel. In 1986, the store was closed. They renovated the building leaving the large beam pillars, the floor and the ceiling intact. It remains a beautiful home.

The Hall

A mile west, on land belonging to Mr. Helash, Moose Bay Hall was constructed. It was a place where different functions were held.

School

The school, No. 1459, was built in 1909 on SW 11-28-17. Not only was this building a learning place, it hosted many social functions as well. The building was used for church services. The children were also taught Catechism. There was a teacherage near the school where Mr. & Mrs. George Laycock lived. From there, Mrs. Laycock sold groceries to the surrounding area. In 1934, they bought the garage and moved to Rorketon. George continued teaching for a few more years. He taught as many as sixty students at one time from grade 1-8.

The school building was heated by a wood stove. During the winter mornings, the students would huddle around the stove to keep warm. In 1950-51, there were 33 students enrolled. One teacher could not do it all, so, the older students were involved in helping the younger students. One teacher got paid \$120.00 per month.

Moose Bay School Year 1909, June to December, July and August included.

George Basham - salary \$40.00/month

Talpash, Kate

Talpash, Michael

Pich, Mary

Biletski, Peter

Biletski, Michael

Biletski, Sarah

Swiderski, Nicholas

Swiderski, Alex

Hollowachuk, Metro

Hollowachuk, Francis



George S., Harry C., Peter C., George Laycock - Teacher, Alice, Victoria & Nellie S., Annie C., Mary & John B., Harry Pich

Pich, Paul

Pich, Kate

1910 School year, September to December, Teacher - Mrs James Rice; Salary \$540.00/Annum.

1912-1913 School Year, September to April, Teacher - Emma Rice, October 14, 1912, teacher away with sick woman to Dauphin.

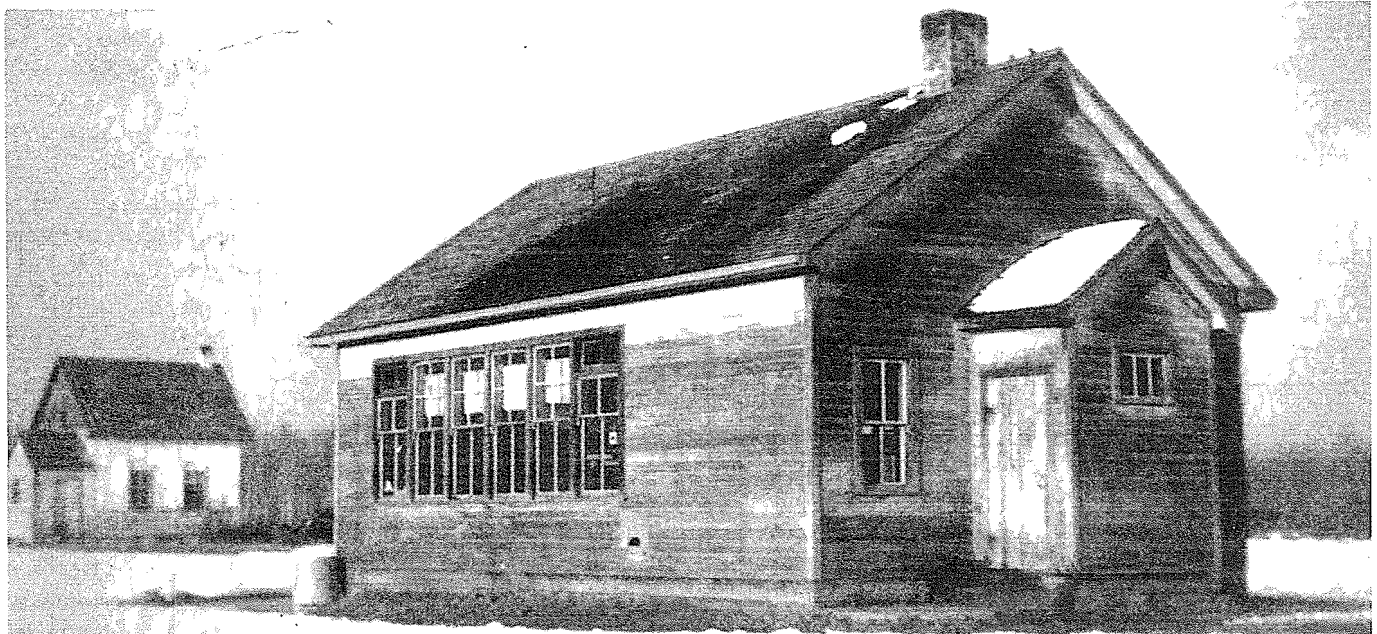
1914-1915 School Year, July to June, School closed for March and April due to sickness. Teacher - J. Cordon, annual salary - \$480.00.

1915 - 1916, Teacher, Cordon

1916 - 1917, First term - J. Cordon, Second term - I Steiman.

1928 - 1929, Teacher W.H. Andrews. Class list of 63 pupils.

1931 - 1932, Teacher, George Laycock, October



Moose Bay School and Teacherage

9 - School closed for Scarlet Fever for about five days.

1932 - 1936, George Laycock
1938 - 1939, Anna Sloboda
1940 - 1941, Margaret L. Laycock
1943 - 1944, Mrs. A.M. Huculak
1945 - 1946, Mr. M. Rehaluk
1946 - 1947, Michael, Midgrain
1947 - 1948, Glena, Mary
1948 - 1949, A. Kozachenk
1949 - 1950, Helash, Olga A.
1950 - 1951, Lysack, George
1951 - 1952, Prokopowich, Boris
1952 - 1953, Krawec, Alexander
1953 - 1954, Swintak, Miron
1955 - 1956, Shewchuk, Laurel
1956 - 1957, Burchuk, Jean
1957 - 1958, Semchyshyn, Peter
1958 - 1959, Yaeger, Velta
1959 - 1960, Pitura, Barbara
1961 - 1962, Harrison John and Werbiski, Fred
1963 - 1965, Semchyshyn, Peter
1965 - 1967, Mrs. B. Karpluk

In 1967 the school was closed. Mr. John Bodnar bought the school building and moved it on his farm and renovated it for their home. The teacherage was bought by Mr. Conrad Knott. He moved the building to his farm and Mrs. Puga, his mother in-law, lived in the building until she moved into the town of Rorketon.

Mink Ranch

In early 1960's, Pete Hrushowy ventured into the mink business with twelve minks. Five years later, with business thriving, he built two long barns to house 250 female minks. A bunk house was constructed including a cook shed with a large walk-in freezer to store the mink feed. The food for the mink was prepared in the cook shed.

They killed the minks and scraped the skins, ready for the stretchers. A good pelt sold for twenty-five dollars. Mr. Hrushowy had this business for twelve years.

Family Histories

The Biletski Family

I, Nicholas M. Biletski of Moose Bay, am the son of Martin and Martha (Sass) Biletski. My grandparents, Thomas and Dora Biletski, came by ship to Halifax, Canada from Austria in the early 1900's. They settled in Million with four young children: Harry, Mike, Sarah and Pete. The other five chil-

dren, Martin, Tony, Bill, Mary and John, were born in Canada. Thomas and Dora lived at Million for a few years, and later they moved to the Moose Bay District, on the east side of Lake Dauphin. It was there, SE 34-27-17, that they started clearing land, seeding and planting. Later they sawed lumber and built their big house right beside the lake in 1918. They also constructed a very big barn, a blacksmith shop and a big chicken coop. These buildings were all made of maple and ash trees. The original house and some of the outbuildings still remain standing today. The farm remains in the family; it is owned by grandson, Nicholas Biletski.

Thomas was a very good carpenter and blacksmith. Since his was the only sawmill in the Moose Bay, Weiden and Oak Brae area, Thomas and his sons were kept busy custom-sawing for anyone who brought in logs. Thomas and Dora also did a lot of fishing and hunting.

While out working, the boys met their spouses and started to buy their own farmland. Some stayed in the Moose Bay district while others left for different areas and built their own homes. Martin Biletski, my father, went to help his brother, Pete, with the sawmill in Winnipegosis, cutting lumber for others. After several years, Martin returned to work on the family farm. Thomas passed away in 1931 at the age of 67, and Dora passed away in 1941.

Thomas and Dora's children:

Harry left home to search for employment and his destiny is unknown.

Mike married Martha Pich, and they lived at Moose Bay. Both are deceased.

Sarah, 1897-1974, married John Zondlo, and they lived at Million.

Pete, 1899-1974, married Nellie Bratko, and they lived at Volga, Manitoba.

Martin, 1903-1986, married Martha Sass. They lived at Meadowlands for four years before coming to Moose Bay to look after ill parents.

Tony married Stella Yacyszyn and lived at Rorketon. Tony was a carpenter.(see Tony Biletski)

Wasył "Bill", 1908-1987, married Mary Chersak and lived at Volga.

Mary, 1910-1975, married John Karpluk and lived at Moose Bay.

John married Nellie Pich and are living at Rorketon. (see John Biletski)

I married Sylvia Pich on October 26, 1956. That year we both went up north to work for the late Mr. Fred Chuipka at South Indian Lake. I, as a fisherman and Sylvia, as a cook at the camp where we

stayed. It was very cold and hard work, and a few times the bombardier broke down and we had to walk about 10 to 15 miles back to the camp. It was pitch dark; there were no lights to guide us back to camp. We were there for several months when we got the news that my father, Martin, had an accident. He was helping a neighbor to cut wood and accidentally cut off his right hand. We came home and helped with the work on the farm while he was in the hospital. Martin was a great man. He only had one hand and could be found doing everything on the farm.

In 1958, I got a job as a welder with Dauphin Machine Works. I liked to weld, there isn't a job that I can't do or wouldn't try to do. Then Powell Equipment needed a welder, so I worked there for a couple of years. In 1965, I quit and decided to farm. In 1967 I got a job with the R.M. of Lawrence and worked there until 1981. Sylvia and I raised a family of eight children:



Nicholas Biletski family: Richard, Carol, Arleen, Glenda, Julie, Dennis, Linus, Tammie, Sylvia & Nick Biletski

Richard, born 1958, married Kristeen (Pollen) in 1985 and raised three children: Travis, born in 1986, Kristel, in 1987 and Sarah, in 1990. He works as an electrician at Manitoba Sugar in Winnipeg.

Carol, born 1960, married David (Sraybash) in 1979 and have four children: Nicole, in 1981, Jeremy, in 1983, Amanda, in 1985 and Pamela, in 1987. They are ranching live in Rorketon.

Arleen, born 1962, married Randy Moffatt in 1985 and they have two children: Rachel, in 1987 and Ryan, in 1991. They live in Winnipeg and Randy is an electrician.

Glenda, born 1964, married Perry Korotash in 1985 and they have three children: Shayne, in 1987, Ashley, in 1989 and Tyson, in 1992. They live in

Oak Brae. Perry and Glenda own and operate Korotash Electric.

Julie, born 1966, married Tony (Gjura) in 1987 and they have two boys: Josef, in 1991 and Michael, in 1992. They live in Winnipeg and Tony works at Trans-Canada Credit.

Dennis, born 1968, married Bonnie Kemash in 1993 and they have two children: Joshua, in 1994 and Natasha, in 1995. They live in Thompson where Dennis works as a carpenter.

Linus, born 1970, engaged to Tammy Davey. Linus lives in Thompson and works as a truck driver for Smook Construction and plans to marry in August, 1996.

Tammie, born 1973, our youngest and single daughter is living in Winnipeg. She works at Winnipeg Moving as a secretary and a pager.

The Bodnar Family

submitted by Tony, John and Anna Bodnar

Harry and Feska Bodnar emigrated to Canada from Galicia, Ukraine, in 1914, with their daughter, Cassie. They came by ship to Halifax, Nova Scotia, then by train to Winnipeg. They came to Sifton by train because Harry had a sister, Theodosia, and her husband, Anton Schurko, living there.



Harry & Feska Bodnar

Harry and Feska homesteaded on SE 35-27-17 in Moose Bay. Their second daughter, Mary, was born in 1916, John was born in 1917 and Mike was born in 1919. Alex was born in 1921 and passed away the same year.

After a hard life, breaking land and raising livestock, Harry passed away in 1949 at the age of 64. Feska passed away in Moose Bay in 1963 at the age of 85 years.



John, Cassie, Mike & Mary Bodnar

Cassie Bodnar married Bill Konowalchuk in the 1930's and they had five children: Mike, Nick, Metro, Vera and Mary. Bill passed away in 1953. Cassie remarried, to Steve Tytyk in 1955 and they had a son named Roman. The three live on their farm near McCreary today.

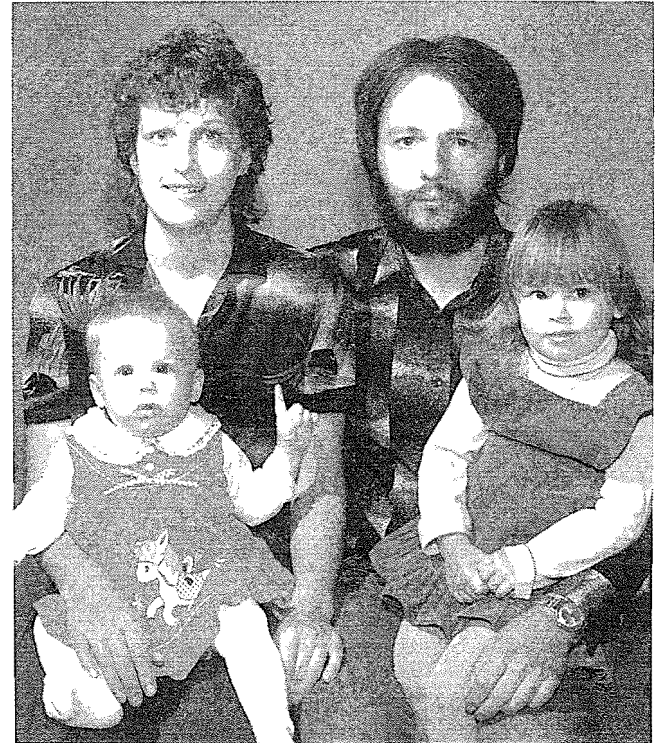
John met Anna (Horeskina) after she immigrated to Canada in 1952. Annie was forced from the Ukraine to Germany, in 1942, where she worked throughout the war. After 1948, she worked in the factories in England and learned to speak English. While housekeeping in Hamilton, she met Tony Iwanchysko who told her to go to Rorketon. John married Annie and they still live in Moose Bay.



Anne & John Bodnar

John was called for 30 days training in the army in 1939 in Portage la Prairie. He had to return home to take care of business.

Metro was born in 1953 and attended Million School until it closed in 1967. He then attended Rorketon School until he graduated. In 1978 he married Debra Yarema from Dauphin. They had two daughters, Amanda and Melissa. Metro is divorced and now resides in Winnipeg with Ida Lasage.



Debbie, Metro, Melissa, & Amanda Bodnar

Mike worked at hauling water for Tony Biletski's steam engine in 1919. It was used to crush grain and saw boards. He remembers working all year for Bob Coulbs on Stoney Point to make enough money for a pair of pants and a bicycle.

Mike was called to army training in 1941, also in Portage. He was trained to fight in Japan but ended up in England via Scotland. The Canadian paratroopers crossed over the Atlantic in the "Aquatania". He was fortunately called back to Canada to prepare for fighting in Japan, but the "A" Bomb ended the war.

Mike married Katherine Kirakwysh in 1950 upon her arrival from the Ukraine. They had nine children:

Peter married Darlene Herchuk. They have one daughter, Nadine, and live in Winnipeg.

Joe married Arlene Slater. They have two children, Marie and Dylon, and live in Teulon, Manitoba.



Katherine Bodnar (Kicakewych)

Walter who has not married yet, works for Diamond Drilling companies.

Nick married Joy Griffin. They have three sons, Nicholas, Matthew, and Gregory and one daughter Kristen. They farm at East Bay.

Olga married Brian Johnston. They have two sons, Barry and Jonathan and live in Dryden, Ontario.

Tony and Evelyn Hill have one daughter, Vanessa. They live and farm at East Bay.

Nellie married Bill Linden and they have two daughters, Kathlene and Hillary, and one son, Billy. They live at Richer, Manitoba.

Sylvia married Danny Lapointe. They have three sons, David, Christopher and Micheal.

Mary married Vince Larson. They have two daughters, Amber and Kathy, and one son, Randall.

The children all attended Blue Bell School until it closed in 1967. Then they rode the school bus to Ste. Rose to complete their education. Mike and Katie still live in East Bay on the farm they bought in 1952.

Mary Bodnar attended Moose Bay School. At 24 years of age she married Harry Pich and they had six children. They farmed in Million for 24 years until moving to Dauphin in 1966. Harry passed away in 1989 and Mary still lives in Dauphin.

Their oldest children are twins: Gene and wife Sheila and two sons, Raymond and Kelly, live at Stoney Plains.

The other twin is Jeanette who has two sons, Billie and Johnnie Remniak. Jeanette is married to Bob Schuk and they live in Winnipeg.

Walter and wife, Florence, have three daughters and one son. They live in Winnipeg and British Columbia.

Stella married Roger McLaughlin. They have a son, Robbie, and a daughter, Joan, and live in Prince Albert.

Vernie has a son, Chris, and daughter, Terry, and lives at Barriers, British Columbia.

Carol, and husband, Jack Dunn have two girls, Candace and Amanda and live at Kamloops.

Mike and Anne Chiupka

Michael William Chiupka, born on November 21, 1909, was one of eleven children born to Wasyl and Anne Chiupka. On November 2, 1934, he married Anne Pich, daughter of Andrew and Petrunella Pich. The wedding ceremony took place at Phillip Rehaluk's house with the customary celebrations following at each home.



Mike & Anne Chiupka Family. Marian, Christine, & Verna

Mike and Anne had one of the first few Model A cars in the area. Whenever he would make a trip into town, people asked him to pick things up for them. That is how the idea of running his own store came to be. Their first store, located at the lake, carried necessary supplies. When they decided to expand, a new store and living quarters were built in Moose Bay by Mike along with helpful neighbours and family. They moved in July of 1943. In winter, the frozen lake was crossed. Many stories were told of getting lost in storms and using planks to cross ice cracks.

In addition to operating the store, Mike drilled wells, graded roads, hauled gravel and grain, and ice-fished. During these times when Mike was away from home, Anne assumed responsibility for running the store and feeding the livestock.

Easter and Christmas were always joyous holidays. At Christmas, after church, friends and family would go carolling to all the homes in the area. Mike would purchase calendars with Chiupka's General Store proudly stamped on them to distribute to his customers. Family and friends were invited for dinner. There was much fun and laughter. During these times, if need be, the store was always



Anne Chiupka & Family

open to accommodate any customer who was in need of something.

Mike Chiupka was well known all around the surrounding areas. He served on the Board of Directors for the newly founded Credit Union in Rorketon. He assisted with the building of the Parish Hall as well.

Mike and Anne had three daughters. Verna was born on January 16, 1936 and married Larry Kuzyk. They have one daughter Laurie, born on March 15, 1961. They all reside in Winnipeg. Marian was born on September 30, 1946. She married Gerry Young on October 12, 1968. They have two children, Scott (February 18, 1971) and Shannon (June 2, 1974) and one grandchild Tyler (April 16, 1994). They reside in Winnipeg. Christine was born February 26, 1955. She married Doug Frith on September 8, 1979. They have two children, Dana (July 19, 1984) and Michael (November 1, 1985). They live in Dauphin.

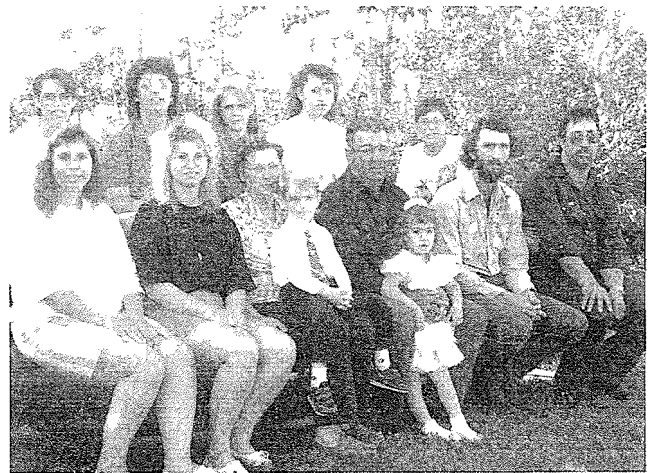
When Mike passed away in February of 1974, Anne assumed complete operation of the store. It was during this time that she got her driver's license and purchased a car. In 1978, she sold the store and in July of that year moved to Rorketon. She continued to live there until her death in 1987.

Holowachuk Family

Prokop Holowachuk with wife, Anna, and three children, Mary, Michael and Dmetro emigrated to Canada in 1902. They arrived at Quebec on a vessel called the Lake Simcoe. From there, they travelled west to Sifton then continued to the Moose Bay district and settled on a farm. Two sons and three daughters were born in Canada. That made a family of eight children.



Mike & Annie Holowachuk



Paul & Elizabeth Holowachuk & Family



John & Betty Holowachuk with children Joyce, Barbara, and John Jr.

While on the farm, Prokop, together with son, Michael, would work most of the time. They would walk to Neepawa and as far as Stratclair, Manitoba, to help with harvest or clear land. Prokop also helped to build the railway track to Rorketon.

His sons and daughters are all married and went their own ways. There are a total of twenty-one grandchildren.

Hrushowy Family

Fred Hrushowy emigrated to Canada in 1900 from Austria and settled at Moose Bay. He married Rose Kaschak of Sifton, who also emigrated to Canada from Austria in 1901. Along with their two children, they journeyed to South Dakota by means of a wagon and a team of horses. The land there was so barren that the only firewood Rose could find to bake bread was driftwood on the river. After four years of drought, they moved to Moose Bay, and got land by Lake Dauphin at Moose Point, NW 34-27-17 and NE 33- 27-17. Fred built a log house, in 1918, and cleared land to grow crops.

Their family consisted of John, Pearl, Lena, Steve, Annie, Pete, and Mike, who died at the age of nine. Two others died at birth. Fred left the farm when Pete was nine and never returned. He died in Vancouver at the age of seventy-six.

John, aged ninety-three, lives in Vancouver.

Pearl (see Jacob Chuipka)

Walter drowned at age twenty-two, when he broke through the ice on the northern shore of Lake Winnipegosis. He was bringing home a bag of flour, sugar, and other groceries, pushing a sleigh and skating behind it.

Olga died of cancer at twenty-four, and Fred died in a car accident after he retired.

Lena married Pete Werbiski and moved to Sioux Lookout, Ontario. They had four children; Tony, Janet, Stanley, and Felix. Pete died in his seventies and then Tony died of Multiple Sclerosis. Lena, ninety-two, is still living at Sioux Lookout.

Steve married Pearl Brezden and moved to Toronto, Ontario. They had two boys: Micheal and Arthur. Steve died in his early forties of severe arthritis.

Annie married Bill Birch and moved to Long Lac, Ontario. There they had three children: Alex, Gladys, and Marjorie. Bill worked in the gold mine for fifteen years. Then they operated a big boarding house. Bill died in his fifties. Alex and Gladys died at fairly early ages. Annie, who is ninety, still comes out to Rorketon to visit her sister-in-law, Alice Hrushowy.

Pete, the youngest, worked for farmers scrub-



Pete & Alice Hrushowy

bing land with an axe and saw from sunup to sundown for fifty cents per day. He needed more money to start farming, so he went to St. Anthony, Ontario, where he worked at a gold mine as a ball mill operator, for a wage of \$1.00 per day. In 1938, he married Alice Pich. They went back to the mine in their new 1938 Ford car, bought at Allard's for \$800.

Pete was also a bushman. On his days off, he'd go into the bush with an axe and a Swede saw and cut, split, and pile five cords of wood a day, which he'd sell for fifty cents per cord. In 1940, he returned to Moose Bay. That year, their son, Leo, was born. Pete was very excited about his first son.

Pete's first job on the farm was to get his land cleared and broken. He hired men and with his tractor and some dynamite, he knocked down those big oak trees along the lake. Then he hired John Biletski to clear his land with a caterpillar.

That winter Pete, Alice and Leo went back to the mine.

In 1942, a daughter, Anne, was born, but died at birth.

In 1946, a second son, Fred, was born.

To supplement his farming income, Pete tried raising hogs. One year he had 1,700 roosters. He even had a mink farm.

In 1953, Pete and Alice built a new house on the shore of Lake Dauphin.

In 1959, a third son, Archie, was born. All three boys went to Moose Bay School until grade eight and then to Rorketon High School. Leo went to Teachers' College and taught at Magnet for six

years. When the school burned down, so he taught in the Magnet Hall until another building was brought in. When all rural schools consolidated in 1967, he began teaching at Rorketon. He taught there for twenty-eight years until his retirement in 1995. He is now farming at Weiden on the farm which he got from his in-laws, Metro and Mary Galay.

Leo married Sylvia Galay in 1965, after she completed her year at Teachers' College. She taught at Coronation School for two years and then moved to Rorketon where she taught five more years. Leo and Sylvia have three children: Lyle born in 1973, Shalyn in 1975, and Marcie in 1978.

Fred married Marleen Honish in 1967 and they had three girls: Tania, born in 1968, Candice, in 1971, and Holly, in 1978. Fred worked for Dominion Bridge in Winnipeg. Then they moved to Thompson. Fred and Marleen were divorced and Fred married Val Smith in 1987. He is employed by INCO at Thompson where he works underground. Val works for Manitoba Public Insurance Company and a travel agency. Archie went to Assiniboine College where he took carpentry. Then he went to work for Midwest Drilling. In 1992, Archie married Adrienne Brunen (Gaudry) who had two children from a previous marriage: Amanda, who was born in 1979, and Jeramie in 1981. Archie and Adrienne have two children: Brittney, age four, and Cory, age two. They are currently farming at Moose Bay on the homestead and are both playing in a band as a sideline.

Pete retired from farming in 1978, so Leo took over the farming operation until 1985 when Archie took over from Leo.

Pete passed away in 1987. Alice moved to live in Rorketon in 1989, and at age seventy-eight, is enjoying life.

Alice Pich Hrushowy was born in 1917 at Moose Bay. While both parents worked in the field the kids were left at home alone.

The family had to walk five miles to school. Then her parents moved to a new location, one and a half mile from school. She went to grade six.

Alice worked for a farmer babysitting, gardening and carrying wood for \$4.00 per month. Next year she worked for a fisherman for \$5.00 a month.

Alice presently resides in Rorketon where she enjoys family and friends.

John and Annette (Werbiski) Iwanchysko

John Iwanchysko was born to Alex Iwanchysko and Effie (Schurko) Iwanchysko in Moose Bay, in

1918. John's first school days were in Sifton where he lived with his Aunt, Rosie Lytwyn. He still remembers that if he and his cousins remained on their knees for the Rosary every night, they would get an apple each. After that he came home and went to school in Moose Bay for a few years. He would only go to school in the winter and stay home to help on the farm in the summer. He plowed fields with horses at a very early age. Later he helped with the fishing in the winter. John went to work in Thunder Bay for CN, returning in 1939 to put a deposit on the family farm and started to farm. In 1944, he trained in Winnipeg as a Private in the Royal Canadian Light Infantry and for four months in British Columbia, in the Second Battalion Canadian-Scottish. The war over, John was sent to the Thunder Bay Elevators to work. He got a farm leave and came home. He continued to farm and on March 6, 1947 married Annette Werbiski, daughter of Ludwig and Frances (Holowachuk) Werbiski of Moose Bay. Annette was born in Moose Bay in 1931 and attended the Moose Bay school, completing Grade 8. She enjoyed school, especially Geography. John and Annette began married life on the farm encountering the usual hardships. In the mid 1950's, John decided to work away from the farm in an attempt to make a better living. This left Annette to cope with farm chores and four small children.

In 1958, John chose to sell the farm and move the family to Rorketon. From 1958 to the mid 1960's he worked in Kitimat, Lynn Lake, The Pas, and Winnipegosis. John retired as School Bus Driver of the Duck Mountain School Division in 1983. This was also the year that he suffered a stroke which left him paralyzed and having to relearn many basic activities. Annette separated from John in 1975, leaving to work in Winnipeg. She passed away at the age of 51 on May 20, 1982 after suffering a heart attack. John still resides in Rorketon and can usually be seen going for his daily walk about town. John and Annette's four children were:

Walter, born 1947, married Olga (Kolochuk). They have two children, Darren and Dean. They reside in the Weiden district.

Elizabeth, born 1951, married Walter Tymchuk. They have two children, Corey and Jaime. They reside in the Horyn district. (see Walter Tymchuk)

Thelma, born 1952, resides in Toronto.

David, born 1957, resides in Winnipeg, with companion Lorelei Topnik.

Paul and Catherine (Kahsyka Hirney) Pich

submitted by Gloria (Pich) Rehaluk

Paul (1865-1954) and Catherine (1875-1913) left their home in Europe (near Jaroslav, Poland) in May 1904, in response to the encouragement of friends who had immigrated to Canada a few years earlier.

After arriving in Manitoba, Paul and Catherine stayed with friends who had settled in the Sifton area. In 1905 they took a homestead at SW 10-28-17W in the school district of Moose Bay.

Three children, Mary (1897-1913), Paul (1902-1994) and Rose (1903-1993), came to Canada with their parents. Additional children were born in Canada: Annie (Koral) Goudin (1905, residing in Thunder Bay) Pearl Sambey (1907-residing in Wooler, Ontario); Bill (1908, residing in Winnipeg); Jake (1910, residing in Dauphin); and Eva (Vargo) Earl (1912-residing in Moose Jaw).

Catherine passed away in childbirth September 20, 1913. Paul passed away on April 20, 1954, while residing with his daughter, Rose, and her husband, Fred Augustowich, in Winnipegosis.

Paul's three younger brothers immigrated to Canada several years later, Michael and Mary (Catherine's sister), John and Carol, Andrew came as a single man and married Petrunella Swiderski.



Harry Pich & Eva (Pic) Earl

Paul and Mary (Fediuk) Pich
submitted by Gloria (Pich) Rehaluk

Paul was two years old when his parents, Paul and Catherine, immigrated to Canada. He lived most of his life in Moose Bay.



Paul Pich, Sr. with granddaughter Violet

He felt very devastated when his mother passed away. He was eleven years old, the eldest child at home. His father was away at work at the time.

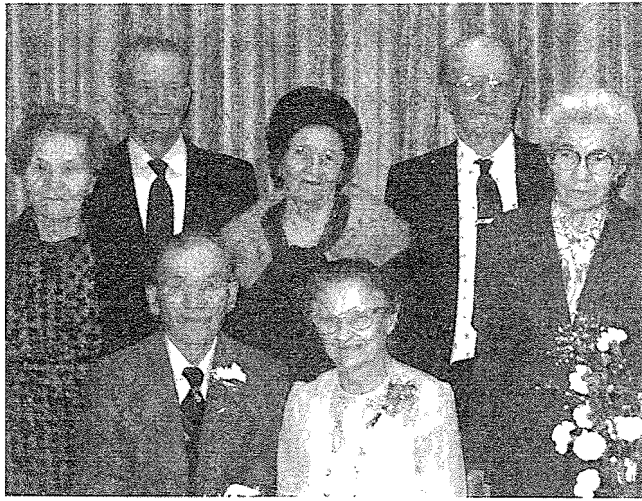
Paul helped on the family farm until he was old enough "to go out to work, to bring home cash". He worked for other farmers during seeding and harvesting.

As the years went by, Paul developed an expertise in housebuilding. He built the house where Dan and Lori Iwanchysko presently reside.

When his father no longer wished to run the family farm, Paul took it over and on November 19, 1930, married Mary Fediuk (1912) of Weiden. She was a hardworking farm girl whose passion was driving horses fast. In the fall of 1944, Paul and Mary sold their farm and went east. Because the southern Ontario smog disagreed with Paul's respiratory health, the family moved back to Moose Bay in the spring of 1945.

They bought land NE 3-28-17 near the school. Mary wanted her children to be close to school as she was determined that they would receive the formal education that she and Paul could not acquire.

Paul and Mary raised seven children: Violet



Rose, Jake, Annie, Bill, Pearl, Paul, & Mary Pich

Zerkee (1934); Audrey Lysack (1936); Gloria Rehaluk (1938) Peter (1942); Annette Pulak (1944); Magdalene "Maggie" (McKinnon) King (1946) and Andrew (1948).

Paul and Mary were hard working people always willing to lend a hand.

Until the late 1950's, when someone in the district passed away, the remains of the deceased were not taken to a funeral parlor for burial preparation. Someone in the district performed those duties. On many occasions Paul undertook the task when the deceased was a male and Mary when the deceased was a female. Paul also built numerous coffins and dug many graves.

Paul played a great tune on his violin and turned out fancy woodwork. Bill and I are in possession of a gramophone cabinet made by Paul and the gramophone workings installed by Bill's Dad.

Mary, on the other hand, was an adept seamstress who changed many a piece of fabric and old hand-me-downs into handsome garments.

Paul passed away of cancer on January 27, 1994. He had lived in his home until about a week



Paul & Mary Pich & Family

before his demise. Mary still resides in her home in Moose Bay.

Violet like her mother "turned her hand and needle" to create many beautiful garments, especially wedding dresses. She made the wedding outfits of her four sisters. She married Alexander "Al" Zerkee on October 15, 1955 and they presently reside on an acreage in the Anola district. They have two sons, Dwight (1956) and Grant (1959). Dwight is a mechanical engineer with Ontario Hydro. Grant works at a print shop in Winnipeg. He is married to Kim Kowalchuk R.N. and they have two daughters, Lauren (1990) and Danielle (1991).

Audrey was a school teacher until she married George Lysak. They are both retired from the education profession and make their home in Stonewall. Audrey keeps busy with family commitments, volunteer work for church and community, and tutoring students. She manages to find time to read.

Gloria was a school teacher for some time, did volunteer work with Age and Opportunity, served as a child day-care worker and even tried R.N. training, but because of illness she could not complete the program. Gloria married William L. "Billy" Rehaluk on July 1, 1961. Bill was an accountant. Gloria and Bill both took early retirement. They do some travelling. Winnipeg is their home.

Peter has worked with Manitoba Hydro since he was seventeen and plans to retire from that position in a couple of years. He married Gwen Ostash, from Birtle in 1965. They have two sons, Peter Paul (1969) and Patrick Michael (1970). Peter Paul married Joy Jorgensen (July, 1993).

Peter and Gwen are very active volunteers for their church and St. Vladimir's college.

Annette married Fred Pulak in July, 1967 and they both taught school for a number of years. Eventually Fred left the teaching profession and went into the Autobody business for himself. Annette is still teaching. They live in Alonsa.

Magdalene (Maggie) started out as a school teacher and ended up as a cattle rancher. She married Jack McKinnon from Millton in 1966. Jack was a cattle rancher and also worked with Good Roads for a while. Maggie quit teaching after her second son was born. By then, Jack, a diabetic since childhood, was not very well. Maggie became a stay-at-home mom and cattle rancher, with the help of Jack's Mother, Marjorie McKinnon.

Maggie and Jack had two sons, Brent (1979) and Kirk (1983). Jack passed away on April 6, 1988. Maggie, Brent, Kirk and Mrs. McKinnon, Granny, carried on ranching.

Maggie married Calvin King in May, 1995. Calvin and his daughter Kristina reside in Million with Maggie, Brent and Kirk.

Andrew chose auto-body repair as his life's work and is still at it today. He remarks that the new cars of today make his trade very different from the trade he was trained for at Red River Community College almost thirty years ago. He married Carol Wilson on April 11, 1987, but they now each make separate lives for themselves. Andrew has a home in Winnipeg.

The seven Pich siblings make an effort to all get together at least once a year. Every year, at Christmas and Easter, at least five or six of them manage to return to Moose Bay to celebrate with their mother.

Michael (Mike) and Jennie (Jastrebski)

Pich Family

submitted by Sylvia (Pich) Biletski

Andrew Pich was born in Austria on December 15, 1875, to Paul and Maria (Sochozak) Pich. Andrew Pich arrived in Canada in 1904. His three older brothers were already in Canada: Paul, Micheal and John. In 1906, Andrew joined them in the district of Moose Bay, about one mile east of Lake Dauphin in the R.M. of Lawrence. The Andrew Pich homestead was on NE 12-28-17. Andrew met Petrunella (Swiderski) and they got married in August, 1908. They raised a family of eight children. They all helped clear the land and erect buildings. They all went to the Moose Bay School to get their education.

My father, Mike, was born August 1, 1909, and died in 1973. Being the eldest in the family, he had to leave home at the age of 14 years and go to work for a Saskatchewan farmer.

When Mike came back to Moose Bay, he did a lot of fishing, cutting lumber and helping his father to clear land. He married my mother, Jennie Jastrebski, of Oak Brae, on October 22, 1938. They lived on his parents' farm until my father rented a quarter of land from Louis Chirko for a few years. He moved a house on, SW 4-28-17, right beside the lake.

A few years later, my dad bought a quarter NW 2-28-17, where Mr. Nicholas Huculuk used to live and run a store. After a few years, my dad bought a big Case tractor. He broke land for himself and for others, too, so often times he was not home to help Mom with chores. He also did a lot of threshing for other people as he owned a big threshing machine. My dad also cut the hay along the sides of roads in the R.M. of Lawrence. For many years, Mom or

Dad hauled the mail from Rorketon to Million and Moose Bay, until those post offices were closed. My father and mother raised a family of eight children.

Sylvia married Nicholas Biletski on October 26, 1956. They farmed in Moose Bay. They have eight children (see Biletski family).

Alvin married in 1964. They have two children. He divorced and lives in Winnipeg.

Eleanor married Walter Kehler on October 2, 1965. They have five children. They live on a farm in Eriksdale.

Hazel married Mike Feduik and they have four children. She divorced and married Nick Borodey December 19, 1985. They live in Winnipeg.

Micheal married Maxine. They have two children and live in Winnipeg.

Judy married Barry Dean in April, 1977. They have no children. They divorced and Judy lives in Florida.

Jack married Jean on February 14, 1985. They have three children and live in Neepawa.

Orest married Valerie Bretecher in August, 1975. They have two children and live in Winnipeg.

The Smadella Family History

In the late 1800's, Harry Smadella, born in Bialoboznica, Austria, emigrated to Canada to seek freedom. After landing in Halifax he travelled to Manitoba with his brothers and sisters and homesteaded in the Moose Bay area. Here, Harry married Annie Kolochuk. Annie was born in Lajurin, Austria, in the late 1800's. She and her brothers and sisters homesteaded in the Weiden district.



Harry & Annie (Kolochuk) Smadella

After their marriage, Harry and Annie settled in Moose Bay on NE 9-28-17. They farmed, fished and raised a family: Nellie, Mike, Mary, George, John Henry, Pete, Bill, Marge, Sophie and Paul.

The children were educated at Moose Bay School. When World War II broke out, John Henry was called to military training at Shilo, near Brandon, on behalf of the Royal Winnipeg Rifles, 2nd Battalion. As he was the only son left to take care of his parents, he was discharged after only one month of service to resume his duties on the farm. John's brothers, Bill and Pete, also enlisted in the Militia.



Family of Harry & Annie Smadella, John, Sophie, George, Marge, Mary, Pete, Nellie, Mike, & Paul

John purchased a Fordson Major, steel-wheel tractor. He had a well equipped threshing outfit. He was called upon to do a fair amount of custom-threshing.

On May 8, 1948, John took delivery of a brand new Dodge Fargo 2-ton truck, bought from Ste. Rose Motors. He immediately built a grain box out of fir and carefully bolted all the stakes and boards together. This grain box is still being used today. Then John began to custom-haul grain to Rorketon and cattle as far as The Union Stock Yards in Winnipeg.

On May 6, 1901, Mytro and Maria (Galay), husband and wife, both 34 years of age, and their children arrived at the Port of Halifax on the Vessel Assyria. The children were as follows: Roman age 9, Wasyl age 7, Stefan, Daniel, Mike, Nellie and Annie. The family made their way to Manitoba where they settled in the Weiden district. As time went on, their children began families of their own.



Steve & Mary Galay's children, Roman, Sophie, Mike, Ann, Kate, Nellie, & Danny



Steve & Annie (Chuipka) Galay

One of these children was Stefan, who married Mary Chuipka of Moose Bay. They settled in Moose Bay and raised a family as follows: Roman, Sophie, Mike, Annie, Kate, Nellie and Danny.

On January 19, 1949 John married Kate Galay of Moose Bay, daughter of the late Steve (Stefan) Galay and the late Mary Galay (Chuipka). John and Kate settled on the farm SW 10-28-17, which they bought from Paul Pich of Moose Bay. As the years went on, John and Kate had seven children: Diane, Gordon, Sharon, Ernest, Jo-ann, Valerie and Bradley. All the children except for Valerie and Bradley began their schooling at the Moose Bay School which housed grades 1 to 8. Dad was a commercial fisherman. The horses worked hard

pulling the caboose which Dad used to keep the fish from freezing while they lifted their nets. During World War II, the Air Force planes would use Lake Dauphin as a training ground for their fighters. Fishing had to be done late in the day and early in the morning, before the planes began their runs over the lake.

To make hauling grain a little easier, Dad bought a Macleod's PTO loading and unloading auger on July 16, 1951. He went as far north as Crane River to bale hay for farmers. On occasion he would have to barge the John Deere tractor and the baler across the water to make hay on the islands.

Bill was killed in an underground accident at a mine in Snow Lake in July of 1954.

Our mother, Kate, was responsible for doing chores along with the housekeeping, feeding and lodging of the crews hired to pick stones. She also had countless other chores that are often overlooked by men. Yet as hard as they both worked, they always found time to enjoy themselves at dances and other social events, and Sunday was church day.

Trips to Rorketon were not made unless Dad had to haul grain to the elevator or fish to the train. Most of the grocery shopping was done at Moose Bay Store, run by Mike Chiupka, which also was a post office and gas station. Gordon tried his hand at the dairy industry, as well as mixed farming, before seeking other interests. At the time of this publication, John's son, Ernest, had taken on the task of carrying on the family farm.

Following are the names of John and Kate's sons and daughters, from the eldest to the youngest.

Diane married Dick Friesen and had two children named Dale and Dawn. They are presently living in Steinbach.

Gordon married Gayle Fulkerson. They had three children named Tracey, Jodi, and Jonathan and are presently living in Winnipeg.

Sharon married Lloyd Guenther. They had two children named Matthew and Jonathan and are presently living in Victoria.

Ernest is presently single and lives in Rorketon.



Top-right: Diane, Gordon, Sharon, Ernest, Jo-Anne, Valerie, Bradley, Kate & John in middle

Jo-ann is presently single and is living in Winnipeg.

Valerie married Joseph Bowman. They had two children named Amber and Christopher and are presently living in Illinois.

Bradley is presently single and is living in Vancouver.

Szport Family

Wasył Szpot, his wife Theodosia (nee Babiak), and two sons Michael and William (Bill), emigrated from Poland in 1921. Two other sons and a daughter had died of diphtheria a few years earlier. Michael was eleven, Bill was nine.

Settling on a piece of land in Moose Bay, they created an orderly farmyard reminiscent of what they had left behind. Thatched outbuildings were arranged in an L-shaped pattern and included barns, coops, harness room, blacksmith shop, milk shed, and a two-roomed dwelling. Of major importance was a deep, stonecribbed well that yielded clear, ice-cold water, even in July.

Theodosia and sons worked hard under Wasył's patriarchy. Wasył was the dealmaker. Michael was hired out to scrub brush and whatever meager wage he earned was taken by his father. The farm prospered.

Michael rode the rails to find work in mining towns in Ontario and northern Manitoba, while Bill stayed on the farm.

On September 1, 1937, Michael married Annie Fediuk at the St. Paul's Rectory, Dauphin, and they spent their lives together in various mining towns, coming back to their farm in Moose Bay as a home base.

Bill married Katie Smadella who had a daughter, Dorothy. They lived on a farm in Moose Bay, on the shore of Lake Dauphin. Bill passed away in his early fifties from complications due to surgery. Katie now lives in Winnipeg. Dorothy married Bill Boyechko. Dorothy passed away recently.

By this time, the family had added an "r" to their surname for ease of pronunciation, making Szport easier to say as "Sport".

In 1938, Marie was born to Mike and Annie, and nine years later they had a son, John Michael (Johnny). In 1949 while the family was residing in Geraldton, Ontario, grandma Szport passed away at the age of 65.

A few years later, Wasył sold his farm and moved to Rorketon where, ever the deal-maker, he began construction of a hotel. It was never finished. Wasył became a colourful character in town. With his full head of white hair and a grand handle-bar

moustache, and his ever-present cane, he trekked up town each day to visit with the locals. He passed away at age 92 in 1968.

After spending a few years in Snow Lake, Michael and Annie returned to the farm while Marie and Johnny finished school and went on to their chosen careers: Marie in education and Johnny as electrician.

In 1962, Marie married John Sedor from Oak Brae, fiddler and construction worker, in Rorketon's Ukrainian Catholic Church. Ten years later, brother Johnny married Imelda Wegleitner from East Bay. Johnny and Imelda had two children, Marie Anne, and John Mathew both currently residing in Alberta.

Annie and Michael Szport lived at Trois Villas in Ste. Rose Du Lac for about a year before Annie passed away in 1986 at the Ste. Rose hospital. Michael died in 1993 at the Gendreau Personal Care Home.

Johnny resides on the family farm in Moose Bay. His sister Marie retired as Assistant Superintendent of Duck Mountain School Division in June, 1996. Marie and John Sedor now live in Dauphin.

The Talpash Family

Ben Talpash's wife, Pearl, arrived in the United States from Europe by ship. It took six weeks to cross the ocean because the ship was powered by sails. The conditions on the ship were terrible. People were getting sick. Many died and were buried at sea. When they arrived in the U.S.A., they were quarantined on Ellice Island. There they were examined by doctors and any one who was physically unfit was immediately sent back. The Talpash's were healthy and passed the screening process, so they were allowed to enter the U.S.A. at New York. Ben Talpash was employed in a coal mine and worked there until he saved enough money to open a butcher shop. He was very successful in that business because, being able to speak five languages, he could converse with the Slavic customers.

He sold his butcher shop and emigrated to Canada. He had to pay all his travelling expenses. It was the immigration authorities who decided where they were going. That is why they arrived in the Dauphin district and were assigned a quarter section of promised land of rock and swamp.

They were advised to buy the necessary livestock, machinery and horses in Neepawa and ship them to the Dauphin settlement. They settled approximately 10 miles east of Dauphin and struggled to survive, but it was impossible. They then



Benedict Talpash



Pearl Talpash

moved to Moose Bay because there were more meadows where they could raise cattle, but the land was not much better. During all the years of struggle, they raised 10 children, and with their help, they opened up 90 acres of land.

Then Ben Talpash sold the farm and moved one mile east of Rorketon and retired. The children grew up and each one of them started on their own.

Sarah moved to Brandon and married Murray Tuer.

Pauline moved to Winnipeg and married Jack Macready.

Katie stayed at home and married Andrew Katchur of Rorketon.

Mike married Mary Korotash and farmed in Oak Brae

Walter farmed for several years. He sold the farm and moved to Ste. Rose where he operated a store. Walter has since retired and has passed the business to his son, Barry.

Joe farmed one mile east of Rorketon. After he sold out, he owned and operated a hardware store in Saskatchewan. He later retired in Kelowna.

Marie graduated as a teacher and taught school until retirement.

Helen graduated as a nurse and was promoted to a clinical supervisor. The last promotion was as Hospital Administrator. She was the first woman in Canada to hold such a position.

Rosie was trained as a nurse. She worked for ten years. Then she started selling Avon products. She was the top sales lady in Canada for three years in succession. Rosie earned trips to Europe and the Tropical Islands as bonus gifts.

Peter owned and operated a public service vehicle, PSV, serving Duck Bay, Camperville, and Winnipegosis. He owned a furniture store in Winnipegosis. In addition he had 300 fishing nets, fishing in winter, on Lake Winnipegosis as well as a

sheep ranch. In 1940 he sold out and joined the Royal Air Force to serve four and a half years. After his discharge, he travelled for Sherwin Williams Paint Company for a while after which he bought land 10 miles north Ste. Rose, at Methley. He developed three quarter sections of bush into good farm land which he later sold, and then moved to Kelowna. It was in Kelowna that he got involved in buying and selling real estate and was very successful in that venture. Finally he retired in the beautiful Okanagan Valley.

History of the Werbiski Family submitted by Elizabeth Podolsky

The following account is a brief history of the family of Ludwig and Frances Werbiski.

Ludwig, the eldest of five brothers, Peter, Nicholas, Micheal, and Joseph, was born in Poland on May 15, 1894, to Woytko and Maria (Chiupka) Werbiski. He emigrated to Canada with his family at the age of nine. They settled in the Moose Bay district. Like all pioneer families they endured many hardships. He obtained a bare minimum of schooling in the English language through several evening classes a week. The rest of his education was through self-motivation and self-instruction at home.

Ludwig married Frances Holowachuk whose family also emigrated to Canada from Ukraine. Frances was born on February 2, 1903 to Prokop and Anna (Swiderski) Holowachuk in the area of Sifton. She was the middle child of eight brothers and sisters: Maria, Micheal, Metro, William, Tina, Pauline and Steve. Her family also encountered many difficulties as they, too, were pioneer settlers.

Frances received her primary education in the first school built at Moose Bay. However, the long distance from school through self made bush roads prevented regular attendance at school. But through keen interest and self-motivation she also acquired the basics in education through self instructions.

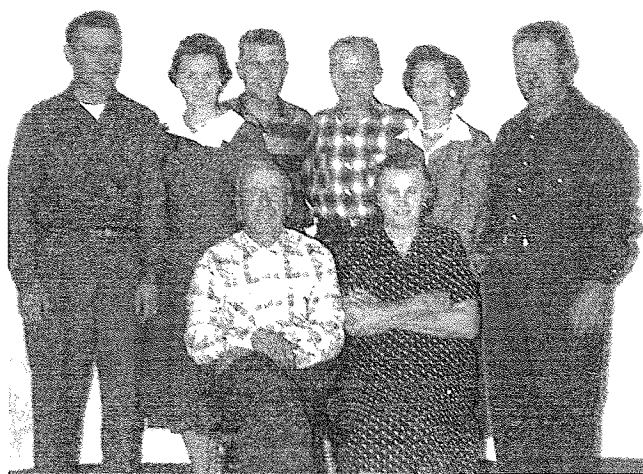
Ludwig and Frances were married on June 7, 1918 at a Roman Catholic Church in Oak Brae. After the wedding ceremony, performed by Rev. Jos. Solski, the wagon carried the bride and groom to the Werbiski household for the wedding reception. Ludwig and Frances lived with his parents until the following spring when their house was constructed just across the road.

Their first son, Micheal, was born on September 17, 1919 followed by a set of still-born twin sons, in 1921. Their second son, Anthony (Tony), was born on January 29, 1925 followed by son, Peter, on January 14, 1928. Their first daughter, Ann

(Annette), was born on March 31, 1931 followed by son, Alexander (Ed), on December 12, 1932. Their youngest daughter, Albina (Elizabeth), was born on February 11, 1935.

This family of six children received their elementary education at the local Moose Bay School. School was a distance of two miles on foot, but the parents maintained that regular school attendance was compulsory.

The local pay phone, used by the residents of the Moose Bay district, was installed in their residence in the late twenties.



Ludwig & Francis Werbiski family

The family earned a living through mixed farming. Their first motor vehicle, a 1/2 ton truck, was purchased in 1947, from Ludwig's brother, Nick Werbiski, the International Harvester dealer. Ludwig and Frances farmed on their homestead until his demise, on September 23, 1965.

She then moved to Rorketon and lived there until her demise on June 19, 1982.

Children of Frances and Ludwig:

Michael, a veteran of World War II (Air Force) and a retired employee of INCO, Thompson. married Tillie Zalubniak in February, 1946. They now live in Winnipeg. They have one daughter, Donna Michaels White, Victoria, British Columbia.

Tony, a retired employee of INCO, Sudbury, Ontario married Marguerite Brisebois in November, 1950 and they are living in Sudbury. They have a daughter, Betty (Clyde) Beaudry, and a son, Andrew (Linda) living in Sudbury.

Peter was farming on the parent's homestead and was a part-time bartender at the Rorketon Hotel until his demise on July 30, 1972.

Annette married John Iwanchysko in March, 1947. They farmed in the Moose Bay district until

they retired in Rorketon. They had four children: Walter (Olga) living in the Horyn district; Elizabeth (Walter) Tymchuk living in Horyn; Thelma in Toronto; and David in Winnipeg.

Edward is a farmer in the Rorketon area. He's a school bus driver for the Duck Mountain Division. He married Mary Maksymchuk in October, 1954. They have three children; Janice (Bernie) Maluga, live in Dauphin, Brian and Joanne live in Rorketon.

Elizabeth, a retired school teacher, married Jarvis Podolsky in July, 1966. They live in Vita, Manitoba.

The Zywina Family submitted by Ethel Robinson

Nicholas and Eudokia Zywina settled in the Moose Bay district. Nicholas immigrated to Canada from Poland at the age of 15. Eudokia was born in the Ukraine and came to Canada with her parents at a young age.

Their first home was a one-room house built of logs with a thatched roof. The chimney was made of woven willows and plastered with clay inside and out. The floor was dirt except in the middle where there was a cellar covered with boards. The only two windows in the house had 10 by 12 inch panes of glass.

Their next house was also built of logs. It was a two-room dwelling with an upstairs, a brick chimney, a cellar and a total of six windows, four downstairs and two upstairs. Outside was a bake oven made of willows and plastered with clay. In it, Eudokia baked twenty loaves of golden, crusty bread at a time.

Their family consisted of the following:

Lena, now twice widowed, lives in Dauphin.

Joe, who lived in British Columbia after being discharged from the army, was married and died of leukaemia.

Petro died in infancy.

Julia now lives in a nursing home in Birch Hills, Saskatchewan, after having suffered a stroke. She is widowed and has one son.

Pauline, who is widowed, lives in Dauphin. She has a family of three sons and two daughters.

Ethel, who is widowed, lives in Dauphin. She has a son and a daughter.

Martha died of bone cancer at the age of 26.

Alex, who is a widower, lives in Dauphin. He has two sons and three daughters.

Stanley, who is a bachelor, lives in Dauphin.

Nicholas died in 1954 of nephritis. Eudokia lived with Stanley in Rorketon for several years.

She then lived with Lena in Dauphin and lastly with Alex, prior to her death.

Nicholas worked hard to break the land and work the fields with 3 horses. In October 1923, Nicholas and a neighbour each took a wagon load of wheat to Sifton to get flour for the winter. The horses were stabled in the livery barn, but during the night an arsonist set fire to the barn and the horses were lost in the blaze.

During the winter Nicholas was forced to leave home and find work in order to earn enough money to buy a team of oxen. From then on, the going was slower and the family was poorer. Eudokia looked after the children and the animals. They lived on what they could raise or pick in the wild.

School played a large part in the children's lives even though they did not have money for books beyond elementary school.

As a carpenter, Nickolas helped to build the church at Oak Brae, the school at Moose Bay, the hotel at Rorketon and numerous houses in the district. When there were deaths in the district, he was often called upon to make coffins as well as crosses for the graves. Often the families could not afford to pay him in cash. One family who kept bees paid him with a five-gallon pail of honey.

After this writer finished school she went to work for a farmer, Mr. Sanders and his housekeeper, Mrs. Greetham, for \$7.00 a month. Three good meals a day were provided, but coffee breaks were unheard of.

In October, 1938, this writer developed appendicitis. Dr. Dicks removed her appendix as well as her tonsils on the same day. After an eight-day stay in the hospital, the bill was:

Dr. Dicks' fee	\$75.00
Dr. Bottomley's fee (Anesthetist)	10.00
Operating room fee	7.00
Hospital room for 8 days @ \$1.50 per day	12.00
Train fare from Rorketon to Dauphin	2.00
Total:	\$106.00

A part of this bill was paid from her wages which had been carefully saved, but the remainder had to be paid over a period of time.(See John and Ethel Robinson)

Alex Zywina

Alex Zywina was born in the Moose Bay area in 1923, to Nick and Doris Zywina(Podworny). Alex served in World War II, and after his discharge, he returned to the family farm.

In 1948, he married Annie Pawluk, daughter of Nick and Annie Pawluk. That was the year he bought his farm from Pete Karlash. They farmed three and a half miles southeast of Rorketon, until 1974, when they retired to Dauphin. They raised a family of five children, Elizabeth, Leona, Alex, Gloria, and Douglas. The older children attended Freedale School until they went on to high school in Rorketon. When the country schools closed in 1967, everyone went to school by bus to Rorketon. Sadly, Annie passed away in 1987, at the age of 58. Only Leona and Alex remain in the rural municipality.

Leona and her husband, Terry Smith, farm in the Million area. Their two children, Tracy and Jeremy, attended school in Rorketon. When they completed their schooling, they moved to Dauphin where they still live and work. Terry is one of the few commercial fishermen left on Lake Dauphin, having taken over the license of his stepfather, John Scott, in 1985.

Their home quarter is what is known as Clarke's Ridge. Sid Clarke moved away in 1949, and no one lived there until 1978. Years ago people used to gather there for annual spring picnics when the crocuses were in full bloom. Over the years, gravel excavators destroyed most of the ground on which the crocuses grew, but once the gravel was all gone, the crocuses began making a comeback. Some of the trails used as roads through the bush in the 1940's and 1950's and maybe even earlier, are still distinguishable.

Alex lives in the village of Rorketon when he is not away working for Norcana Resource Services all over western Canada.

Photos of Interest



Rorketon Womens Institute. Back Row: Mrs Fraser, Mrs Mitchell, Mrs Johnson, Mary Werbiski, Dorothy Cumming, Eva Rehaluk, Mary Rehaluk Front Row: Mrs Baxter, Ethel Radcliff, Mrs Radcliff, Mrs Bonnett



Mrs. Compton, Mr. & Mrs. Cull, Mr. & Mrs. Jopson



F: Sophie Budzey (Burdeyney), Takenna Burdeyney, Ann Bzowy B: Omalin Budzey, Henry Burdeyney, Fred Budzey, John Bzowy, Myftody Burdeyney



Dickie Williams



Lindenburg Family David, Brad, May, Bob

Oak Brae Community

Oak Brae, situated on the shore of Lake Dauphin, derived its name from the Scottish dialect meaning Oak Tree. It was located near a ridge of oak trees.

Oak Brae was as solid a community as the name implies. There were not many businesses but the pioneers of the district were a close-knit community.

In 1899, there were three families in Oak Brae: Metro Zaplitny, Peter Yarush and Bill Kolkichka, and, in 1900, Henry Janowski came.

The terrain was densely wooded with no roads of any kind. When it was necessary to go to the neighbours, they would carve nicks on the trees with a hatchet as they went along, so they could find their way back. The closest store was in Sifton. Before going to Sifton, the four neighbours would get together to decide what was needed. Upon return, they would divide some of the supplies four ways, mainly flour, sugar, and tea.

Janowski, situated NW 20-28-17, became the stopping point for the settlers of the area who, in the fall, would take a load of grain to Sifton to be crushed. They would take as many as twenty bags and after crushing, they would only have ten bags of flour, the remainder being bran and melling, which was fed to the animals.

Joe and Margaret Panagapka lived in Oak Brae for five years after they were married. Joe opened and operated a small blacksmith shop. In 1940, because the business was not profitable, he moved the building with a tractor into Rorketon. Joe fished in the winter. With his Model T, he would haul his fish and those of the fishermen from Oak Brae and Rice Lake to Winnipegosis.

Stores

In the early 1900's, Mr. Pulak constructed the first general store, adjacent to Janowski School, on two acres of land he had purchased from Mr. Janowski. In 1923, Mr. Pulak moved the building to Rorketon and business continued. In 1923, for some

unknown reason, the post office was closed and granted to the Weiden District.

In 1936, Charlie and Phyllis Strasdin opened a small store close to the school. It was opened only for a few years.

Mr. Sliworsky bought a parcel of land from Andrew Kolkichka, on the shore of Lake Dauphin, where he built a general store. It was opened on March 24, 1933. It was the only store for miles around. He operated the store alone for the two years prior to his marriage to Ann Muzyka, in 1935. In the winter, Ann, looked after the store when Mr. Sliworsky was commercial fishing. The first gas sold was pumped from barrels. They later installed a gas pump with a glass top where one could see the gas flowing through. As the years went by, a new modern pump was installed.

Upon entering the store, on the left, was a small room partitioned off for the Post Office. Mr. Sliworsky became the postmaster and officially reopened it in 1940. In 1972 he became 65, the compulsory age to retire. On Mr. Sliworsky's retirement from the post office, Prime Minister Trudeau sent him a certificate of congratulations. It proudly hangs on the wall where the wicket once was.

Mrs. Sliworsky then became the postmistress. She held this position until 1987 when the post office was closed. Mail boxes were then installed next to the store for the few remaining customers.

In 1996, the little country store is still operating, with its shelves neatly displaying the groceries. Mrs. Sliworsky caters to the local people who have been faithful customers over the years. She greets them cheerfully with a big smile. It has become a way of life that would be hard for her to give up after 61 years.

School

The settlers of the area volunteered their help to construct the school with Mr. Janowski to supervise the project. The material was hauled from Sifton by



Janowski School

oxen. It was a one-room school with a Quebec Heater in the centre of the room.

Because Mr. Janowski donated the land and supervised the construction of the building, it was unanimous that it should be called Janowski School. Letters spelling Janowski, No. 1512, were carved in wood, painted and nailed to a ten-foot long board. It was nailed across the front of the high wall of the school. Mr. Janowski and two other neighbours went to Fork River to enquire as to how to obtain a teacher. The postmaster from Fork River arranged for a Mrs. White to take the position.

In December 1910, the school was officially opened. When classes commenced, Mrs. White was astonished to discover that not one of the children spoke a word of English. Mr. Janowski had enough knowledge of the language to act as an interpreter between the teacher and the pupils. For the first week, every morning, he sat in the front row. With him there, the children became accustomed to the teacher. This was the first time any of the children were exposed to the English language. The library was a small 4'x 6' room with two walls full of shelves. Although there were never any new books, there was always a good selection to choose from.

Mrs. White taught for six months and was then replaced by her brother, Mr. George Basham.

There were as many as forty-two pupils.

Church

Before the church was built, Mass was celebrated in Mr. and Mrs. Janowski's home. It was a two story house built along the only road connecting Weiden, Horyn and Toutes Aides.

In 1917, the pioneers decided that it was time to have a place of worship. Mr. Janowski again donated two acres of land. The parishioners volunteered their help and Mr. Janowski supervised the construction of the church. It was named the "Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church". There was Mass three times a year. Everyone attended, whether they were Polish or Ukrainian. The Mass was said in Latin and the sermon in Ukrainian. The first priest came from Sifton. It was an honour for the Janowski family when the priest stayed overnight.



Oak Brae Church

Family Histories

Paul N. Janowski

My name is Paul N. Janowski, formerly of Oak Brae and the Rorketon area. I was born on December 17, 1913 in Oak Brae; so I will begin my contribution to your book from the year 1900, as it was told to me by my parents - Andrei and Maria Janowski - and continue my history of the pioneer days from the time I was old enough to recall the early days on my own.

My parents emigrated to Canada in 1900 from Cygany, Poland. They came over with a nine month old child, my brother Charlie. My parents and family sailed from a German port on a German ocean liner staffed by German personnel. It was at this time that my father's knowledge of the German language really paid off. He had mastered the language during his military service when it was compulsory for all young Polish men to join the army. Poland, at that time, was divided between Germany and Austria. My father became the interpreter on board ship when none of the other passengers understood German. At times help was needed because of a lot

of sea sickness on board. They were on the ocean liner for thirteen days before they reached Halifax, Nova Scotia. From Halifax they travelled by train to Dauphin, their final destination. In Dauphin they were met by a government agent who would escort them to their designated homesteads which were allotted to each family by the Canadian government for a registration fee of \$10.00 each. My father, his father and brother got adjoining quarter sections of land. After more improvements in the area and better roads were built, it ended up that my father and his brother had adjoining quarter sections and my grandfather happened to be across the road.

By 1919 there were seven of us siblings in my family: my five brothers and a sister. I was the second youngest. By this time my father, who had bought himself a couple of translation books of Polish and Ukrainian to English, had mastered the English language well enough to fill out income tax forms for all the people that were illiterate. There were also other documents that he would fill out for them.

The rules in our house were for all of us. As we became of age and after chores were done, we would have supper and then do our homework. Homework came first before play. Other evenings when there was no homework and the chores were all done, we were all taught to read and write in both Polish and Ukrainian. Our parents were devout Catholics so the Catholic faith was also taught at least once a week. There were times that we envied other children playing while we were inside attending to whatever was planned for that particular evening, but I realize now how fortunate we were to have had such caring parents who gave us the education they did.

In July of 1928 my father passed away. He suffered a lot during his last days. One day he called the three boys remaining at home to his bedside and gave us his blessing. He had us promise to stay with our mother and take care of her as she would be a young widow and dependent on us. Two days later he passed away. My brother Pete was 18, brother Jack was 10 and I was 15. It was quite a blow to us and more so to our mother, but we had to carry on.

In September of 1937 things changed. I decided that it was time to get married. On September 25 I married Lena Muzyka, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Muzyka of Oak Brae.

In August of 1941, our dear mother passed away. Then we were on our own and stayed on the farm until the next fall. We then sold out and moved into Rorketon into a house we had bought previously.



Paul Janowski, auctioneer at Luigi Rene's sale in Toutes Aides. Luigi on left.

It was on one of my stock hauling days that I had the privilege of meeting a gentleman, Mr. Alex Bretecher.

In the winter of 1950 we had the misfortune of losing our place of business, store, in a fire. My brothers from the United States kept writing to me and telling me to move to the U.S.A. where we would all be closer together, since I was the only one of the family left in Canada. In May of 1951, I sold out and we left Rorketon to try our luck there.

My wife and I and our two sons, Victor and Marcel, who were born in Canada became U.S. citizens five years later. Our daughter, Debbie, was born there three years after our arrival and is an American citizen by birth.

During the first 18 years after leaving Rorketon, we went back every year to Oak Brae to visit Lena's parents, and sister Anne and my cousins in the Sifton area during our vacations. Every year that we went back we noticed how Rorketon was changing from the good old days we once knew, to be like a so-called ghost town. What was once such a booming town is now left with only one grocery store owned by Mr. Mike Hanchar who was an outstanding athlete and a star hockey player during my youth.

As of August 30, 1995, I am the only member of my family left. All my brothers and sister have passed on. My wife Lena passed away on October 5, 1989.

Jennie (Janowski) Situlski (Written by the late Jennie Situlski, May 1, 1976)

I was born on March 14, 1903 around Fork River, Manitoba to Andrei Janowski (Polish) and Marie (nee Fedkiw)(Ukrainian). I was the second eldest and had six brothers: Charlie, Albert, Joe, Peter, Paul and Jack.

The immigration was arranged by an agency in Austria. My parents emigrated from the village of Cygany, in Austria (capital named Chortkiw); in the month of May, 1900. There was also my grandparents: Walter and Mary Janowski, my father's brother Jack and two sisters, Annette and Nellie, and my mother's two brothers, who were all single at the time. An agent named Gynek from Winnipeg brought the men along with a few other men and some Canadian engineers to stake their homesteads of 160 acres given to them freely by the Canadian government. Before they came there were three other families living in dugouts covered with hay. There were no roads, not even a path, just the iron posts that the engineers put in all four corners to show where the quarter of land ended.

The women were left in a small town called Sifton about twenty miles away. The road was just roughly marked. The town had only two small grocery stores, a Post Office and a flour mill.

All the pioneers brought with them was a huge steamer trunk which contained all their worldly possessions. They had the most necessary tools such as a sickle to cut grass, a hatchet and small axe to cut and hew the logs to build their cabins, and some seeds of every variety to plant in their gardens.

Metro Zaplitny, Peter Yarush and Bill Kolkichka were the neighbours on the same section. The neighbours helped my father and grandfather to cut some logs and build a two-room log cabin. My parents came to Canada with \$20.00 Canadian to their name. That money had to last them for the food that was necessary to be bought at Sifton. To make matters worse, no one could speak a word of English.

When the log cabin was erected, they had to cut some hay with the sickle and thatch the roof. In that first log cabin there was no floor. It was all clay, smoothed with a shovel while the water was poured on, then left to dry. My father was a carpenter from Austria, so he made a bed from hewn logs. He also made two benches and a table. They were all put together with wooden pegs as they had no nails. My father also bought a square tin which served as the top of the stove. It was mounted on four rocks outside the house. He had also apprenticed for two years in Austria as a blacksmith and shoemaker. He tanned his own leather and made shoes for mother and myself when I was older.

By the end of June, the roof was over their cabin and the women came from Sifton. Then my father went to Sifton to work for a farmer for \$15.00 a month and board. It was fortunate the farmer was English-speaking so that way, Father could learn some English.

For two weeks my mother and brother, Charlie, existed on the few potatoes that one of the neighbours spared and the flour that she had. She mixed the flour with water to make pancakes on top of that tin stove. Father sent Mother \$2.00 by mail, money the farmer had advanced him, so that Mother could buy food. That was the first pay that my father received in Canada. Father also wrote that another farmer wanted to hire a man, so Grandfather went and also got work for \$15.00 a month. That same summer, the neighbour, Mr. Zaplitny, bought a cow so they shared a pint of milk now and then with the neighbours. That same fall my father had that hard earned money to live on for the following winter.

In 1902, my father went to work for the same farmer and earned enough money to buy a cow which cost \$13.00. In the fall of 1903, they started to build a larger house. The farm was very hard land to work on. We picked stones for two weeks on our field every spring before any seed could be put in, while other neighbours had their crops already planted. Our crop of stones came up every year without fail. Everything came the hard way. Father dug a couple of wells; one to 30 feet and one 45 feet that had no water. Finally a third well was dug to a depth of 90 feet. This was all done by Father and volunteered help. It was done by pick and shovel and took all year. Once the first five feet were dug, the wooden cribbing was made and lowered into the hole. The men took turns and as more dirt was dug out the cribbing was added until they reached 90 feet. Then they struck rock and water started to seep in slowly. It only ever had about ten feet of water in it so there was never enough for the livestock. That meant that we had to take turns summer and winter and chase the cattle to Lake Dauphin, one mile away. My brothers and I took turns chasing the 15 head of cattle to the lake on our lunch hours from school; and that's when I envied the children who walked far to school so could stay in for lunch. In winter we had to walk behind the cattle slowly to the lake, then with an axe, cut at least two holes, about four feet long and at least a foot wide through ice that was two feet thick. By the time those holes in the ice were cut, the cattle were too cold to drink any water and I was nearly frozen. Each day those holes would get drifted in by snow and we had to cut out the same holes and we never had any good warm footwear. We would then leave the cattle behind to stroll home slowly and we would run so as not to be late for school.

Lake Dauphin was 32 miles long and 16 miles across, and in winter, people used to take a shortcut across the ice to go to Sifton and Dauphin. In one

instance, in 1905, one neighbour who had a yoke of oxen was returning from Sifton with supplies for Easter. As he was crossing the lake, a bad snow-storm came up. Although the oxen usually knew their way home, they got lost. The man was walking behind them to keep warm and he heard a loud crack of ice. The oxen came too close to the edge of the very wide Mossey River which never froze. The oxen drowned with all his own shopping, along with all he had bought for the neighbours. Then the man had to guess his way across to the other side of the lake. He finally noticed a dim light across the lake. My mother said that poor man came in all exhausted, with tears in his eyes. It was sad news for those who had given their last few dollars to buy food.

There were many chores to do and there was no such thing as cleansers. We used wood ashes to shine our cutlery, pots and pans. We washed the clothes and scrubbed the floors with homemade soap.

Those who lived near Lake Dauphin like we did, in the summer, would take our laundry to the lake and wash it there. We placed the clothes on a nice smooth rock. We wet the clothes, rubbed them with a bar of lye soap, beat them with a wooden board with a handle, rinsed them, and put them on the big flat rocks to dry.

In 1915, my mother was the envy of all the neighbours as she was the first one around with a sewing machine that one could turn with the right hand and sew. Then father, being a handy man, made a cabinet and attached a foot pedal making it into a treadle machine. My mother did most of the sewing for the neighbors for a "thank you". My father did a lot of blacksmithing, also for a "thank you", as people were all poor. Many a morning we kids had to take turns to pump the forge before going to school.

On Christmas Eve, in 1921, I met John Situlski, and on November 7, 1923 we were married. Father Stronski performed the ceremony. We have three daughters, two sons, and ten grandchildren.

Frank Jastrebski Family **submitted by Sylvia (Pich) Biletski**

Frank Jastrebski was born on September 15, 1879 in Trembowla, Galicija. He was educated in Austria prior to coming to Oak Brae in 1908. He had one married sister, Annie Yarush, at Oak Brae. Frank did odd jobs around the district, and landed a job with the C.N.R. He worked there for a couple of years putting in new tracks. He bought a quarter, NE 17-28-17, in Oak Brae and started clearing land. He met Katherina Monchka, born October 11, 1894,

daughter of Sofat Monchka and Maria Jopka. Sofat and Maria had come to Canada in 1901 with two young children and settled in the Volga district.

Frank and Katherina were married on February 5, 1911, and lived at Oak Brae. They raised a family of seven children. In winter my grandfather, Frank, cut one foot square blocks of ice and placed them in a log building called an icehouse. Each layer of ice was covered with sawdust so the blocks wouldn't melt or freeze together. In summer, the cream and milk were kept cool in the icehouse. There was also ice for cold water to drink. In summer, with fresh cream and ice they made ice cream. It was the best treat we could get.

They also kept sheep. In the spring time they always sheared the wool and then grandmother Katherina would spin wool on spinning wheel. The yarn was dyed with tint either from plants or onions to make different colors. She knitted for everybody in the family. They raised geese. They took the feathers and made pillows and huge quilts. Grandfather and Grandmother built a big barn with the help of their four sons. In summer it was cleaned and barn dances were held in the loft. Grandfather Frank also loved walks in the woods. He picked spruce gum for medicine or salve.

Their children are as follows:

Karol, born 1914, married Elsie Baschuk in 1936. They live in Timmins, Ontario, and they have 2 boys.

Helen, born 1916, married Pete Warwork in 1935. Helen lives in Dauphin along with her 4 children.

Jennie, born 1918, married Mike Pich in 1938. Jennie lives in Ste. Rose. She has 8 children.

Joe, born 1920, married Eva Didychuk. They are divorced. They have no children. He lives in Ste. Rose.

Milly, born 1922, married Mike Matychilk in 1940. They live in Dauphin and have 6 children (one set of twins).

Jack, born 1924, married Rose Strasdin in 1954. They live at Oak Brae on the homestead and have one set of twins.

Stanley, born 1927 never married. He lives in Rorketon.

Frank died on January 31, 1966, and Katherina on June 1, 1974.

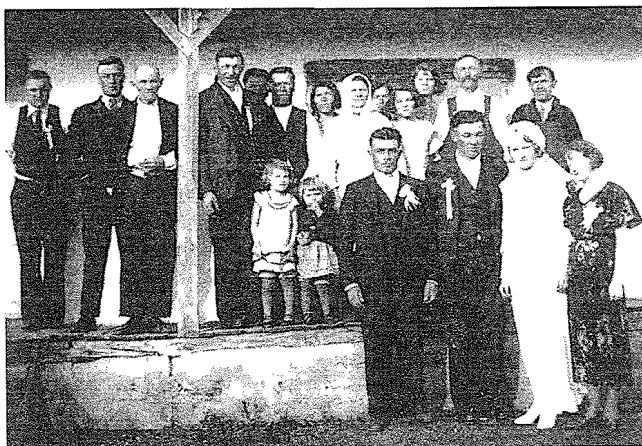
Andrew and Petrunella (Swiderski) Pich

Andrew Pich was born in 1875 in the Ukraine to Paul and Maria (Sochozak) Pich. Somtimes after 1904 Andrew emigrated to Canada. He arrived by

ship at Montreal and then went on by train to the Dauphin area.

Andrew's three older brothers, Paul, Michael and John had also immigrated to Canada a few years earlier. They settled in various places at Moose Bay.

These were very hard times. Work was very hard to find, but he was able to survive. It was not unusual for him to walk to Sifton, Ochre River, Dauphin and even Neepawa to find a little work at a farmer's or on a road construction crew. He always returned to the Moose Bay area. Here he met Petrunella Swiderski who emigrated to Canada in 1906 with her parents from the Ukraine. The Swiderskis had settled and built their home at Moose Bay NE 34-27-17. In 1908 Andrew and Petrunella walked to Sifton to get married as there was no church at Moose Bay at that time.



Wedding of Andrew & Petrunella Pich

Andrew and Petrunella built their home near the Weiden corner on a homestead taken by Andrew in 1906. The land is now owned by Paul Holowachuk NE 2-28-17. Andrew cleared two little plots of land, by hand, where they grew grain for themselves. He would carry a bag of wheat on his back to Sifton where there was a flour mill, and then he'd return with a bag of flour.

They were the only ones in the area at that time who kept bees. This meant honey for themselves, their friends and neighbors. It was not always possible to get sugar, but with honey they made wild fruit preserves and baked. Everyone always had a birthday cake.

Andrew was quite skilled as a carpenter. Andrew and Petrunella had eight children.

Mike 1909-1973 (See Sylvia Biletski)

Mary, born 1910, married Pete Papuschak of Dauphin and they had five girls: Stella, Verna, Helen, Florence and Judy. Pete is deceased and Mary lives in Winnipeg.

Nick, born 1912, married Rose Chiupka and they lived in Moose Bay. They had eight children: Virginia, Edith, Shirley, Elsie, Adam, Kenny and Shelley who died of leukemia at age nine. Nick and Rose moved to Rorketon and operated a cafe and bakery for several years. Then they had a care home for the elderly.

William (Bill) (1914-1987) married Annie Boyechko. They lived at Moose Bay and they had four children: Lillian, Verna, and twins, Bobby and Betty. Verna died at age thirteen.

Annie, 1915-1987, married Mike Chiupka. They operated a store at Moose Bay and ran the post office for a number of years. They had three daughters: Verna, Marian and Christine. Annie and Mike are both deceased.

Alice was born 1917. (see Hrushowy family)

Harry, 1919-1991, served in the armed forces and then farmed at Moose Bay on his parents' farm.

Nellie, born 1921, married John Biletski. (see John Biletski)

In 1924, the Andrew Pich family moved to Petrunella's home place at Moose Bay, to look after her aging father. They lived closer to Lake Dauphin, so the older boys were able to fish in winter. Andrew continued to farm, keep domestic animals and bees. He built roads by hand in the area and also repaired watches. Petrunella was kept busy working with her husband and raising their children. Things became more difficult after she lost her eyesight and almost all her hearing in the mid-forties.

Andrew and Petrunella retired to a Personal Care Home in Rorketon. They lived there until Andrew passed away in 1973 at the age of 97 and Petrunella in 1975 at the age of 86.

Pete and Marlene Sedor

Peter Steven Sedor was born in Winnipegosis on March 30, 1944, to Paul and Madelene Sedor who were then living in the Meadowlands area. When Peter was one year old, his parents and the rest of his siblings moved to the Oak Brae area. Peter graduated from the Winnipegosis Collegiate, worked at the Bank of Nova Scotia in Winnipegosis for a period of time, then moved to Vancouver where he worked at a wire rope factory. He then moved back home for a while and worked up north for several different companies. On May 22, 1971, Marlene (Rudkavich) and Peter were married in Rorketon. For three years, they made their home in Thompson, where Peter worked for Malcom Construction and Marlene worked in the computer section of INCO. In 1973, Peter and Marlene moved to Gillam where Peter was working on the Long Spruce Hydro Dam.



Eva Grezevich, Paul Sedor & Paul's mother, Martha Shewchuk

Marlene worked at the local Government District of Gillam as secretary, and then for the Gillam R.C.M.P. detachment. In July of 1976, they moved back to the Fork River area, renting an old farm house from Fellmack Holdings, with whom Peter was employed. On May 28, 1977, their first child, a daughter, Courtenay Allyson, was born. In 1980, Peter and Marlene bought a farm east of Fork River and still reside there. On January 16, 1982, their son, Ryan Arthur, was born. Courtenay graduated from Winnipegosis Collegiate on June 25, 1995 and Ryan is in Grade 8 at Winnipegosis Elementary School. Peter works for the Rural Municipality of Mossey River and Marlene works as a telecommunications operator with the R.C.M.P. in Dauphin.

Willie and Marusia Sedor

Willie, the fifth child of Paul and Madelene Sedor, was born on August 26, 1941. Willie grew up with the rest of the family at their home in the Oak Brae District at the north end of Lake Dauphin. He completed his elementary education at the North Lake School. He then went to the Rorketon School and the Winnipegosis Collegiate to obtain his high school education. Willie decided to try his hand at radio and television servicing and went to Winnipeg to complete a course at M.I.T., now known as Red River Community College.

After working in Dauphin, Willie decided to purchase the Blacksmith Shop in Rorketon from Joe Panagapka. Willie was kept busy during the warm weather months by the local farmers. For the winter Willie would put his welding skills to good use by working at different construction sites in northern Manitoba.

In 1971, Willie married Marusia Lytwyn on July

24. They began their married life by living and working first in Thompson and then in Gillam. Willie was employed as a welder on the different construction jobs and Marusia as a teacher by the local school districts. While in Thompson, Willie fulfilled a personal dream by obtaining his private pilot's licence and purchasing a four-seater, 172 Cessna. It sure made the trips home a lot shorter than driving.

After four years of northern living, Willie and Marusia bought a ranch north of Winnipegosis on Red Deer Point and began ranching.

Their family increased by two with the birth of Rachel Dawn on January 10, 1979 and Ian Paul William on March 13, 1981.

In 1980 the family moved a mile south of Winnipegosis on the "Farm Church Road" where they presently live. Willie continues to ranch and does some welding for the neighbours while Marusia teaches, on a half-time basis, at the Winnipegosis Elementary School. Both children are obtaining their high school education.

Madelene and Paul Sedor

Madelene Sedor is the third child born to Doris and John Solomon of Horyn. She was born August 6, 1911.

In 1934, Madelene Solomon married Paul Sedor. Paul had been married to his second wife's cousin for a short time. She died a few weeks after giving birth to Paul's daughter, Madelene. Paul and his second wife, Madelene, had seven children: Eva 1935, John 1936, Adam 1939, Willie 1941, Pete 1944, Phyllis 1949, and Donnie 1955.

The children all spoke Ukrainian as their first language. Mom along side her husband Paul performed back breaking work.

Mom was also an active member of the Rorketon Ukrainian Catholic Church. She was a very strong woman. Many times she was left alone to manage the farm while Dad was away fishing or logging on contract. Mom was remembered by neighbours for bringing clothes and food to those who were in need.

Dad worked out all one summer harvesting to pay for his father's funeral expenses. Dad's father died at the age of 36.

Mom was 68 when she required triple-bypass surgery. She recovered from her surgery and enjoyed many healthy years with her family.

Paul was born November 11, 1905 in Gruber, Manitoba. He was the first child born to John and Martha Sedor. He was a strong man.

Paul, Dad, told his family many stories.

Dad's greatest enjoyment came from playing the violin. He played at weddings and Box Socials.

When Mathew was born, he would play the violin. He gave Mathew his violin along with his love for music.

The family organized a fiftieth anniversary celebration in 1984. Mom and Dad were driven by horse and buggy to church.

Mom and Dad, Paul and Madelene, are buried in the Rorketon Ukrainian Catholic Parish Cemetery. Dad died on July 15, 1989, while Mom died on January 24, 1994, at home, just as she wanted.

Donald Sedor is the youngest son of Paul and Madelene Sedor. He lived with his mom and dad at the Oak Brae farm until his dad retired in 1966. Donnie and his parents moved to Rorketon where Donnie began attending Rorketon School.

Donnie's interests in high school included running and curling. Donnie graduated from Rorketon School in 1973.

Donnie inherited his love of music from his father. He chose to play the drums and played in a couple of bands. They played at many Ukrainian weddings and community dances.

Donnie worked for one winter as a caretaker for the Rorketon Curling Club. A short time later, he was employed by the Department of Highways where he continues to work as the Foreman in Rorketon.

In 1986, Donnie married Janice Peacey who was teaching at Rorketon School. Donnie and Janice have two sons. Mathew Donald Sedor was born on September 2, 1988. Drew Jacob Sedor was born on May 7, 1992. Mathew is presently in Grade two at Rorketon School. In keeping with family tradition, Mathew is learning to play the violin. He is dancing with the Rorketon Rusalka Dance Club.

Mathew's last Christmas present to his Baba was playing the violin for her at the school Christmas Concert; She died a month later.

Drew at the age of three and a half loves to listen to stories, run, and of course copy everything his older brother does.

They have numerous special memories of their grandparents.

Mac and Bernice Sliworsky

Mac and Bernice (Zaplitny) were married in July 1962. They had three children: Patrick, James, and Jonathon. Mac died in November 1985. Bernice now lives in Dauphin.

Mac's parents were Walter and Anne Sliworsky (Muzyka). Walter came to Oak Brae to fish in Lake

Dauphin. He set up a store in 1933. The store and post office were operated by the family since then.

Mac was born in Oak Brae, attended North Lake School, and later worked for CanMet and Noranda Mines in Elliot Lake, Ontario. He came back and set up a bulk fuel, gas, and oil business in Oak Brae, and also farmed there for 20 years. He served as director for the Rorketon Credit Union for 15 years and as a 4-H Leader in mechanics, youth clubs and woodworking.

Bernice was born in Dauphin and attended Oak Brae Janowski School, as well as schools in Rorketon and Yorkton. She attended Teachers' College in Winnipeg in 1958 - 1959. A rewarding teaching career began with four years at a small country school in Weiden. Bernice's experience was diverse, five years at Winnipegosis Collegiate, followed by five years respectively at Winnipegosis Elementary and Rorketon. Bernice contributed a great deal to the children of the Duck Mountain School Division. Bernice completed her teaching career in Dauphin at Mackenzie Junior High.

Bernice was active in school events and in the Roman Catholic Church. As a 4-H leader, she taught pottery, led youth clubs and designed many floats.

Patrick attended Rorketon School and graduated in 1982. He was active in all sports, enjoyed drama, and was 4-H President. He married Loretta in Alberta; they have two sons and live in Blue Ridge, Alberta.

James attended Rorketon School and graduated in 1985. He participated in sports, track and field, drama, school events, 4-H activities, as well as being 4-H President. He trained in Brandon as an Agricultural Mechanic. He has one son and now lives in Portage la Prairie.

Jonathon attended Rorketon School until grade nine, then graduated from DRCSS in 1991. He danced with the Winnipegosis Sopilka, Dauphin Zirka, and the Selkirk Troyanda dancers. He was always active in sports, especially football. He played with the St. Vital Mustangs.

The (Sloboda) Slobodian History submitted by Mary (Sloboda) Slobodian

I was born in Oak Brae on May 14, 1915 and given the name Mary Sloboda. I married Peter Slobodian in 1941 in Winnipegosis. I attended Janowski School. I started school in 1925 and my teacher's name was George Basham. He came to school in a horse and buggy. There was a small barn for his horse. My brother, Fred Sloboda, didn't like school, so he asked the teacher if he could look after

the horse instead. Fred spent most of his time in the barn instead of studying. He fed and groomed the horse, and cleaned out the barn. George liked this arrangement because he did not have to do it himself. By 4:00, we all went home and so did Fred. My parents never knew about Fred's "education". No wonder he only made it to grade three or four!

The next teacher I remember was High J. Coyle. He was very strict and did not want us to talk in Ukrainian, but most of us did not even know English! If we got caught talking Ukrainian, it would usually mean a strap on our palm.

We had good neighbours in Oak Brae who lived only a mile from our place. They were Mike and Mary Talpash. We spent a lot of time with them because they were very friendly. Mike had a hand operated gramophone and some polka and one step dance records. He used to teach my sister Ann and me how to dance in their living room.

In the winter time, we went to dances in Weiden which was about seven miles away. Mike would hitch up his team of horses and pull an old caboose. He would take as many people as he could fit inside. Mike had put a wood stove in the caboose so it was nice and warm inside. He would pick up our new single teacher, Miss Richter. She loved dancing, too. There was a store by the hall, so we would go in and buy gum for five cents a package, to sweeten our breath. The men smoked and even wore their caps while they danced with us. Homemade cigarettes from Shum Tobacco was fifteen cents a package. Eggs were two dozen for fifteen cents. Cows were sold for \$5.00 each.

Michael Sloboda History

Michael Sloboda immigrated to Canada from Austria in 1900. He came alone as he could not afford passage for his wife, Annie, and their oldest son, Pete. He was one of the first settlers in the Oak Brae area. Four years later he was able to bring his family to Canada.

Michael and Annie had seven children: Pete, Harry, Fred, Anne, Marie, Pauline, and John.

At that time, the government gave the settlers one-quarter section of land, a bag of flour, a bag of sugar, and some salt to help them get started. They had no house for a few years, so they dug a hole in the ground and lived in it.

Son Fred married Mary Seniuk from Oak Brae in 1936 and started farming his father's land. They had seven children. Fred passed away on March 19, 1990. Mary is now living in Canora, Saskatchewan.

The oldest child, Ruth, married Victor Zurba and is living in Fork River.



Michael & Ann Sloboda & Family

Robert moved to Ontario and passed away in September, 1992.

Roy lived in Ontario for awhile, then moved to Dauphin where he lives with his wife Bev.

Ronald married Gloria Dryden of Winnipegosis in 1967 and started to farm his father's land in 1968. They had three daughters: Rosanne, the eldest, married Harvey Antienk in 1995, Pam married Barry Honish in 1991, and Jenny lives with Greg Sanderson in Waterhen.

Russell lived around home, then settled in Dauphin until his passing on January 23, 1995.

Patsy married David Pascal and lives in Winnipeg.

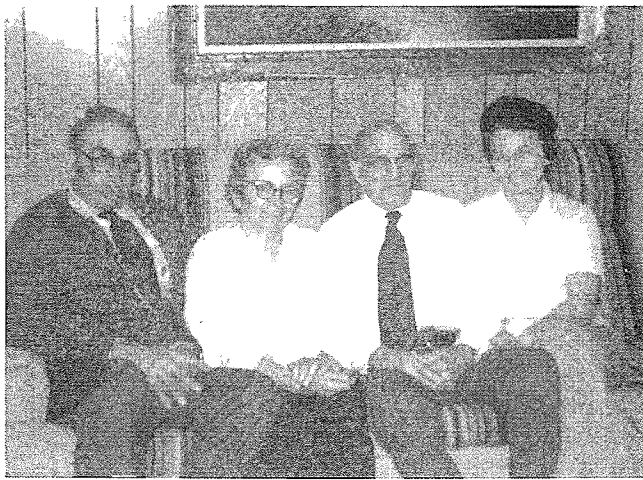
Freddie, the youngest, lives with his wife, Holly, in Dauphin.

Mike and Mary Talpash submitted by Norma Kendzierski

Mike Talpash and Mary Korotash were married in 1927. Mary bought her wedding dress at the Farmers Mutual store in Rorketon, Manitoba. They settled on a farm at Oak Brae on the north eastern shore of Lake Dauphin. They farmed and in the winter months, Mike fished, putting in up to sixty nets. For several winters his brother Joe helped him. At that time fish was not in great demand, so in the late winter Mike would take his team of horses and peddle the fish from farm to farm. He would go as far as Dauphin and into the Riding Mountains. He would pay for his lodging with fish.

During the times Mike was away, Mary would tend to the farm chores and animals.

In 1929, Russell, their first child was born. In the winter of 1930, Russell caught pneumonia and on a cold January day was taken by horse and sleigh to Rorketon to stay at Ben Talpash's. Nurse Hill came every day for a week to administer medication and advise Mary on how to care for an infant with



Russell, Mary, Mike & Norma

pneumonia. Thanks to Nurse Hill, Russell recovered in a short time.

Clearing the land was a big job. Men were hired to clear the land of heavy bush which covered the fertile soil. The equipment used were axes, picks and horses to pull the stumps out.

By this time more cattle, sheep and pigs were added to the farm.

In 1931, their daughter, Norma, was born and their family became more active and busy.

They tried raising pigs and turkeys for sale but eventually settled on grain and cattle.

By this time Russell was a big help on the farm, seeding grain, haying and threshing.

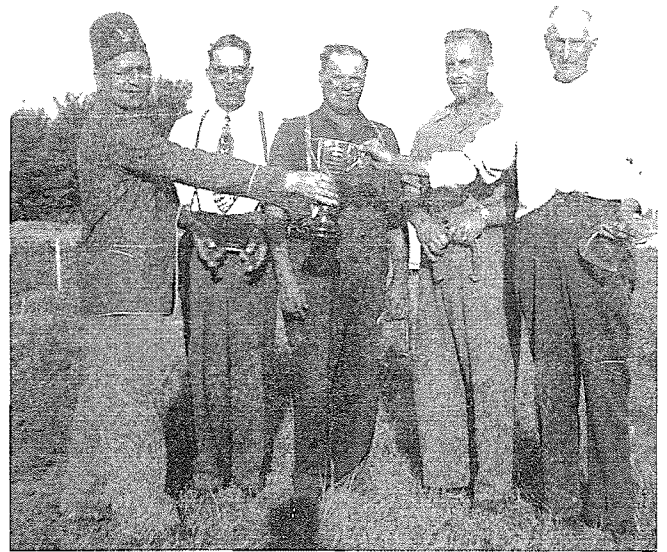
In the summer, after seeding, Mike and Norma would spread out the running lines in the yard and seam nets to be ready for the winter fishing season. Mary would spin wool and knit all the mitts and socks.

Russell had a love for horses; the faster they were, the better. He had many broken harnesses and wagons to show for this.

Janowski School was only one mile away, so Russell and Norma had a short walk to school. Teachers at that time taught grades 1-8 and grades 9 and 10 were taken by correspondence. You hoped you had a willing teacher to help.

Farm life was very busy, winter and summer, but Mike and Mary, with their family, always made time for picnics, dances and the occasional trip to Clear Lake. In the later years Mike developed a great love for the game of horseshoes. You could pass by any Sunday and see Mike and John Zaplitny pitching horseshoes. The clang of the shoes was a familiar sound at the Talpash farm and it could be heard at any time of the day.

Russell enjoyed fishing, boating and having a good visit with family and friends.



Horseshoe Tournament, Unknown, Mike Talpash, John Zaplitney, Mr. Smart & Mr. Crawford.

Mary loves her garden, flowers, knitting and crocheting, but this is surpassed by her enjoyment of her grandchildren and great-grandchildren who have the greatest respect for her.

Mike passed away in 1979 while still living on the farm.

Russell and Mary bought a home in Rorketon and moved into town in 1992. Mary finally had the convenience of running water. Even though Russell's health made it hard for him to continue farming, he refused to retire completely and spent a great deal of his time at the farm.

Russell passed away in February of 1996.

Mary still resides at her home in Rorketon.

Peter Yaeger

Peter Yaeger (Geger) and his father, Christian Yaeger (Geger), took up homestead holdings in 1913, Peter on NW 17-28- 17, and Christian on SW 17-28-17W.

Peter had been sent out several years earlier by his father to check out the possibilities of acquiring land. Christian wanted to be away from the scourge of war and he wanted more opportunities for his children. Christian came to Canada with his wife, Elizabeth, and five younger children. One son died at twenty: one, before the family left Latvia. In Canada, two more sons died tragically, one during an epileptic seizure at school and one drowned at the age of twelve.

One son and one daughter moved to the United States. One daughter lived most of her life at Fork River.

Peter, in 1926, brought from Latvia a close friend of his cousin, Elsa Dinber. He farmed his land until his death, and raised four children: Roy Yaeger, now in Vancouver with his wife Maurine, Norman Yaeger who died tragically several years ago, Velma Abramchuk who lives in Winnipeg with her husband Michael and Velta Alksnis who, along with her husband Alfred, lives with their son Alfred on the family farm.

Peter and Elsa had nine grandchildren.

Zaplitny Family History submitted by Mary, Jean, Hilda, Emily and Bernice (Zaplitny)

Dmetro and Anna Zaplitny (Muzak) arrived in Canada in 1899 on the ship, S.S. Californian. They were part of Lord Sifton's plan to settle the prairies with good, hardworking farmers. They came from the village of Germatiwka, in the Ukraine, where they farmed ever diminishing plots of land that were subdivided over and over again as new sons were born into the family.

Dmetro chose a quarter on the northeast shore of Lake Dauphin. His homestead had huge stands of oak and maple, and he took this as a sign of fertile land.

As time went on, their family grew. The children were; Titania, Alex, Micheal, Peter, Stephen, John, Anna, and Fred.

Titania married Jacob Chuipka in 1916, but unfortunately became ill and died in that same year.

Alex, Michael, Peter, Stephen and Anna left the



Dmetro & Anna Zaplitney

family farm during the depression years and went to Detroit, Michigan, where they found work at the auto companies. They met their spouses there, married, raised their families and were able to come back for occasional visits.

After some time in Detroit, Peter and his wife Frances (Belinski) and children, Fred, Ernie and Florence, came back to farm in Oak Brae.

Peter had severe asthma; farm dust was intolerable for him, so they moved again, this time to British Columbia. He died shortly thereafter at the age of 43.

That left John and Fred in Manitoba. Fred became a schoolteacher and married another schoolteacher, Elizabeth Koshey. Fred was elected three times as a Federal Member of Parliament for Dauphin.

They had a family of four: Frederick, Gail, John, and Michael. Fred passed away at the age of 51, leaving Elizabeth to raise their four children.

Frederick, more commonly known as Rick, comes to Rorketon every week during the tax season to fill out income tax forms.

Fred's brother, John, stayed on the family farm in Oak Brae and married Caroline Chornoboy in 1931.

In many ways John was a man before his time. He had a gentle sense of humour and could always see the funny side of life.

His lessons were taught by examples.

John was very well read, very intelligent and he promoted education. He was a kind and generous person. There were many student teachers in our area who saw John as a mentor, a friend and often a small loans officer.

John was very active in the Farmers' Union and also active politically. He helped his brother, Fred, campaign and once ran for office himself.

In seven years, they had a total five daughters, just what a farmer needs!

The eldest daughter Mary, married Peter Korotash in 1950; Jean married Ben Kujanpaa in 1957, and Bernice married Mac Sliworsky in 1962.

Hilda married Leif Hansen in 1959. They spent many years in Lynn Lake, Laurie River and Jenpeg, where Leif worked for the Sherrit Gordon Mines and Manitoba Hydro. They had three daughters: Sandra, Carrie and Lisa. Hilda and Leif moved to Calgary about 16 years ago and are looking for a place that has a long golfing season.

Emily married Jim Laycock in 1956. They moved to Calgary and have lived there since. They raised a family of four sons: Robert, Robin, Ronald, and Rick.

As the girls grew up there was another great influence on their lives. In the same yard lived Grandpa and Grandma. They were taught by their parents that they were to respect and obey the grandparents. Grandfather was stern while Grandmother was a gentler person.

During those years their mother, Carrie, worked very hard. She was a good cook. There was always homemade bread, sometimes it was baked in an outdoor oven.

Carrie stayed on the farm until 1976. She enjoyed her time in Rorketon with friends and family. Her grandchildren were very fond of her, and she always had plenty of company.

When Carrie was 80, she suffered two serious heart attacks within a month of each other. That left her in poor health. With the help of her family and Home Care she was able to live in her own house until two weeks prior to her death on July 16, 1995. John had predeceased her in 1973.



Rorketon District

Public meetings were held for suggestions for naming the new town. It was decided to take Mr. Rorke's name for the first five letters, with the TON from Mr. Huddleston. It came to be known as "Rorketon".

"The Birth of Rorketon" December 22, 1921

(By J.S.I.)

Winter cannot stop your progress,
Rorketon!
For every day the builders work
with pride,
And even though the north wind blows
with fury
The builders at their work do still
abide.
Yes, Rorketon is the envy of the district.
It lies on soil that's fertile, rich and
high.
We do not need a boat in spring-
time,
For drains along the roads have
made it dry.
Rorketon is the centre of the district,
Its bound to be the capital you know.
And by the way, it's every day im-
proving.
You surely cannot say the town is
slow.
We have two stores that now are
operating
And a Municipal Hall to deck our
town;
A livery barn, another store a-building,
It will soon be a place of world re-nown.
In future you will hear the name of
Rorketon,
Wherever you may travel through
the land.

For Rorketon to the front is surely
coming.

For by strong hands its destiny is
planned.

There is a lot of energy and push in our district just waiting for a little encouragement to exert itself and set into motion the latent energy of prosperity. Rorketon is a new townsite situated between the two lakes, Dauphin and Manitoba, about eight miles from each. Its location is on SE 12-28-16W. Because of its location it is bound to become one of the best commercial centres north-east of the town of Dauphin. It is centrally located in the municipality of Lawrence, which gives it the Municipal Hall and all of the Municipal routine is conducted here. It already has two large stores, a Post Office, livery barn, Orange Hall and Municipal Hall as well as a representative of the Massey Harris Machinery corporation doing business. Two new residences are being erected at the present time. It practically commands all the trade from Lake Dauphin West and to Lake Manitoba on the east and when the road, which is under construction is completed to the north it will command a trade for thirty to forty miles north. There is a good all-season car road via Freedale to Ste. Rose and Ochre River, and under present plans there will be good car roads practically all through the municipality next season. Just give us a railroad and watch us grow.

Eyes on Rorketon,
See it grow;
Tramp to Rorketon,
Don't be slow.

Bring your money,
Bring your dust;
Bring your family,
Don't go bust.

Eyes on Rorketon,
Now's your chance;

All are welcome,
Get the prance.

Lots are waiting,
Build your house;
Start in business,
Make things bounce.

You'll be welcome,
When you come;
Band will meet you,
Fife and drum.

Come in early,
Come at night;
Bring your kiddies,
Bring your wife.

When you'll come,
You'll never go
For you'll love this,
Darn place so.<excerpts Dauphin Herald>

"On to Prosperity." "Optimist"

At one time Rorketon had it all - stores, restaurants, theatre, lumber yard, bakery, garages, mills, pool hall, taxi, livery barns, nursing station, implement dealers, fish packing, blacksmith, boarding house, egg station, shoe repair, transfer, hair dresser, barber, switchboard, train, stock yard, fish and fur buyers. One could buy anything that was needed from the smallest article to the largest, even tombstones.

But like all small communities, Rorketon took its hits. One by one the businesses closed their doors, some through fire, others retired and some due to the big centres that offered good sales and better choices. With everyone now driving a car, it's not a big ordeal to drive to these centres. Yet one is saddened to see a boarded window of a once prosper business, but times have changed, and so must we.

It's wonderful to be able to think of the past, when some of the things were free. Today about the only things that are free are the dreams. The cost of living has skyrocketed in the last decade. In 1927 some were able to afford to buy a radio. In 1934 it cost 3 cents to mail a letter. In 1940 one could buy



Four Corners

the best of cars for \$750.00. Free Press April 20, 1949, twenty-four pages cost 5 cents; with coloured comics, 10 cents. A person had to work a month for what they earn now in one hour. Those who were lucky got a job and had little time to spend foolishly the money they earned. Most everyone worked from 6:00 am to 11:00 pm, seven days a week. In 1941 there were eleven stores, seven garages and five cafes in Rorketon.

Lawrence Town — Freedale, April 1st

Miss G. Rodin, the new school teacher for Freedale school, commenced here duties on March 1. We wish her good luck in her work.

A very pleasant evening was spent on Thursday, March 24, at the home of the Berndt Bros. The guests were Mr. and Mrs. Rodway, Mr. and Mrs. Bowie, Miss G. Rodin, Messrs. T.S. Bowie, H. and C. Freed, E. Smouse, E. Brice and G. D. Platt.

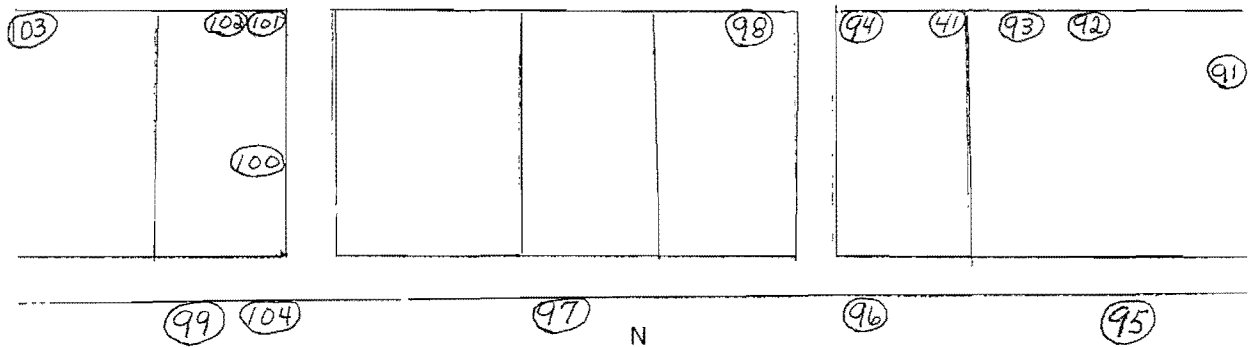
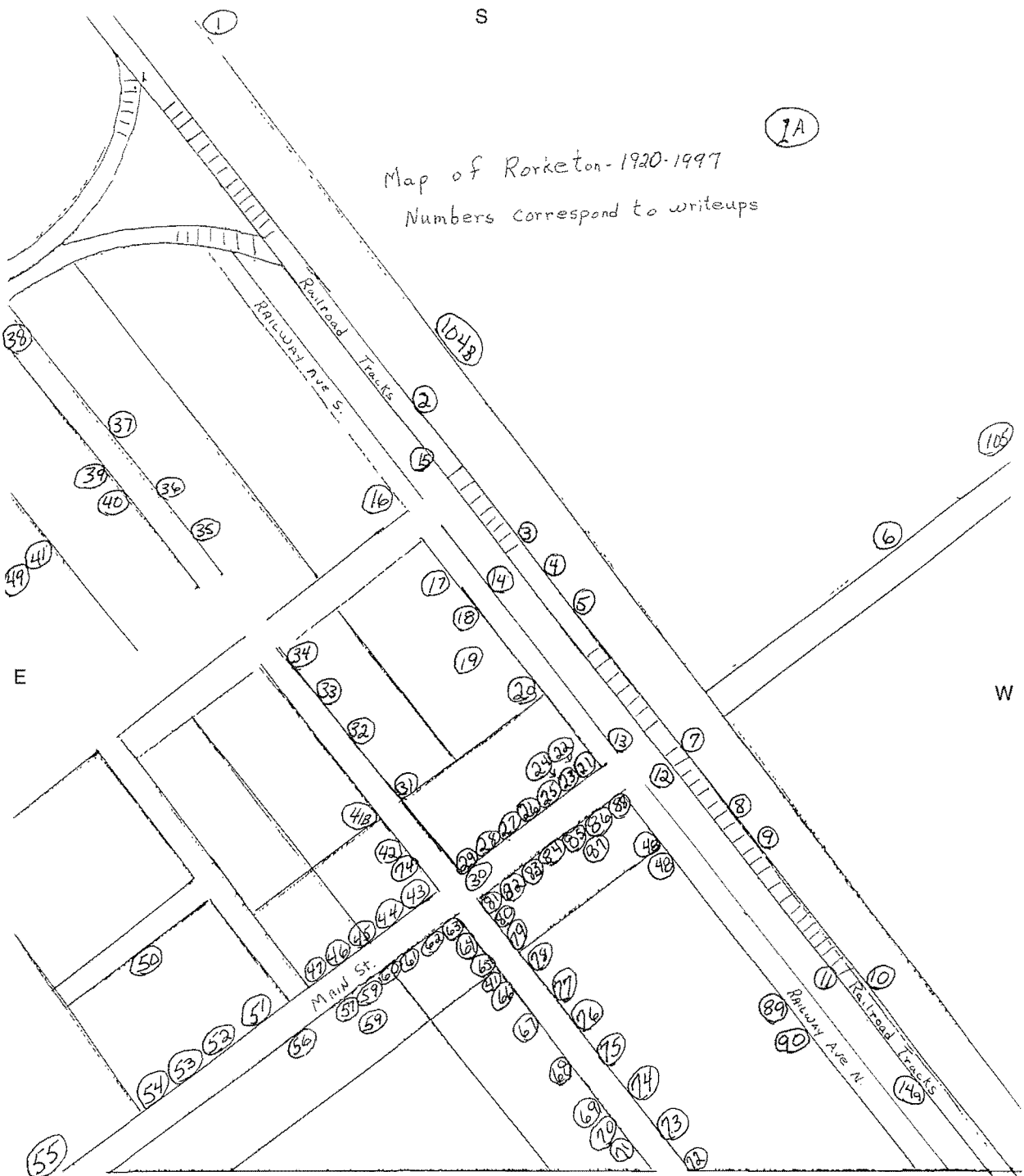
Mrs. G. Rocke and daughter, Joy, left for the East. We hope Mrs. G. Rocke will return well and strong.

The friends of Mrs. C. Keetch will be pleased to know that she is recovering after a long illness.

Mr. Wetherall has moved his house on to his homestead.

There has been many wells drilled lately and among the lucky ones to strike water was H. Berndt, whose well is overflowing.

Harvey Freed has found an attraction in the West.





First Train in Rorketon

The Impact of the Rail

"1924. Steel is being laid on the Ste. Rose-to-Rorketon branch of the C.N.R. at the rate of a mile a day. Farmers of the Lawrence Municipality will be in a position to ship out their grain over the railroad this fall." <excerpt Dauphin Herald>

Now everyone wears a smile so broad their ears must be moved to make room for their mouth. "Here's to the day," December 29, 1924, will ever remain the red letter day in the history of Rorketon, just as the sun was sinking in the west, B. Evans, engineer on Engine, No. 413, tied down the whistle and sent forth the glad news that the busy staff of workers had reached the end of the line. As the work has advanced each place in its turn has had the experience of seeing our transportation facilities brought within easy reach and are taking their part in welcoming the new era. Some will imbibe, more will dance. Others will feast and some will remember from whence cometh every good gift. But to make this country what it may be, we must all cut scrub. The old day has passed away; moose, elk and jumper have given place on our tables to beef, pork and fowl - the easier going pioneer life gives way to the strenuous toils of more earnest effort and the

inspiring task of making a country with a name. The construction work has been carried on under the direction of Engineer J. J. Campbell, assisted by R. P. Hinton and R. Marion; Thos. Webster, Supt. of construction; Lacola Tesunk, foreman; C. Walsh, conductor; B. Evans, locomotive engineer; R. Johnson, fireman; and a staff of 130 men at an approximate cost of \$450.00 per day. When (retired), we hope that engine No. 413 may find its resting place here as reminder to future generations of something that made glad the hearts of their fathers. Rorketon gladly and freely offers congratulations to other points on the line expressing the hope that to each may come a good measure of advancement and prosperity, but let us all remember that the railway only makes possible that which may be achieved by the earnest effort of every individual citizen. "Every man a booster." <excerpt Dauphin Herald>

OPTIMIST

Before the railroad came to Rorketon all supplies were brought in with teams of horses from Ochre River and Sifton, including the mail.

It all started on December 29, 1924, when the railroad came into Rorketon, the railhead, the end of



Railway Workers

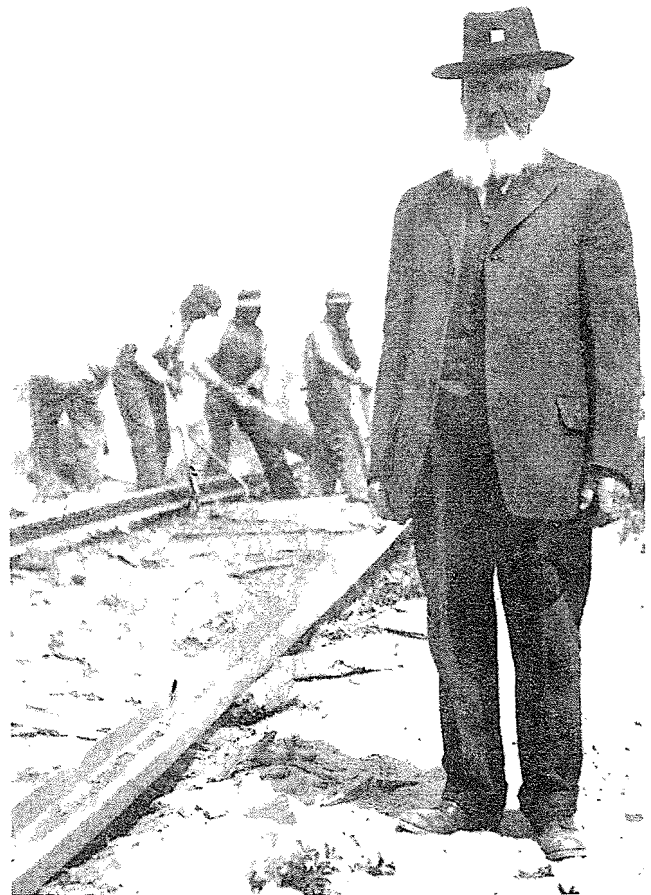
the line. There was no gravel to embed the ties. They were just laid on the ground. The last train in for the winter was at the end of February. There was a danger that it would slip, and go in the ditch during the spring break up. It resumed operation in the summer of 1925.

The train was an important part of our pioneers' life, a new out look, "a life line for the community".

Three nights a week, Monday, Wednesday and Friday, the town came alive. The train pulled into Rorketon at 7 pm. The biggest event of the week and all the folks from town, young and old, gathered on the platform, pushing their way to get a better look, a glimpse of the passengers. Some were there to meet a member of the family; others were there to share the excitement. Sometimes a stranger would disembarked from the train. A new teacher, arriving in Rorketon for the first time, looking around in



Peter Kendzierski & Joe Storozinski working on railway



Mr. McKay and men laying railway track to Rorketon

amazement, wondering why so many people were at the station when there were only a few on the train. Little did she know that it was a ritual for the townspeople, a meeting place, to get the latest news, but in no time she was made to feel one of the crowd. Almost everyone knew her name and knew she was one of the new teachers that would be moving into one of the small rural teacherages, a small one-room building with only the bare necessities, built specially for the teacher. After everyone had heard all the latest news of the area, they gathered their cream cans and anything else they were expecting, did their shopping and went home looking forward to the arrival of the next train. The stores stayed open until the last customer was ready to go home, usually around midnight.

The night watchman, Stash Labossiere, came from Ste. Rose with the train. He would keep an overall watch on the steam engine because it could not be stopped, his responsibility was to keep it running. About two hours, prior to departure, he would stoke up the fire in the engine room so the train would be ready to leave at 6:00 am.

A young boy gets a job for two hours, three times a week at 25 cents a week shovelling coal for



Railway Workers

the steam engine. To supplement his earning he shovels a few pails on the side, hoping no one will see. The next day he picks it up and sells the coal for 2 cents a pail to the local blacksmith shop.

In the early 30's the depression seized the country and turned it into turmoil. The municipality of Lawrence was not spared. However, the railroad was a godsend. The construction of the railroad was hard work, but it provided employment for a number of men in the community. Some were lucky it turned out to be permanent employment.

In 1960 one train went right through Ochre, Ste. Rose, Magnet and on to Rorketon where it derailed. The conductor was asleep. Startled, he woke up wondering where he was. To his amazement he was at Rorketon, the end of line.

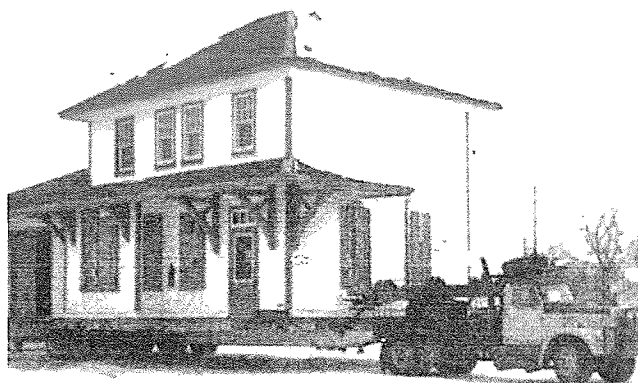
The Station

12 The train station, the largest building in town, was built in 1924. There was a platform on the

west side of the station. It was built for easy access to the train, for both freight and passengers. On the north side was a large warehouse. On entering, there was a waiting room, with benches, and a wood stove with a small room for the telegraph office, and a wicket. There was also a kitchen and livingroom combined. Upstairs there were four bed-rooms. The station was open during the day and remained open on train night, until business was completed. The station was maintained by caretakers for some twenty years. The first caretaker was Andy Ervin. Next was a man named Gary, then the family Henderson, and in 1939 the Jim Mitchell family. It was Mrs. Mitchell who looked after the freight. The station was taken over by the a station agent. The first C.N.R. station agent was Mr. Davis, then a Mr. Bickford. Mr. David Rurk was appointed in 1948.



Rorketon C.N. Station 1920



Minty movers from Onanole, Man. Removal of C.N. Station

He was paid a bonus for the express freight, and he earned more in bonuses than his wages. That was the magnitude of freight that went through Rorketon in the booming times. Frank Deleveau was the agent until 1954, Neil Johnson from 1954 to 1956, and Wally Burtiak from 1956 until the station closed in 1974. In 1975 Steve Sraybash bought the old station and moved it onto the farm. He made renovations to the building and made it their home. In 1989 part of the building, which had been the warehouse, was destroyed by fire.

Dray

Tony Iwanchysko had a dray business and delivered freight that came off the train with his horses to all the business of Rorketon. In 1951 he sold the dray business to Steve and Bill Sraybash. They then had the contract for the dray for the CNR. They delivered the freight around town from 1951 to 1956. They were paid by the 100 pounds. Mike Kendzierski then took over the dray.

Ice Shed

4 The ice was brought in by train and stored in sawdust in the shed. It was for their personnel. A chunk of ice was always welcome, especially on a hot summer's day. Ice was also supplied for the local picnics.

Bunk House

14 & 14a Two coach cars, each measuring 30'x9', were used for bunkhouses. The one that's north-west of the station accommodated the engineers when they stayed the night. The other bunkhouse was to house the other C.N. personnel. They were outfitted with the necessities including bunk beds and a pot bellied stove.

Platform

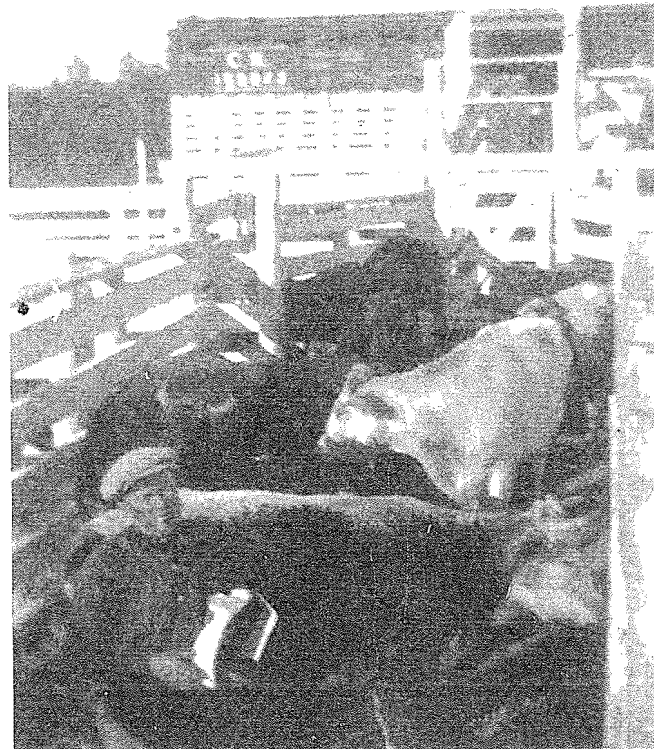
10 At one time there was a lot of freight that passed over this loading platform. Like so many things, it was eventually dismantled.

Tool Shed

15 The tool shed was a small building (12x12). It was used as a storage shed. On one side of the building there was a special place for the jigger.

Stock Yard

2 The stock yard was owned by the C.N.R. It was used by anyone who shipped cattle. In the fall Rorketon became a picture of the Old West. The main street came alive with ranchers on horseback herding their cattle through town to the stock yards.



Mr. Budzey at the Stock Yard

They came from as far as Meadow Portage and surrounding areas. There was even a special train dispatched for shipping the livestock.

Section Foreman

11 The section foreman's house was owned by C.N.R. and it was available to the foreman for his residence. The first foreman was C. Blackmon, followed by Bill Rehaluk who worked for the C.N.R. from 1921 to 1969. Bill was part of the crew that built the railway line to Rorketon. When the orders



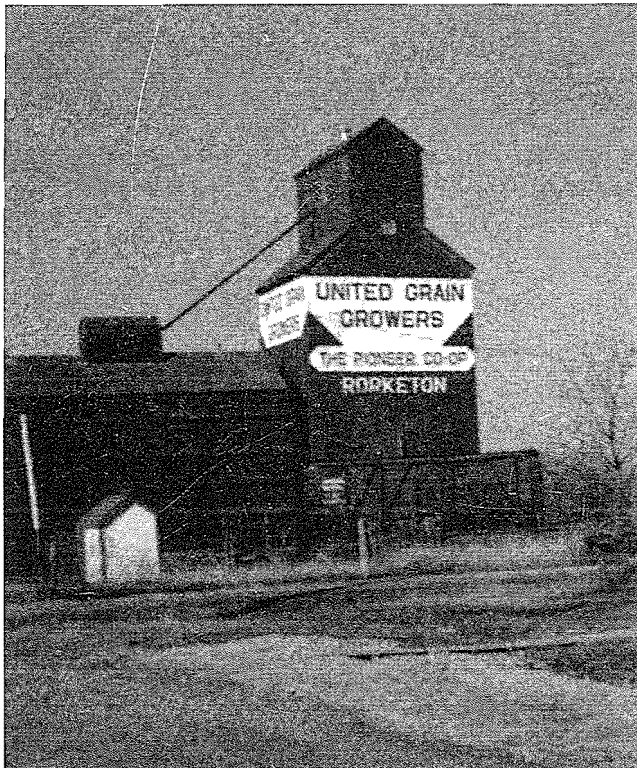
Section Foreman's House C.N.R.

came in for the first train to run to Rorketon, Bill and a fellow worker actually patrolled the track by hand car between Ste. Rose and Rorketon. For those who are unfamiliar with a hand car, it was a four-(steel) wheeled platform made only to run on a railway track; it was powered by two men, standing on each end, pumping a pair of handles attached in the centre of the car like a seesaw which was in turn connected via a cam arrangement to the drive wheels of the hand car. John Didychuk worked from 1955 to 1978. Nick Tkachuk, Mike Matychuk, Joe Gariepy, Bill Zamrykut, and Donald McKinnon, were the Rorketon crew as well as Pete Tkatch who went on to become a foreman.

Elevator

8 The elevator was built in 1924 and operated until its closure in 1980, with the exception of a four year period Aug. 1932 - July 1936, when it was closed. The following is a list of agents:

F.G. Abbots	1924 - 1925
F. Fairwell	1925 - 1930
Les Adams	Apr. 1930 - Aug. 1932
M. Todd	Aug. 18, 1936 - 1937
J.H. Pearson	July 1937 - June 1946
Jack Galway	June 1946 - June 1952
Roy McCann	June 1952 - July 1955
Wally Chitick	July 1955 - Aug. 1956
Peter Kukura	Aug. 1956 - Sept. 1966



Rorketon Elavator

Peter Onofrachuk	Sept. 1966 - Aug. 1972
James Kruthers	Aug. 1972 - June 1977
A.C. Pizunski	June 1977 - Aug. 1980

From 1974 to 1980, because there was no C.N. agent, the elevator agent would phone the carload center in Winnipeg, tell them how much grain there was to ship and the centre would dispatch a train to pick up the grain. The elevator closed in 1980 and it was torn down in 1983. It was indeed a sad day when the last train pulled away from Rorketon for the last time. It was to become the downfall of Rorketon. The silence was felt all over as there was no more sound of the whistle to announce its arrival. This was a hardship, especially for the farmers, for it meant they had to haul their grain a greater distance to other centres.

U.G.G Coal Shed

9 This shed was used to store coal; there were three seperate bins with three grades of coal: numbers one, two, and booker.

A sorrowful incident occured when Mr. King, Mrs. Robbin's father, was loading coal and had a heart attack which led to his sudden death.

School Coal Shed

This was a small shed that was owned by the school and was used to store coal for the school. The coal was used to heat the building.

Businesses Of Rorketon

"Now we take you back in time."

"When a dollar was worth a dollar."

A dozen eggs was 5 cents

Tobacco 25 cents

Sugar 20 lbs 50 cents

A dress 79 cents

A full course meal 25 cents

Coal oil one gallon 30 cents

Boarding House

51 Mr. Rorke came from Kentin, Ontario, in 1911, and homesteaded on a piece of land on S. 12 T28 R16, the townsite of Rorketon. Because there was a demand, in approxiametly 1918, Mrs. Rorke opened a boarding house for the surveyors, the RCMP, and anyone who needed a place to stay. In 1920 the boarding house burnt. A new one was constructed. There were five bedrooms and a sitting room upstairs. The main floor consisted of the kitchen, living room, dining room and a bedroom. She supplied hearty meals. At times, because of the unexpected guests, she would have to add a little



Mrs. Rorke's Boarding House

water to the soup. Mrs. Bert Frazer, (Kabby), worked for them as a chamber maid for \$5.00 a month.

After 76 years this old building is still the same, one of the few landmarks remaining. It was the home that Joy and Russel spent their last years in Rorketon. In 1989 it was sold to Teddy and Gail Sraybash.

18 In 1937 Mrs. Iwanchysko started operating the boarding house which was built in 1936. People who travelled by train were the main customers. There were five bedrooms upstairs and one bedroom, living room and kitchen with a washroom down stairs. She prepared the meals and had rooms where some stayed overnight; other stayed a week or more. The mothers-to-be would come to stay 'till their baby was born. At times they would be there for a week or more. Miss Hill would deliver the



Mrs. Iwanchysko and Mrs. Chiupka's Boarding House

baby in the house. Albert Moar is one of many babies that was born in that house. Mrs. Iwanchysko cared for the mother and baby 'till they were ready to go home.

Mrs. Chiupka took over the boarding house in 1946 and she continued the operation. The old house remained intact until June 1996 when it was demolished for the lumber. Another landmark was gone.

Corner Store

63 The first store built in Rorketon was built by Percy Weatherall and Ernie Briss. They were vetrans from World War I. They operated it only for a short while. FARMERS' MUTUAL took over the store with Jas Irvine being the manager.

MR.RORKE then bought the store and also became the postmaster. Sam Fogel rented the store from Mr. Rorke. Raber then took over, to be followed by Korsinski and Harkness. The store burnt down in 1934. There was a dance in the Orange Hall the night it burnt down. A loud bang was heard over-top Ned Bonnett's violin, and upon going out to investigate, they found it was too late. All they could see was the fire and the smoke rising straight up.

Bzowy Store

42 & 43 Mr. Bzowy had the first store in the district, located NE 7-28-15. It burnt in 1921. He then built a small store on the corner where Pulak's store now stands. The store was there for only a short time—it was also destroyed by fire.

In 1922, Steve Bzowy, built a livery barn behind the store, in the residential part of the village and had been ordered by the Town Planning Commission Board to remove same to the district laid out for that class of building. (Exert Dauphin Herald)



Bzawy Livery Barn

Huddleston's Grocery Store

81 In early teens Mr. Net Huddleston built his first store located NE 7-28-15. Mr. Huddleston relocated. He built a grocery store in the summer of 1921. He added a lean-to which accomommodated the first post office. "Postmaster General has given his approval in granting a post office at Rorketon. Mr. Jas Irvine, postmaster elect. Post Office to be opened 1st of Nov. 1921." - exerpt Dauphin Herald.

The mail was operating between Magnet and Rorketon three times a week. He operated the store until 1924. It was then closed for two years. During this time it was used as a storage shed for fish. It became known as the Hanchar's corner.



Huddleston/Hanchar's Store 1921

Hanchar Era

35 Mr. Sam Hanchar decided to settle in Rorketon because this was to be the end of a railway. He thought it would become a booming town. He arrived here in 1924, built a small house and started a barber shop in his home.

81 In 1927 Mr. Hanchar bought the building from Huddlestons. It was one big room. They converted the back of the room into their living quarters with a curtain as a partition. In the front was his barber shop and cafe. The lean-to was rented for temporary residence to the fishermen that came from Crane River with their fish.

Mrs. Sam Hanchar looked after the cafe and made meals for the fishermen. There were a few shelves on the west wall with confectionary, and groceries. As they stocked more groceries, they eventually had to move and live in the lean-to. As time went on they added dry goods and some hardware. The farmers would come for groceries, for which they would sometimes exchange butter, chickens, and eggs that were worth five cents a dozen. There were no egg crates; therefore the eggs were carried in bags of sawdust. Sometimes a few



Sam Hanchar inside store

eggs would break. Credit was given to some customers.

Mrs. Hanchar was a remarkable woman, she did her share of work. She had milk cows and had customers in town to whom she sold milk at eight cents a quart. Mike was the delivery boy. He worked in the store with his father from an early age. Mike took over the business after his father passed away in 1964. Olga resigned from her teaching position at Rorketon school to join her husband full-time in helping to run the family business.

Hanchar's New Store

80 In 1971 they built a new and larger store with better and more modern facilities. It is next to the old store on First Ave. The old store still stands and is now being used as a warehouse.

They had life-time customers because of Mr.



Hanchar's Lucky \$ Store

Sam Hanchar's kindness. One customer recalls when their large family moved into the district they had no money and wanted to borrow \$100 to buy groceries and a few essentials. Mr. Hanchar was the only person who was willing to lend them the money.

The Hanchar era ends in Rorketon with the sale of their store to Paul and Judy Croft as of September 1, 1996.

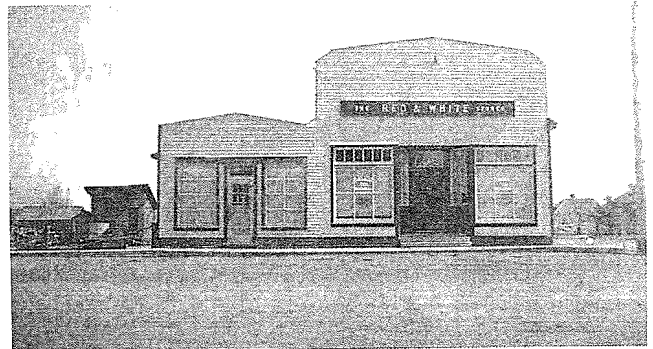
Pulak's Store

43 In 1923 Mr. Fred Pulak moved his general store from Oak Brae to the same lot where Mr. Bozowy had his store. It was on February 17, 1927, the day the Pulaks were visiting Mr. and Mrs. Bill Rehaluk, that their store burned down. Prior to leaving, Mrs. Pulak went into the store to pick up some candy and all seemed well—no indications of smoke or fire. A short while later, Mary, who was upstairs doing books, smelt smoke and alerted her brother John who went down to check and found it all ablaze. He immediately went to seek help. Because Mary had left the ledger upstairs her father went back up to retrieve it and while he was coming down, the stairs collapsed. All they could save was a bag of flour and some wolf skins.

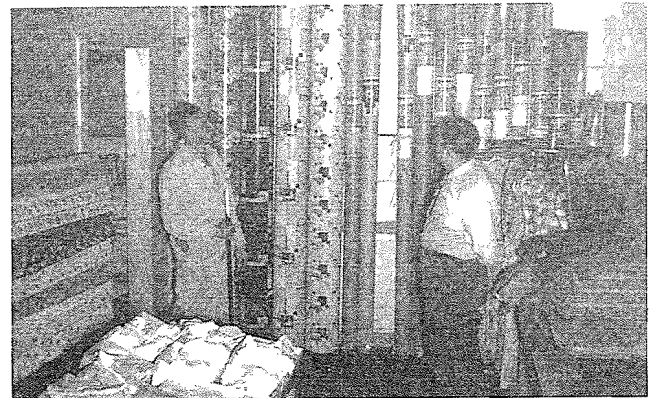


Pulak's Store destroyed by fire

The family stayed with the Budzeys for two weeks. They then rented a house from Walter Talpash, which was next to Huddleston's store. March 10, 1927, they opened for the grocery business from that small house while their new store was being built. When the store was finished the family of five lived in two rooms at the back of the store. John and Alex took over the store after their father passed away. They had always worked in the store from the time they could see over the counter. It was a family business. One side was hardware and the other side was groceries—everything and anything one could buy.



Pulak's Store



Pulak's Store-John and Alex



John Pulak inside Store

In 1955 Alex left the store business and went to work as a salesman for the Scott Bathgate <Nutty Club> in Winnipeg.

He did not know how to get around in the big city, so for the first two weeks he hired a taxi and followed it around. That is how he learned to drive in the big city of Winnipeg. Alex moved to Toronto and passed away in 1985.

32 John Pulak built a diesel plant to generate power to the store, hotel and the theatre. There were 100 glass batteries stored in the basement of the hotel. They worked in series. The battery would last two or three hours; then the light would get dimmer and dimmer and the battery would then have to be replaced.

This plant was behind Pulak's store and remained in operation until the hydro came in 1950. John and his family continued operating the store. Fourteen years later he applied for a liquor permit and in Jan. of 1969, Rorketon had its first liquor store. A short while later on, Feb. 2, 1969, John passed away.

His wife Olga continued the family business with the help of her daughter Joanne and her sons for another twenty-six years. When someone entered the store they were greeted with pleasantries. It was indeed a loss for Rorketon, when in 1995 the store was closed. For seventy-two years the store provided a livelihood for the Pulak family. They contributed a great service to the community. It remains an important landmark.

Monarch Lumber Yard

32 The first lumber yard known as the "Monarch Lumber Yard" was started by the Pulak Brothers. The lumber business was sold to



Pulak's small red shed

Marchenski. Only the building remained. It burnt one Christmas.

74 The Pulaks had a small red building with a platform that was used for storage and sale of kerosene and oil. It was rented to Joe Werbiski in 1950 for a few years. The building was then moved behind Pulak's store. It served as a storage for the store and the building stands solidly on the same site.

Huculak's Stores

25 & 28 Mr. Nickalos Huculak moved from Moose Bay in 1925 and built his first general store with gas pumps in the front. It had living quarters at the back and bedrooms upstairs. In 1936 the store burnt down. In 1936, Mr. Huculak built his second store with living quarters at the back, and operated it until 1937. Then Peter, his son took over, to be joined by his brother-in-law, DAN REHALUK, in 1937. They worked together operating the grocery store until 1940 when Dan started his own store. The original was sold to Joe Halko.

In 1947 STEVE REHALUK moved back to Rorketon from Levach, Ontario, and bought the store from Joe Halko. In addition to the grocery section he took over from his brother Dan, Steve added a hardware outlet as well. Steve and his wife, Anne,



Mr. Huculak's first store

and sons, David and John operated the business until 1967.

WILLIAM PARKER bought the store from



Rehuluk's Hardware/Grocery

PLEASE KEEP THIS BILL FOR REFERENCE

BOUGHT OF

76. Huculak's

Date *Apr. 10 1934*

M. *William Huculak*

Address *Orthodox General Committee*

	Account Forwarded	
(Ex. sundries) <i>re</i>		
<i>Balance Apr 9/34</i>		
<i>Butter (1 lb)</i>		<i>20</i>
<i>Salmon (2 lbs)</i>		<i>30</i>
<i>60 lbs (2 lbs)</i>		<i>70</i>
<i>2 lb Sugar</i>		<i>25</i>
<i>Payment on Cups</i>		<i>50</i>
<i>Bread (10 lbs)</i>		<i>65</i>
<i>Flour</i>		<i>4 00</i>
<i>Misc</i>		<i>2 00</i>
		<i>8 60</i>
<i>Barbie Acid</i>		<i>20</i>
<i>49</i>		<i>8 80</i>

PAT 1920 & 1931-WESTERN SALES BOOK CO LTD-WINNIPEG & VANCOUVER

Huculak Receipt

Steve in 1967 and continued the sale of hardware along with a few groceries until he sold out to Phillip Smith.

On December 22, 1979, PHILLIP SMITH bought the building (originally built by Peter Huculak in 1936) and along with his wife Maggie, operated a Marshall Wells hardware store, along with movie rentals. To supplement the family income Phillip went away to work while Maggie looked after the store. In 1994 it was closed occasionally and permanently in 1995. The building continues to serve as living quarters for Phillip and Maggie.

H.A. Roberts

84 H.A. Roberts and son had a small shop. He moved the building to Methley in 1922.

Trading Posts

26 In the late 1920's Joe Goldberg had a small building where he bought furs from the local trappers. He then sold the furs in Winnipeg for a few years. He was also a cattle buyer with his father, Sam, and brother.

Fur Farm and Kennel

1A In 1948 John Benyk started a mink ranch. It was situated at the edge of town. A long roof was built. Under it there were separate cages to house a hundred black and silver blue minks. The feed was mostly fish and old horses bought from farmers. In the fall, the fur was sold to the Winnipeg Fur Market. The business was closed in 1952 because the market for the mink considerably dropped.

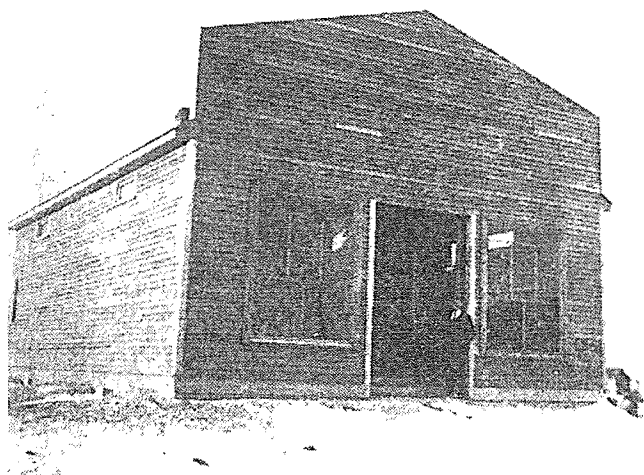
John Perepeluk also had a dog kennel on the same location. He had twenty-five breeding dogs and sold the pups across Canada. The business closed at the same time as the mink ranch.

Perepeluk Enterprises

63 In 1935 Mr. William Perepeluk from Sifton purchased the land from the burnt out merchants for \$200.00 and the adjacent lot for \$25 and built a new store, 18x20, with living quarters. It was called Perepeluk's General Store. It was run by family only. A few years later they added a lean-to and started a cafe called the "White Star Cafe". A full-course meal cost 25 cents. Mrs. Perepeluk was the cook and school girls were hired to work in the cafe.

64 A shed was built at the back of the store to keep the ice, which was packed in sawdust. It served as a refrigerator.

In order to raise money to purchase groceries for his store Mr. Perepeluk and his sons shot thousands



Perepeluk General Store

of rabbits at Meadow Portage. Mr. Perepeluk would then truck the rabbits to Winnipeg where he sold them for five cents each. He bought everything that could be turned into cash, furs, scrap iron, and seneca root. In the store the stock ranged from matches to tombstones, including nearly everything a local person needed. Credit was given to the customers. Gas was rationed as well as sugar, tea, and coffee.

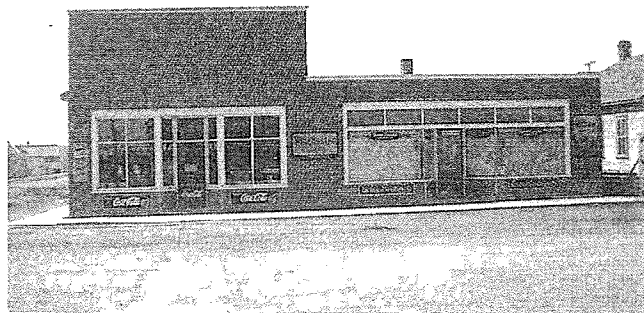
In addition to his many other ventures, he sold insurance for Portage Mutual and was also a Commissioner of Oaths.

65 In 1937 Mr. Perepeluk built a two-door garage and service station which housed a generator that supplied lights to the store, garage and skating rink. They sold Frontenac gas and oil known now as Texaco. He was also an agent for Massey Harris and John Deere farm machinery.

In 1947 a capacity crowd gathered in the Rorketon community hall to bid farewell to W. J. Perepeluk and his family who, after eleven years of residence in Rorketon, left to take up their new residence in Flin Flon.

Pretula Brothers

63 In 1947 Mr. Pretula purchased the store from Mr. William Perepeluk. In August, six months later, Mr. Pretula passed away accidentally. The three sons, Mike, Adam and Morris, took over the store, to be now known as the Pretula Bros-General Merchants. Adam managed the store until 1973. Morris set up his barber shop where the restaurant used to be. The barber chair was just a stool in front of the window. While the men were getting a haircut they could see passers by. A few years later Morris purchased a barber's chair and continued to cut hair until 1973 when the store and barber shop

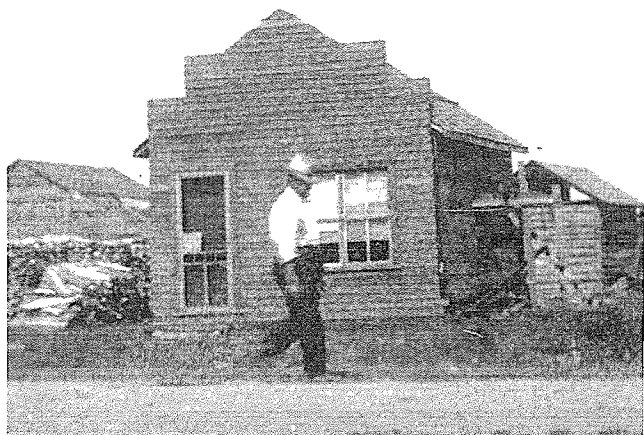


The Corner Store

closed. In 1953 a hair cut cost 50 cents for adults and 35 cents for children. As a promotion for a new hair style "the brushcut", Morris made a deal with one customer. If he could persuade three men to get a brushcut, the customer could get a free haircut. In no time the men were lined up and Morris owed a free hair cut.

Butcher Shop

60 In August, 1936 Bert Ackerman moved two small buildings to Rorketon, joined them together, with the back one serving as their living quarters and the front one, a butcher shop.



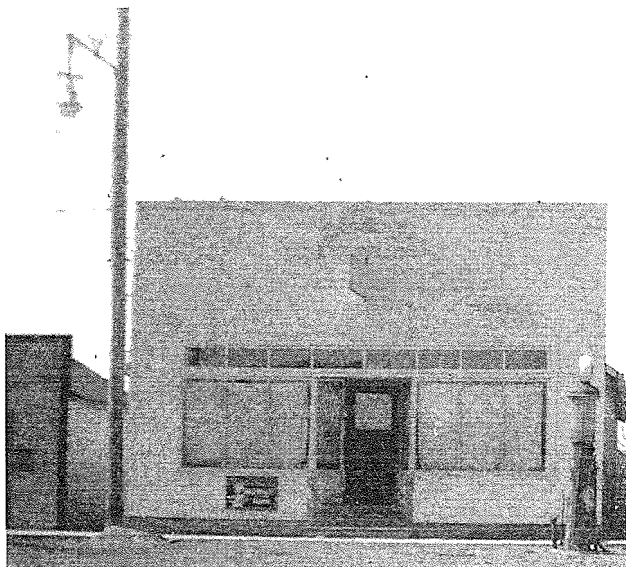
Butcher Shop/ Egg Grading Station

CO-OP

60 On May 13, 1937, the Manitoba Cooperative Poultry Marketing Association opened an Egg Station in Bert Ackerman's basement with Bert as manager. A number people were employed. In the mid-forties the CO-OP bought Ackerman's place and from here began operating the CO-OP store. Later in the mid-forties it was decided to build a new store. The old building was moved aside to make room for the new CO-OP store.



The Fire Brigade trying to save the Co-op



Co-op Store

Frank Kivi from Ontario, who was working in organizing the CO-OP, came to Rorketon to manage the store for a time until John Perepeluk was prepared to take over as manager. Then Joe Panagapka managed the store from the late forties until 1952, when another mishap occurred in Rorketon the CO-OP store burned down.

"Volunteer fire fighters formed a bucket brigade to fight the fire which completely destroyed the building. The fire was first noticed at 6:30 am by John McLaren, CNR night foreman, on his way home from work. Building and stock was partly covered by insurance. The machine shop next to the burning structure was seriously threatened". <excerpt Dauphin Herald> The fire threatened Nick Werbiski's garage, and as it happened John Beliski's Caterpillar was close by, which he used to push in the wall of the CO-OP to prevent the garage from

catching fire. However, the fire had already started in the attic. Several men got on the roof to put it out. Their efforts were not in vain, the garage was saved!

CO-OP Egg Grading Station

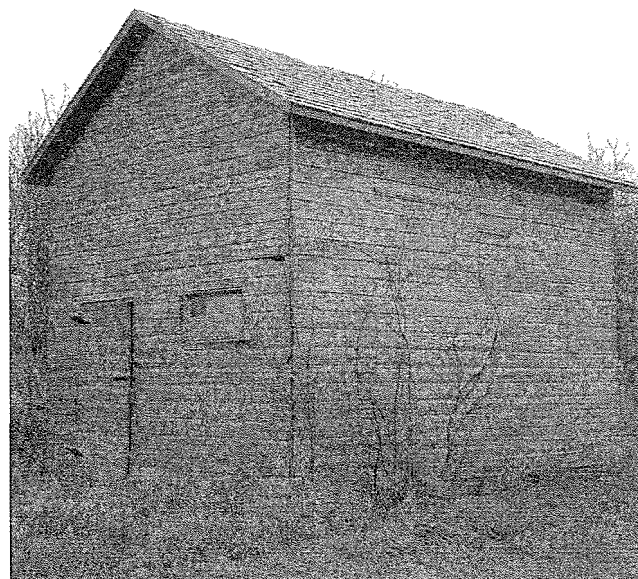
52 In 1944 it was decided by the Manitoba Dairy and Poultry Co- Operative to build a new egg-grading station.

Three times a week one hundred cases of eggs were shipped to Winnipeg. Its first manager was Less Wilson, then Sam Robbins, and later Jack Papuga until it was closed in 1965. In 1983 it was sold to the "Rorketon Metis Recreation Center Inc." When the Federation ceased to be active they rented the building for use as a multi-purpose room for the handicapped. The building remains intact with title transferred to the R.M. of Lawrence in 1995.

Papuga's Store

22 On one occasion John Pulak told Frank Papuga that what we need in Rorketon is not another store but a butcher shop, promising that if he were to start one no one else would sell fresh meat. Because nobody had a way to keep fresh meat in the summer time, and Frank was selling cattle at the time, he decided to give it a try.

In the mid-thirties he built two buildings, one



Frank Papuga's abattoir

west of town for an abattoir and the other next to Orville Cook's garage for a butcher shop. At first he did his own butchering, and then hired someone for the job.

He purchased all the necessary electrical equipment for a gas plant to generate electricity for a walk-in cooler and lights. The generator was

Mike G. L.

DATE Nov 13 1957

Rorketon Co-op egg sta.

	ACCT.	FWD.
1 20 cups coffee	2.00	
2 11 Narm sandwiches	2.75	
3 10 apple pie	1.65	
4 1 drink	1.00	
5	6.50	
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12	35	
13		
14		

MOORE BUSINESS FORMS LTD.

PULAK'S GENERAL STORE
RORKETON, MAN.

N. Pich

DATE Oct 20 1956

Co-Op. 47

Rorketon

	ACCT.	FWD.
1 2 Bread	35	
2 Ham	1.63	
3 Coffee	1.75	
4 Salmon	3.00	
5 2 milk	3.35	
6 cake	3.70	
7 cake	4.90	
8 1/2 Butter	3.00	
9 Sugar	2.20	
10	47.6	
11		
12		
13		
14		

MOORE BUSINESS FORMS LTD.

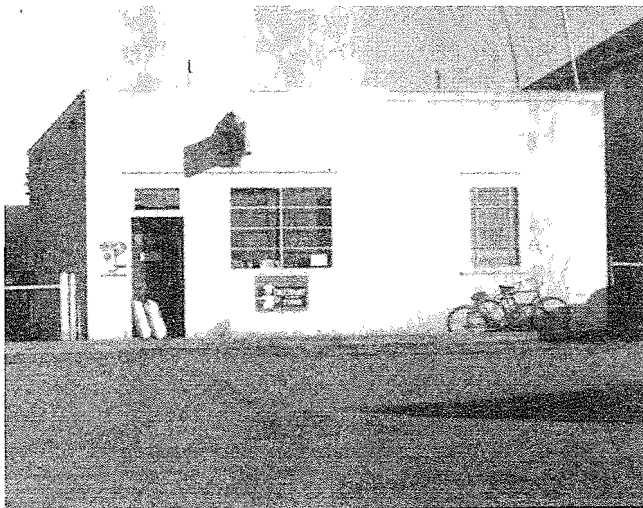
N. Pich

DATE Nov 8 1961

Co Op

	ACCT.	FWD.
1 4 toasted ham & cheese	1.40	
2 Toasts	2.00	
3 5 coffee	5.00	
4 Whynoga	1.00	
5 milk	1.00	
6	2.30	
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		

MOORE BUSINESS FORMS LTD.



Frank Papuga's Store

installed behind the butcher shop. It would run for two or three hours each day. The cooler was large enough to hang four carcasses of beef. In addition, on one side, boxes of perishable food could be stored. He went into the business of cutting and wrapping meat for farmers who butchered their own livestock.

In 1940 the building was enlarged to include a General Store, the Red and White, with living quarters at the back. After moving from Toutes Aides, Steve Lytwyn and his wife Gertie were long-term employees.

Because Frank required more storage space he purchased the fish shed from Pete Adams and used it to store the bulk purchases that arrived by train. After he built his new, large store he dismantled the building. In 1959 when Halko's cafe burned down the Red and White store was also destroyed by the fire. Frank then rebuilt a larger store the same year. He operated it until 1971.



Halko's Cafe and Papuga's Store burning

Then as it happened, one day Bill Sraybash came into the store and asked Frank "Would you know of a place like yours that I could buy. I'm tired of ranching and would like to buy a place like this one". Frank answered, "You don't have to go very far. It's right here. I'll sell you mine."

"You mean it?" asked Bill.

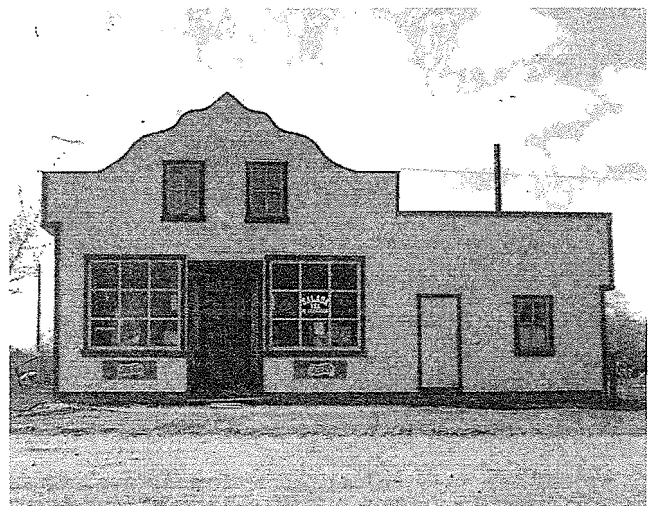
"Yes, I do." Frank replied, so in two days they had made the deal. Frank sold the store to Bill Sraybash. Papuga's mobile home was on wheels, and two weeks later, Nick Britsky from Ochre River loaded the skirting onto a truck and moved Frank and Winnie to the Dauphin trailer court.

Everyone will remember Frank and Winnie for their kindness. The pot of coffee was always on the stove, ready for a customer, especially in winter time when they came from a distance to do their shopping. When the seniors from town walked to the store to do their grocery shopping and Frank thought the groceries were too heavy for them to carry, he, himself would carry their purchase to their home.

From 1971 to 1974 Bill Sraybash operated the store. It burned down in 1974 and was never rebuilt. The lot remains vacant.

Store/Cafe

56 In 1938 Koyak built a general store and Mike Chernecki was the clerk. They had clothes and shoes on one side and groceries on the other. In 1939 Mr. and Mrs. Roman Sklar bought it. Mrs. Sklar operated the store after her husband passed away in 1942. She then married Ignace Gardowich. They lived and operated the store until 1950 when they converted it into a cafe. She cooked for the hydro and telephone crew. When the cafe was closed in 1963-64, Mrs. Gardowich remodelled the



Sklar Store/Gardovich's Cafe

building and turned it into living quarters. She worked for the CNR for years. She lived in the building until she passed away in 1988. It was vacant for several years. John Mellomn lived in the building until it burnt, along with the vegetation, on February 28, 1991.

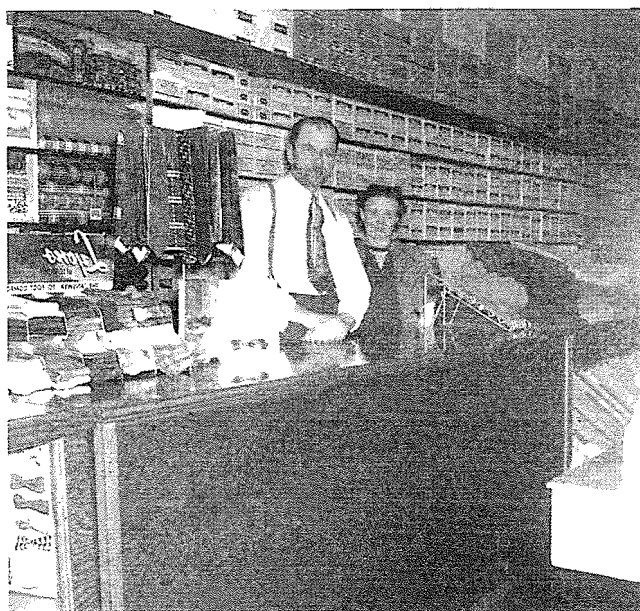
Lamey built a body repair shop on the same site in 1993.

Dan Rehaluk's Store

27 In 1940 Ned Bonnett sold lumber to Frank Papuga to build a particular building for a cafe for Chin Howe who had been renting a place from Peter Talpash. When it was finished Chin Howe did not like how it was built, and he refused to accept it.

Dan Rehaluk and his wife Ann then rented the building from Frank Papuga and started a grocery and dry goods store, with living quarters at the back. In 1947 Steve Rehaluk took over the grocery portion and Dan kept the dry goods. He sold everything from thread to shoelaces, top hats, ties, shoes, men's suits, material, anything one wanted in dry goods.

Dan's place was always spotless; everything always neat and the displays in order. It was a pleasure to shop in that store. Dan, along with his wife Ann, operated the store from 1940 until their retirement in 1981. The building was empty for a few years. The Credit Union bought the lot and store from Dan. They put the building up for tender and Robert Taylor bid \$80.00 and to his surprise he was the successful bidder. The store was as Dan had left it with counters, shelves, and stove. In 1985 Robert moved it onto his property by truck and converted to a barn.



Dan and Ann Rehaluk inside store



Dan Rehaluk's Store

Korotash's Store

79 Metro Korotash exchanged his herd of sheep for Pete Talpash's building, which he used as a grocery store, with living quarters at the back. Metro also opened a store in Crane River. Mrs. Korotash operated the store in Rorketon, and Metro operated the one in Crane River. Mrs. Korotash passed away in 1949. Metro then closed the store in Rorketon and moved to Crane River.



Caroline & Mavis Korotash, Korotash's General Store

Rosie, Metro's daughter took over the building and opened a beauty salon called "Helen's Beauty saloon". She closed shop and the building was torn down to make room for a new post office.

Janowski's Store

75 Five years later Nick Marchenski sold the store and buildings to Paul Janowski and Paul retained the grocery store. He used the shed at the back for the John Deere dealership. Excitement in Rorketon in the 1950's. There was a break-in at Janowski's store, a first in Rorketon. Constable Clarence Harpelle investigated and apprehended the responsible party. The store burnt down in 1950.

Joe Panagapka's House

78 In 1951 Joe Panagapka bought Paul Janowski's house. They renovated it and moved into their new place. He also acquired the John Deere Implement business from Janowski.

Marchenski Store and Lumberyard

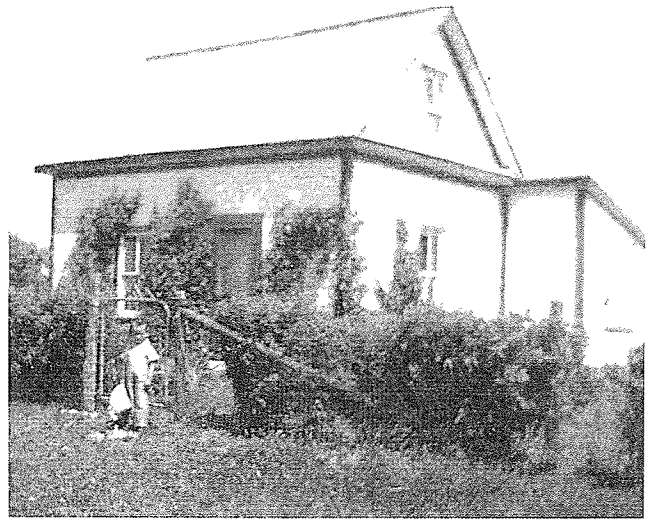
76 In 1940 Nick Marchenski purchased Monarch Lumber owned by John Pulak and removed all the lumber to his new site at the other end of First Ave and started a lumberyard.



Nick Marchenski's first Lumber Yard

75 He purchased the buildings next to the lumberyard from Sam Yaschyshyn on the old credit union site. Nick renovated the shed into a store with living quarters at the back.

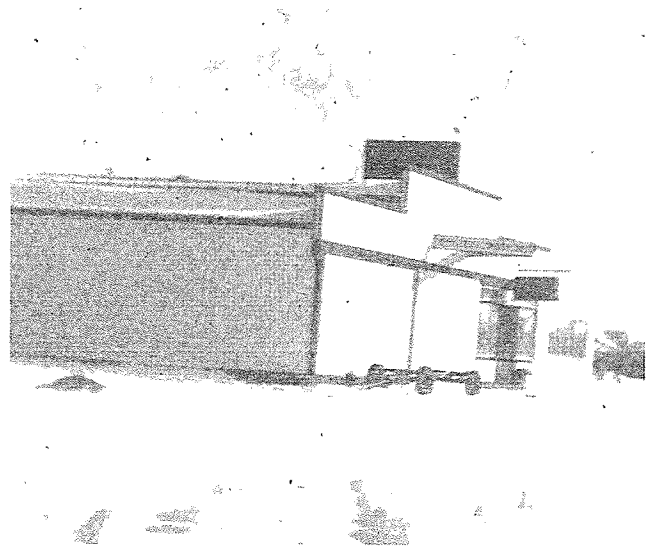
70 Mrs. Robbins owned the house on the corner which was built by Andy Irvin in 1921. Nick Marchenski bought the place from her. He then opened a Marshall Wells Hardware franchise, with living quarters at the back. Tony Biletski was the main carpenter and Alex Didychuk the finishing carpenter. Nat Korotash worked in the lumber yard.



Mrs. Robbins House

A few years later with the business expanding they built an extension to double the size. The lumber yard was next to the store. It was then attached and covered. It was large enough to enable the customers to drive through. The lumber was on both sides and could be loaded on a truck, sheltered from the elements. The Marchenski family owned and operated a saw mill at Wade point, sixty-seven miles from Winnipegosis. It was from there Nick hauled his lumber for the lumber yard. In 1947 he bought the Massey Harris franchise from Mr. Perepeluk. Nick sold the implements from his hardware store. In 1952 the store and lumber yard burnt.

In 1952 Nick Marchenski rented the house (Windsor Hotel) from Mr. Szport to start a filting plant. In 1955 he then decided to go into the business on a larger scale. He hired Alex Didychuk to build a large tin shed to serve as a filting plant, with a walk-in cooler that measured 20x14.



Marshall Well's Lumber Yard

He hired an expert filter from Winnipeg to do the job. Due to the decline in the fish Nick was forced to close the plant in 1957. The building was sold and moved to Grandview.

Nick was the biggest fish buyer in Rorketon. The fishermen came from Lake Dauphin, Lake Manitoba, Lake Winnipegosis, Crane River and Meadow Portage. The fresh fish was shipped to the New York market. He had three trucks on the road. Nick Biletski, Nick Didychuk, and Nick Marchenski, the three Nicks, were on the road hauling fish to Winnipeg. They left at 3 am and made it back for supper, seven days a week. At first he paid twelve cents a pound for the fish and in 1966, when he stopped buying, he was paying sixty cents. He had this fish business for 25 years.

Mr. Marchenski then had a garage with the Mercury dealership. He also bought the Massey Harris franchise from Mr. Perepeluk who moved to Flin Flon. Rorketon was booming. At one time Nick had 15 employees. In the early sixties he went into a hopping business, buying frogs for the U.S.A. They were sold for frogs legs, a delicacy for some. Others were used for experimental purposes. They had to be three inches long. Anyone who wanted to make a few dollars could catch frogs along the lake and sell them to Nick at twenty cents a frog. They were put in sacks so they would not suffocate. The bags were kept wet at all times. Marchenski had a big trough of water by his place to put the frogs in. With all their croaking they would catch the attention of the school children on their way home. They were taken from Rorketon in special cages made of soft wire in six tiers like shelves. They shipped them by train from Ochre River. Because the box cars were cool the frogs did not have to be kept in water. One time in Ochre River they were not handled properly and they got loose — there were frogs all over the platform. They had a hard time catching them. After a little effort all but a few were caught. Nick had the frog business for three years. He sold the business to Walter Talpash in Ste. Rose.

OK Cafe

79 In 1926 Chin Howe had his first cafe and called it the "OK Cafe". He hired Orest Perepeluk to bring in the water and wood for twenty-five cents a week. In 1940 he decided to sell the building to Pete Talpash and move to larger quarters.

Garage/Cafe

21 In 1936 Orville Cook constructed a garage on the east corner of main street. Due to the injuries he received during World War I, he was unable to



Cook's Garage/ Chin Howe's Cafe

carry on the business. He operated the garage for a few years. In 1940 he sold it to Chin Howe, who remodelled it and converted it into a restaurant with four bedrooms upstairs. A room consisted of a bed, a stand with a big wash bowl, a pitcher for water and a chamber pot. The rooms were rented by the day, week or month. At the back of the cafe were the kitchen and living quarters. It was also called the "OK CAFE". Orville Perepeluk got a job working for Mr. Howe bringing in the water and wood for the cafe for 25 cents a week. Looking back he was grateful to have had a job. Chin Howe operated the cafe 'till he passed on.

In 1940 Mr. Sologuk bought the cafe and operated it for a few years until his son, Mike, took over. He then sold it to Pete Shyiak. In 1958 Pete sold the cafe to Steve Halko. It burned down in July 1959, and was never rebuilt. The lot remains vacant. At the same time Papuga's store was also destroyed.

Bednarz Cafe

47 Next to the old post office was the "Bednarz cafe" that Mike, Francis and Joe had started to build in 1940. They worked in the bush cutting logs for the building until March. They tried to haul the logs out on wagons, but because there were no roads through the bush, they could only haul two or three logs at a time. It was taking too much time and the flies got so bad that they had to quit. The building wasn't completed until 1941. It was supposed to be a theatre but they could not afford the equipment. It was then used as a dance hall. Bednarz would rent the dance hall for \$8.00 a night and they supplied the lights and heat. Every second week Bednarz would put on a dance - admission was twenty-five cents. A local orchestra would cost between \$8.00 and \$10.00 a night. It was then renovated into a pool room, with a cafe, which had six booths along one side (these were purchased from Perepeluk's cafe when it closed). They ran the business from 1941 to



Bednarz Cafe

1957 when it was then sold to Nick Pich who renovated the building and installed the water and sewer. It was converted into a cafe and convenience center. They then partitioned the back into two double and five single bedrooms for the senior citizens for whom they cared. At one time as many as thirteen seniors took up residence. They continued with this enterprise until 1980 when they sold it to Narcisse Cayer. They continued the service caring for the seniors and looking after the cafe for the next five years, then sold it to Rodricks who kept it for one year. The cafe closed until Bill Sraybash and his wife Ann bought the building in 1986. They took in twelve handicapped persons and cared for them for seven years. The home burnt down in 1993. The lot remains vacant.

Hotel

57 In 1936 Nick Werbiski bought Tate's house, moved it to the present site with horses, and converted it to a hotel. Nick and his family rented a house while the hotel was being renovated by Ed Ziorch and his son Waasegl.

Although it was not quite finished, they moved in and lived downstairs. It had a dining room where meals were served to customers.

There were many regulars that stayed at the hotel. One in particular would bring his own H.P. Sauce, and when he was finished he took it back with him.

It was an never ending job. There was all kind of work to be done, laundry, cooking and even waking the train men at 5:00 a.m.

Joe Holco rented the hotel from Nick Werbeski



Hotel, 1936



Rorketon Hotel, Joe Halko (Proprieter), John Matychuk (Bartender)

from 1948 to 1951. Russell Andrew worked in the kitchen during this time. It was a "men only" parlor. In 1965 Nick applied for a licence, and because it was in an unorganized territory it did not have to go to a vote for public approval. A licence was granted and it became a mixed parlor. Alex Philippot worked in the bar for years. Nick's brother Joe worked in the mornings cleaning the parlor and Eileen looked after the restaurant for many years.

Fred, along with his mother, took over the management after Nick passed away in 1975. Mary

supervised the restaurant and the rooms. Throughout the years Mary did all the book work and retired in 1994. It has been renovated several times. A lot of people went through those doors since 1936. Sometimes the door was not wide enough but somehow they managed to get home. There are now VLT's for the customers to try their luck. The building is still intact and the business continues to operate successfully.



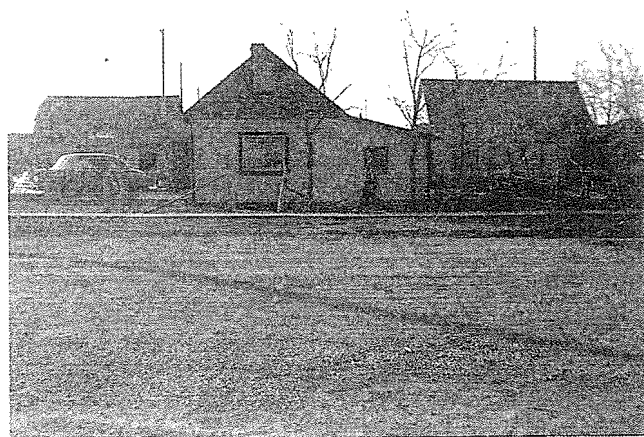
First Pool Room

First Pool Room

29 Mr. Bzowy operated a livery barn where Tuer's ranch is today. He sold it to Mr. Fedora Didychuk who moved the barn to town with a teams of horses, to his corner lot. He converted it to a pool room downstairs and living quarters upstairs. The stairs that led to the living quarters were on the outside of the building. Pat Dumas set up his barber shop in the corner of the pool room. Mrs. Didychuk did not like the idea of having a pool room so she convinced Mr. Didychuk to sell. He sold it to Joe Storozinski who operated it until 1935. It was at this time when Mr. Huculak's store, next door to the pool room caught fire, taking with it the pool room. Joe's son Jack, remembers the incident. He was at his uncle's place when they saw thick black smoke in the direction of the town. By the time they arrived the buildings were burnt to the ground. The lot was then left vacant. The Pulaks then turned this lot into a big garden. John Pulak one day remarked that it would be a good place for a bank. Amazing how he could for see the future.

Joe's Pool Room

86 After Joe's first pool hall burnt in the winter of 1936, he built a new one next to Laycock's garage, with Paul Johnson the carpenter. On October 13, 1936, Joe opened his pool room and on October 6, a dance was held to celebrate the opening. While Joe was away working on the work train for the Hudson Bay Railway, (as it was called before the C.N. bought it) his wife Mary and son Jack, who was only fifteen at the time, took care of the pool room. In those days only men played pool. It cost ten cents to play one game. They also had a concession which included soft drinks, apples, cigarettes, and tobacco. They operated the pool room until 1949.



Joe Storozinski's House and Taxi

Joe's Taxi

85 While Joe was away working, his wife Mary was the main taxi driver. Jack also drove when Mary was unable. They went as far as Waterhen. Because there were no year-round roads in the winter-time, they followed the west side of the lake, driving on the ice. At times, in the spring, it was almost impassable. If it was an emergency they somehow found a way to get through. It was indeed a service that was required because only a few people owned a vehicle. Joe and Mary also drove the school bus for many years.

Last Pool Room

66 In 1955 Jack Papuga built the last of the pool rooms with living quarters at the back. Nellie Straybash operated a beauty parlor from Jack Papuga's Pool Hall for a few years. In 1982 Matt and Margret Mazier bought the building and renovated it for their home.

Polowski's Blacksmith Shop

90 Frank Polowski came from Poland and he settled in Stewartburn, Manitoba. They had seven children, four boys and three girls. Around 1920 he motored to Rorketon, and dropped in on Mr. Steve Mazier. He was trying to locate a place to start a blacksmith shop. After talking with Mr. Mazier he decided to start a small business in Rorketon. He was a very talented blacksmith. He also shod horses. He kept on working hard, until his name was known around the area for good iron work. He was also the first to have the bulk fuel tanks in Rorketon. He kept the business going until he got sick. He passed away in the early fifties. The business was then closed.

Joe Panagapka's Blacksmith Shop

98 In 1941 Joe Panagapka relocated his blacksmith shop from Oak Brae to Rorketon where he continued with his business. For a few years Joe and his family lived in a small room at the back of the



Panagapka's Blacksmith and Living Quarters



Joe Panagapka's Blacksmith Shop

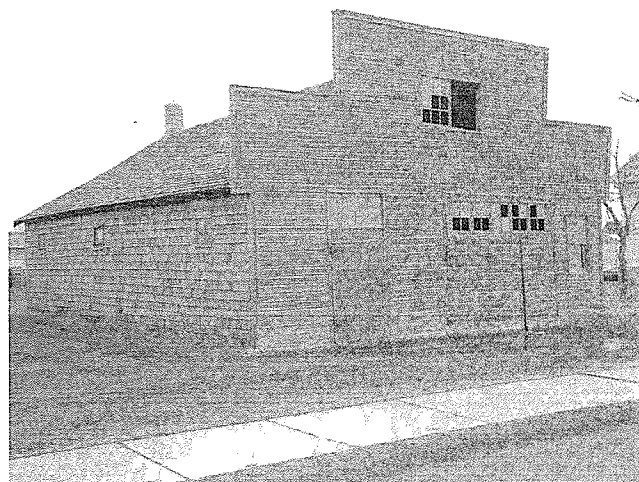
shop until he built on to the east side of the building — an addition which was their home for the next two years.

It was an interesting situation because when Joe would hammer steel the room would shake and pots and cups would rattle in the cupboards and wobble on the table. Joe carried on until 1957. With the business thriving it grew to the point where it was necessary for him to hire Mr. Ziola as a helper. He sold the building and some of the equipment to Mr. Sedor and the balance of the equipment he sold separately. The building still stands today with its faded sign reads "Rorketon Blacksmith and Welding".

Tony Biletski's Work Shop

89 In 1940 Tony Biletski constructed a work shop. A steam engine that was as large as a locomotive, powered the grain crushing mill.

Although Tony had very little formal education he was very talented. He became an excellent carpenter, even though he had very few tools with which to work, some of which he made himself. Some of his trademarks are still reflected in the var-



Tony Biletski's Shop

ious buildings around the community. The Orthodox Church was his first building built in 1934, mostly with a broad axe. The school he contracted with Alex Didychuk. He constructed rafters for the curling rink in his shop. Along with the above he built all kinds of cabinets and windows. His old shop still stands there today.

Nick Mazier

1 Nick Mazier was born in the Rorketon District. His welding expertise soon became widely known. The farmers flocked there with their broken machinery parts. Nick could fix just about anything that came along. His price was right and his work was highly recommended. If he could not weld a part, nobody else could. You name it and Nick would fix it. He was known as "Mr. Fix It". He was a good welder and a fine carpenter. He even built his own home.

Due to ill health he has given up the shop. The farmers all say Nick's technique will be hard to replace.

Blackmon's Garage

88 In the late 1920's Russell Blackmon built the corner garage. Mr. Budzey bought the garage. He had it for only a very short while and in 1933 he sold it to George Laycock.

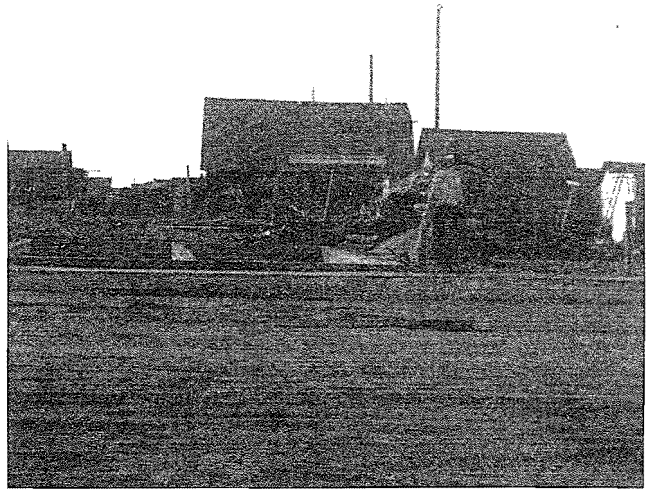
In 1939 Dick Stark worked for George Laycock. He worked for \$1.00 a day from 7:00 am to 11:00 pm, for one and a half years. He worked as the mechanic's helper. He was left to run the garage with Mrs. Laycock while George taught school at Moose Bay. He enjoyed the work. That is where he got his start in the garage business.



Laycock's Garage

Mrs. Laycock's Furniture Store

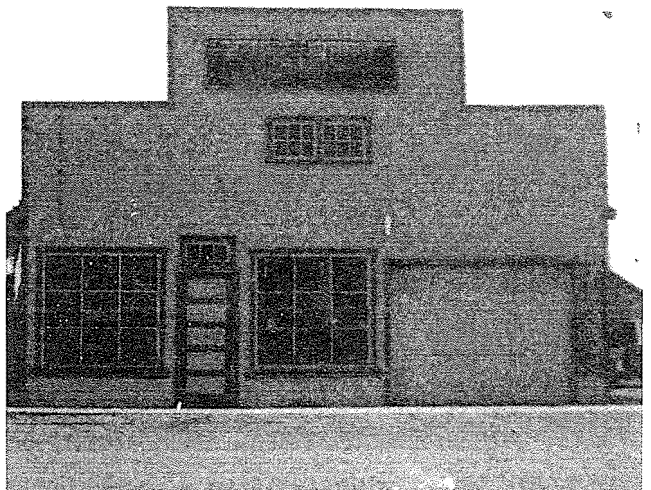
87 Mrs. Laycock operated a second-hand furniture store in a separate building at the back of the garage. She also managed the garage business.



Mrs. Laycock's Furniture Store

Werbiski's Garage

59 In August 1937 Nick Werbiski built a machine shop. Later, in 1949 it was moved to the back of the Hotel, where it is still stands. The same year Nick built a new garage, constructed of cement blocks. It measures 80x40. They had a gas pump. He was also the agent for Cockshutt and the International implements. Pete Barnett was hired as a mechanic for a few years, then Andrew Ruskin, followed by Wilf Honish. Nick operated the garage 'till 1970 when he was forced to close due to ill health. The building remains closed. It is unfortunate that such a solid and large building is used for storage only.



Nick Werbiski's First Garage

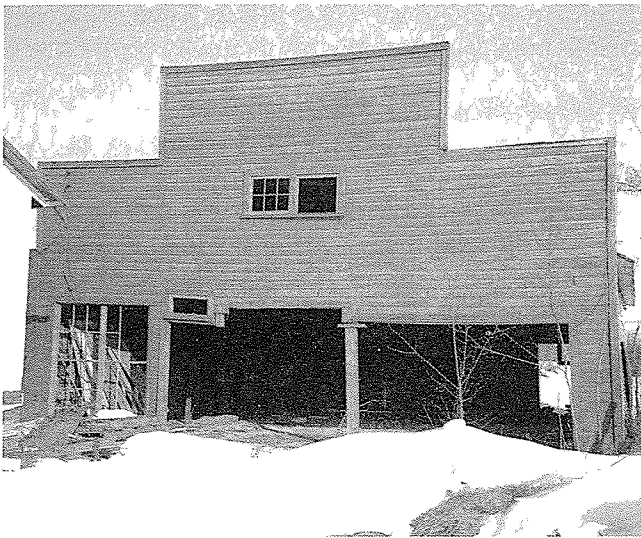


Werbiski's Garage Burning

Lumber Yard

59 In 1960 Nick Werbiski started a lumber yard. The old garage became the storage place for the lumber. Norman Harpelle was the first customer to buy cedar siding from the new lumber yard.

In 1966 Fred went into the business of building new homes. Harry Sabiston and Mike Szport were hired as carpenters. They built fifteen homes. As soon as one was ready, they were moved to Dauphin by Nike Britski. Ann Korotash and Hilda Murray were the two painters, and were often taken to Dauphin to paint the homes. The business closed in 1972.



Nick Werbiski's first Garage/Lumber Yard

Dick Stark's Garage

53 Dick Stark wanted to buy a lot from Mrs. Rorke to build a garage, and because he had been doing odd jobs for her, Mrs. Rorke sold a lot to him for \$50.00. One summer Dick drove a truck for Joe Holco for \$3.00 a day, picking up cream from the farmers around the district and taking it to Winnipegosis. While there he spotted a warehouse that had been used for a fish shed. He bought it and

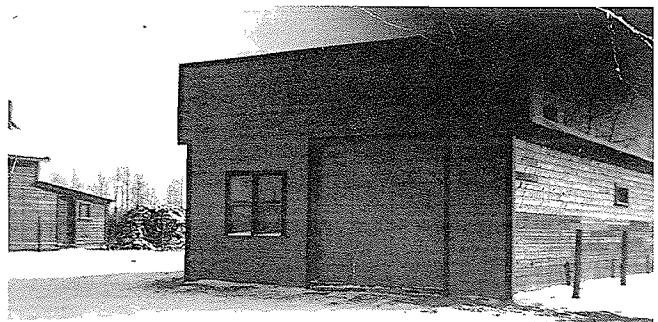
took it apart in his spare time. With the help of Russel Begg they hauled the lumber to Rorketon and built a garage. It was large enough for one of Charlie Strasdin's big trucks and four cars.

In 1941 he joined the Army, and his brother, John, looked after the garage, with a friend, for a short while. It then remained closed for a few years. When Dick came back from the war, unable to work because of injuries, he hired a good mechanic from Allard's in Dauphin.

Dick had a Nash car and the muffler was loose. Friday he had asked Mike, the mechanic, to weld the muffler. When he went to the garage on Sunday to pick up the car he saw that it had not been welded, so he decided to do it himself. He did not know too much about welding and a spark fell inside his sleeve. He threw the torch against the wall where Mike, the mechanic had used rags that were saturated with grease and gas.

There were four fire extinguisher in the garage and Dick always made sure that they were full. Without his knowledge there had been a few small fires. Andrew Ruskin and Mike, the mechanic, had used them. When he grabbed the first extinguisher it was empty and to his astonishment so were the three remaining ones. The garage was completely destroyed.

Dick had been selling tires for Nick Marchenski and after some discussion they decided to go into partnership to build another garage. Before they started building Dick got sick and landed in the Brandon hospital. He remained there for two and a half years. He decided to sell the lot to Nick Marchenski who, in 1949, went on his own and built a garage called Northern Motors. (Nick's Initials N.M.) It was from here he continued selling Massey Harris implements. He also obtained the Mercury dealership. One fall he sold fifteen half-ton trucks which amazed the company to think that in such a small district this number of trucks were sold. After



Dick Stark's Garage

several years Nick Marchenski exchanged this garage for George Laycock's garage by the school. George retired and his son Roy took over. In 1978 he sold it to Roger Taylor who operated it until he passed away in 1987. Ron Timmerman operated it for a short while.

Nick Biletski

53 In 1989 Nick Biletski bought the building from Ron Timmerman. He uses it for a storage shop and his own personal garage. Nick is one of the area's plumbers and contractors. If one needs anything, one can be sure Keyhoe Construction will have it. Nick has been in business for thirty-one years.

Steven Sliworsky

36 Steven Sliworsky began his business in 1975. He is a backhoe contractor, and specializes in water and sewer installations, trenching, landscaping and gravel hauling. When Steven first started his business he worked for the Manitoba Government and travelled as far as Barrows and Pelican Rapids. Now his contracts are local. He was sub-contractor for the seniors low rental housing for the water, sewer, and landscaping. He also landscaped the school yard. Stephen still operates his business today.

Repair Shop

45 Tony Pulak built a small repair shop. He then built a garage with gas pumps. There were living quarters in the back and a small cafe in front. He rented the cafe to John Huculak and it was his wife Ann who operated the cafe for a few years. In 1955 Tony sold the building to Norman Cletus Honish.

He operated the garage with his brothers Wilf, Bernard and Vern. In 1957 Cletus went to work up



Tony Pulak's Garage and repair shop

north and the brothers looked after the garage for him. In 1958 the garage was closed and his brother Syl moved the building to his farm.

Deneschuck's Garage

72 In 1949 Harry Deneschuck built a garage. He had the gas pump, and also had the first Case dealership in Rorketon. He had a great knowledge of the fuel system. He invented a carburetor that was steam operated and would have made a lot more miles per gallon of gas than what people were used to at the time. He was almost finished perfecting it but did not have the funds to have it patented. In the mid-fifties Harry's garage burned.

Believe it or not, Rorketon even had a mushroom plant! Fresh mushrooms in the fifties! Harry Deneschuk experimented growing mushrooms in the basement of their home. They grew nice white mushrooms and sold them by the pound.

Strasdin's Garage

92 On the corner opposite the first hydro office, Charlie Strasdin built a garage for his trucks that he used to haul gravel in the summer and wood in the winter. After a few years he sold the garage to Mr. George Laycock. In 1958 Mr. Laycock traded garages with Nick Marchenski, who owned the Northern Motors, on Main Street. Then Nick sold that famous garage to the Municipality for their use.

Wilfred Honish's Shop

95 Wilfred Honish was a mechanic. He was one of the best around, so naturally when he stopped working for Nick Werbiski the customers kept coming to Wilf with their problems. Although he had a hard time getting around, he could not refuse them. For many years he kept all the customers happy, repairing their vehicles in a small garage in his back yard.



Curtis & Lynn Honish, Automotive Shop

Wally's Body Shop

44 In 1987 Wally Pulak built a body and tire repair shop on the site of Tony Pulak's Garage. In 1989 he sold it to Curtis and Lynn Honish. They have since renovated the building and are operating a garage, with gas pumps.

Rodney's Auto Recking

96 Rodney Bage opened an auto wrecking business in 1994 and it continues to operate today.

Majestic Motors

56 Richard Lamy erected a building to accommodate a body and paint shop. In October 1993 he opened for business, and still remains viable.

Fish Shed

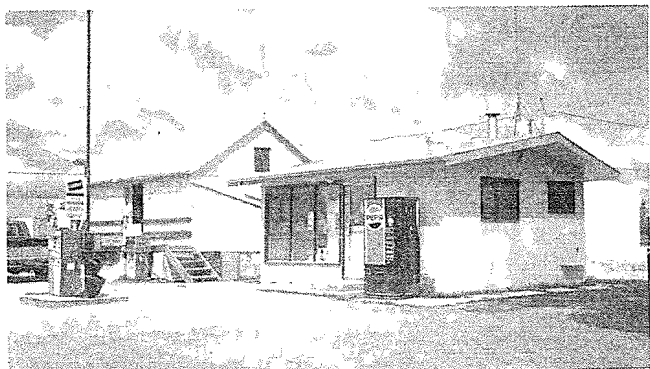
7 In 1936 Mr. Adams built a shed near the tracks opposite the station for a warehouse where he stored the fish. Later he used it to store flour. He was the agent for Purity flour. When the St. Boniface Mill wanted a name for a new flour, Pete Adams suggested the name Sweet Heart Flour. It became one of the most popular brands of flour in the district. The building was later sold to Frank Papuga.

Bulk Fuel

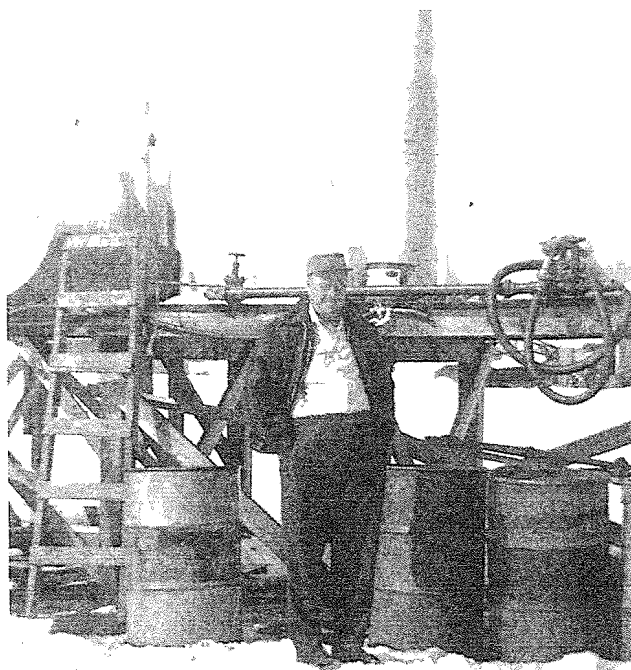
5 In 1940 Laycock had the Shell franchise with two bulk fuel storage tanks by the tracks across from Iwanchysko's. There was a storage shed and a pumphouse. Fuel came by train and was pumped into these storage tanks. There were catwalks at the top of these tanks so one could go up and measure how much fuel was in the tanks.

Joe Werbeski's Bulk Fuel

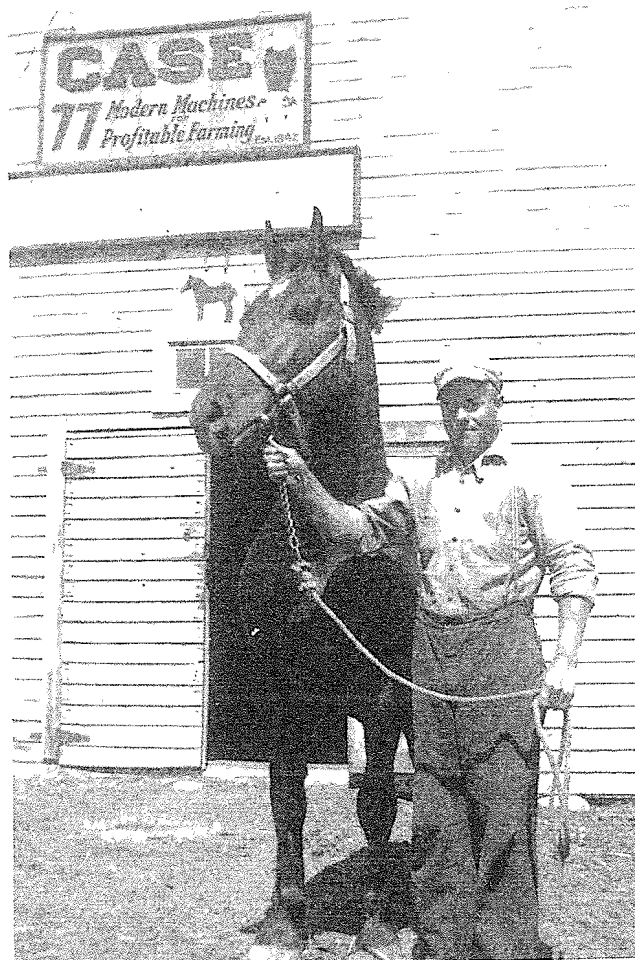
68 Joe Werbeski came to Rorketon from Moose Bay in 1946 and started a livery barn operation. In 1949 he started bulk fuel sales. He then moved the bulk fuel business across the street next to Pete Tkatch.



J.J. Werbeski Shop



Joe Werbiski in front of bulk fuel tanks



Joe Werbiski in front of his Livery Barn

71 In the mid 1950's he expanded his business adding gas pumps and again moving across the street to the present site. He was an agent for Anglo Canadian, Royalite, Gulf, then Petro Can.

In 1978 Joe passed away and his son John took over the business and is still operating it today.

Shoe Repair Shop

17 Roman Karp had a shoe repair shop. He was known to be a good shoemaker. He repaired soles for 25 cents per pair. He spread a lot of cheer through his bottled spirits.



Roman Karp's Shoe Store

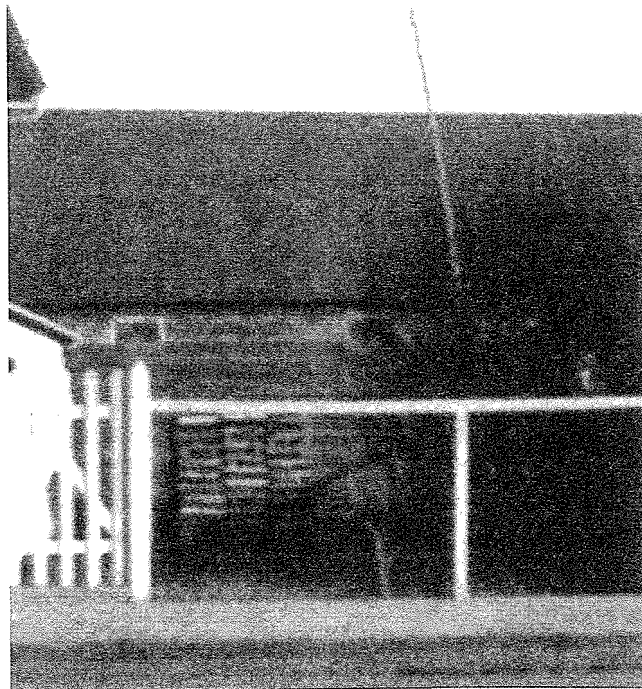
Schick's Shoe Repair

37 Schick had a small shoe repair shop next to Dan Rehaluk's store. He was also a butcher, by trade, and made sausages.

Livery Barn

19 Mr. Edmund Kaminski built the first livery and feed barn in 1924. It was situated on the street, parallel to the tracks. The first stable was fifty feet long with a hay loft, where the winter hay was stored. It had no doors and was too small. In 1925 he added another twenty-five feet onto the barn. It could then accomodate thirty to forty teams. On a Friday night it was filled to capacity. When the barn was full Zygmund Kaminski, known as Peter, got some fellows to help to pull a sleigh across the doorway to let the fishermen know that the barn was full.

In 1928 Nick Werbiski bought the livery barn from Edmund Kaminski. He operated it from 1928



Kaminski's Livery Barn

until 1936. Nick was available for anyone who required transportation. In 1936 he sold the business to Alex Iwanchysko and Ernie Wilson. They operated the livery barn together for ten years.

The following are records kept by Ernie Wilson.

They sold everything including coal oil, staples, and axle grease. They boarded and shod horses, crushed grain, fixed harnesses and sawed wood, almost any service to make a dollar.

Mr. John Chiupka and his son Nick bought the livery barn from Mr. Iwanchysko and Ernie Wilson in 1946. It was closed in 1953 because there was no longer a need for a livery barn. It was then demolished by Alex Didychuk for salvage lumber.

Grain Mill

16 The grain crushing Mill was a large building. It was built by Mr. Huculak in 1936. It was intended to be a flour mill but he could not afford the equipment so he turned the mill into a grain crusher, crushing grain for chop for the farmers. It closed in 1940. Shortly after the building was sold to Mr. Paul Gelina. He moved it to his farm a mile west of the town of Rorketon where he converted it into their home. The farm is now own by Fred Scutt, and the home is still the same building. It measured 20x18.

Nov 29th 37		\$	cts
Nov 29	Buck for Heater 1 doz	1	60
Dec 2	by 3 window Pains 20cts each		60
Dec 3	Bolts 24cts celoid 100	1	24
Dec 4	To Plawski on cutter tongue	2	25
Dec 5	By cutter at books		50
Dec 2	By to buy cutter	18	00
Dec 6	By bolts		7
Dec 9	Coal oil		30
Dec 10	Horse trade		50
Dec 13	Matches 10ct lamp weeks		15
Dec 13	treat Beer		50
Dec 15	end irons & Bolts		34
Dec 16	by cash for trip board		50
Dec 20	coal oil		30
Dec 20	rod for well		90
Dec 22	by cash Hay Permit	5	00
Dec 27	Matches		10
Dec 29	Chopping Grain	1	00
Dec 31	taxes on lot 22 & 23	31	95
		65 80	
Settled Jan 1st 38			

April 1st 38

Apr 1	Hay Permit	50
"	Salt	10
Apr 1	Brushin Grain 15 bag	1 25
8	Cash To Bill Therman	25
Apr 11	by horse & cars	2 25
12	Sawing wood	90
Apr 15	cash to George	1 00
Apr 16	by bolts	6
Apr 18	axel Grease	15
28		6 46

May 1 Livery & Feed for April 2975
 Goods 646
 balance 2329

Alex Livery 1165
 AETH Livery 1164

Settled May 2nd

Board for May
 due E & K from Alex Back account for April 363
 cash 737
 Board Paid for June 1st 1100

March 4th 38

Mar 4	coal Oil	30
Mar 7	Tobacco for lice	15
Mar 7	by cash for Pool	15
8	matches	10
11	by wood from b Freed	3 00
11	by shewing horses	3 25
11	by lorcocide	15
14	by cash John for drawing ^{Hay}	4 00
11	by cash	50
15	by cash wages for drawing	3 75
16	by cash H. Wierseck ^{Hay}	60
18	by cash horse deal	50
20	by coal Oil	30
23	by cash to John Drawing Hay	75
28	by Barley 9 bus 18 lbs	6 00
		<hr/> 20 40

Feed Tvery 72 20

Goods 20 40

Balance 2) 51 80
25 90

Apr 1 Alex 25 90

" Efr 25 90

Settled April
Board Paid till May 1st
\$11.00

March 1st 39 Barne account

1	By cash to John Dwing to Strasdeno	75
4	By Dee fork handle	25
8	Sawing Wood	35
March 21	cash to J. Iwasishy sho	5 00
March 22	By cash to M Panagofsa on cutting wood	45
25	By fixing Pad on horse collar	10
28	By cash for Dinner Water Res.	50
28	By cash on Tiger	50 00
28	By cash on Bronko	7 00
29	By crushing 16 Bags	1 00
30	cutting wood E. Lee 3 hours	2 10
31	Vaccine for horses	3 75
31	P. Glenna for helping ^{Brooke} Bronco	1 00
		<hr/> 72 25

Livery Feed & Sales 112 00
 cash & Goods 72 25
4085

Alex 20 40
 E H 20 40

Settled Ap 1st 39

Board Settled till May 1st
 By 1000 on account Alex
 100 cash

Feb 3 Barn account

3	By Board Driving Course	50
6	flash light conical	1 50
6	celoids for window bolts	20
8	2 bolts 7/4 hooks ^{single bars} 28 3 Brks 40	75
6	By Board Driving Course to Sandy P	50
16	By Lumber for cabouse @ Paulak	3 70
17	Lantern Glass bolt	18
20	Linoline	20
22	Horse feed At Hinnepergers	65
23	Sheep skin	35
24	crusshin grain	1 00
24	By cash to W Gill at Arden	25 25
27	coal Oil 55 ^{ct} bolt cabouse 4 ^{ct}	59
28	Bricks for Heater	85
		<hr/> 36 22

Barn & Tivery 65 10
 Goods 36 20
2) 2890

Settled
 March 1st
 bly 1 445
 E W 1 445

Board Settled to April 1st
 By \$10.00 on account
 1.00 cash

Insurance

Dick Stark, while in the hospital, took courses in business administration. He paid \$25.00 for the course. When he was discharged from the hospital he came back to Rorketon and set up his insurance business. He operated it from his parents' place. He carried Allstate and General Insurance. Life insurance was difficult to sell. It was paid by monthly instalments. Dick tried to talk a fellow, who was working for Joe Jeanotte from Meadow Portage, into buying life insurance, but had no luck. After having dinner with this gentleman, Dick was leaving for home when this man's wife suggested that they should buy the policy. They agreed and made two payments. Within two months he died leaving his wife with two thousand dollars.

In 1949 Dick left Rorketon and became one of the top salesmen. He retired in 1992 and was the second highest salesman for Continental Life Insurance.

24 Francis Johnson started in the insurance business, in 1948. He was an agent for Wawanesa and later for M.P.I.C. He was also a dealer for Massy Ferguson. He also sold Chev cars through Dennison Motors in Dauphin until 1980 when he retired. On Dec. 1st 1980 he sold out to Elaine Bonnett. After training for the job, she continued the insurance business on her own. She moved out of the building in 1986 and Lester Holowachuk bought it and started a business repairing Snow Machines and Lawn mowers. The building still stands.



Francis Johnson Insurance

Theatre On Wheels

38 Mr. Budzey had a movie projector that was powered by a gas generator. It was heavy but two people could lift it. He took it to different locations. The films were ordered from a distributor in

Winnipeg. They came in steel canisters of different sizes, two or three at the time. One could tell how long the show would be by the thickness of the canister. The movies were the same for about two weeks. The distributor supplied the posters, with the name, the time, and location of the movie. It was shown either in the school or the hall. Mr. Budzey would mail the posters to the surrounding post offices and they would post them. That is how he advertised his shows. The screen was a sheet of white material, like oil cloth. It was folded at the end of each movie. As the time went on, one could see the fold in the material while the show was on. Every Friday night was movie time in Rorketon. Omalin was at the control and Mr. Budzey sold the tickets. It was a big night for the town. The train came in and the stores were opened 'till 11:00 PM. The movie was on as well. During the week it was showed at surrounding places like Weiden and Toutes Aides. The admission was 25 cents for adults and 15 cents for children. When John Pulak and Francis Johnston built the theatre in 1948, that was the end of the "Movie On Wheels". With the plush seats, everyone came to Rorketon. He traded the generator to Nick Werbiski for a fridge. From 1945 to 1948 Mr. Budzey rented the Orthodox Hall for \$10 a night to show the films.

Lakson Theatre

29 In 1948 Francis Johnson and John Pulak built the Lakson Theatre (the "lak" from Pulak and the "son" from Johnson was the origin of the name).

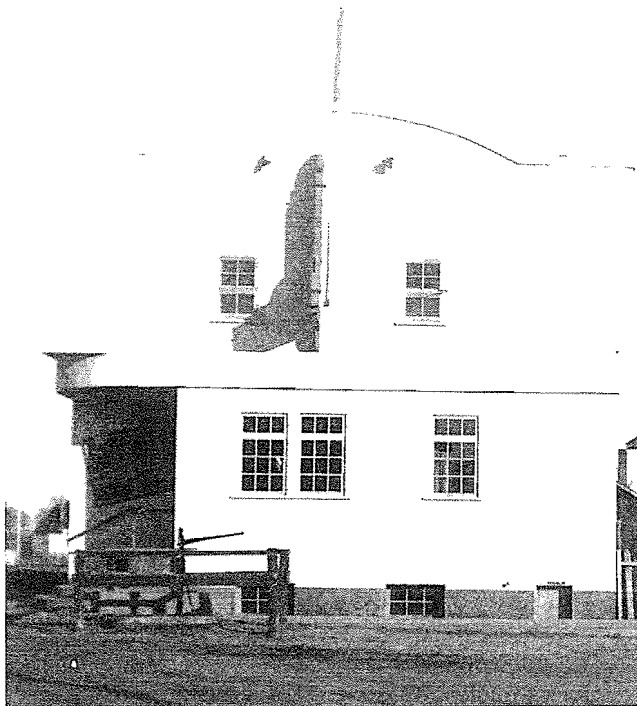
There were two different shows a week. The movies were on Monday, Tuesday, Friday and Saturday. Francis and John each took turns in running the projector.

Although movies were shown in the area by Mr. Budzey, it was great to have a permanent place to gather and spend an enjoyable evening.

The big outside door would open and from the inside came the smell of popcorn. The theatre was a place for young and old. For a quarter it was possible to see a movie and have change for popcorn. The patrons found their seats in the dark and waited patiently for the show to start.

In 1950 Ernie Mallard, whose father already owned a few theatres in Manitoba, purchased the theatre from Francis and John. The family had their living quarters in the basement of the building.

In 1952, Dan Zachedniak, who was teaching school at Rorketon at the time purchased the business from Ernie Mallard. Dan, his wife, and daughter, Hope, had their living quarters upstairs. Mr. Zachedniak died in 1954 and Pete Korotash then



Lakson Theatre

operated the theatre until it was sold to Mr. Michalot in 1955.

Ernie Michalot operated the theatre for ten years until it closed permanently in 1965. The building was later demolished and its location became the site of the present day Credit Union building.

John Hushalak's Barber Shop and Beauty Parlour

67 John Hushalak had a small building with living quarters. In this building he had a barber shop and his wife Ann had the beauty parlour. They also had a confectionary as well. John also had the Oliver Implement dealership.

Bakery

86 Rorketon got its first and only bakery and tea room in 1949 with Sam the baker man renting the Joe Storozinski building. Since not many could afford to buy bread, the business did not prosper. In January of 1950 the bakery burnt down and was never rebuilt.

Rorketon Bakery, and Tea Shop Burned at Rorketon, Man, Jan 2, 1950 <Special> Fire destroyed the premises owned by Joe Storozinski and rented by William Porteous as a bakery and tea shop, at 6 Am. Saturday. A group of citizens worked with snow and water to save the living premises of Joe Storozinski and Laycock's garage. Partial insurance was carried. <Excerpt Dauphin Herald>



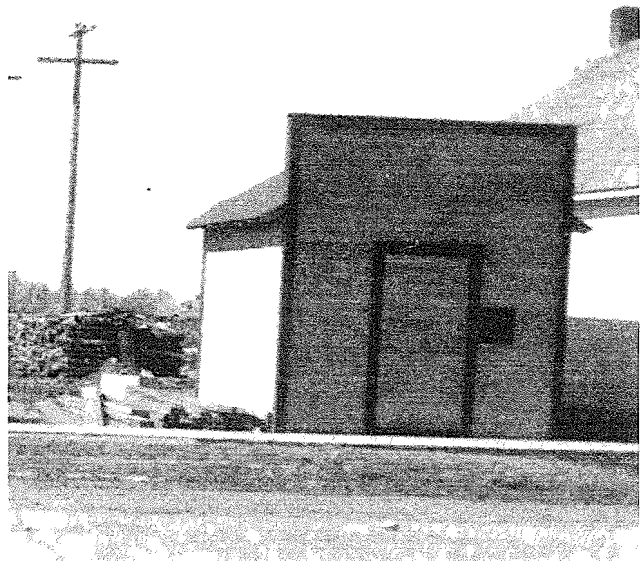
Pool Hall and Bakery

Services Of Rorketon

Fire Halls

61 In the 1930's a primitive fire hall next to the municipal building housed a fire extinguisher. It was like a wheel barrow with a twenty pound tank, full of chemicals. It was wheeled around to the fires. It served the purpose 'till it was replaced.

13 Shortly after Marchenski's big fire in 1946 the business people from the town decided something had to be done. The old system was out of date and too small to save any building. Because the lot the previous small fire hall was on was too close to buildings, a new location was picked and a second



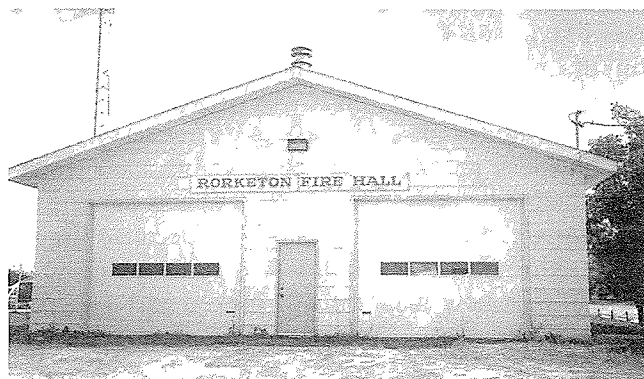
First Fire Hall



Second Fire Hall

Fire Hall was built. Mr. Tony Belitski was the fire chief at the time. Mr. George Laycock donated a 1933, 1 1/2 ton International truck with a wooden box, to be used as a fire truck. What a big improvement from the first one. It was painted red, trimmed with white. Picture enclosed.

63 The new fire hall is attached to the Municipal office building. It is well equipped to handle most fires. There is an underground reservoir that holds a large quantity of water. There is now a



Rorketon Fire Hall



concrete reservoir constructed under the fire hall. It measures 8 feet wide by 25 feet long and eight feet high. The capacity being ten thousand gallons and is an emergency supply.

There is now in place a regulatory red truck with a smaller back-up truck for hauling extra water. What an improvement!

Municipal Hall

62 Minutes of February 2, 1921

Moved by Robinson and seconded by Orchard.

That the clerk prepare a list of materials required to build a municipal hall (22x36x12) specifically four ply boards, shingle roof, brick chimney to floor, with metal ceiling and that Burrows and Crowe be invited to tender for the materials - carried

Minutes of March 2, 1921. That R.T. Williams be let the contract for hauling in lumber and shingles for the hall as specified by notice. The job to be completed by the first of April 1921 for the amount of \$120 - carried.

Minutes of meeting of Municipal Council of April 6, 1921 That the contract for building the municipal hall be awarded to Joe Ducharme for the sum of \$384.00, work to be completed by the 1st of July next. Carried.

The building was completed and on July 6, 1921, at the first meeting in the new premises, the following resolution was passed:

That Mr. Ducharme be paid the sum of \$204.75, being the balance owing on the contract price and extras less any arrears of his taxes to be deducted from that amount.

February 8, 1922

That the council appoints Mr. J. T. Forbes as caretaker for Municipal Hall at a salary of \$2.00 per month for the year 1922, and that the clerk buy four spittoons for the hall.



Municipal Building

A By-law of the Rural Municipality of Lawrence

Whereas it is advisable to fix a regular day on which the regular meetings of the Municipal Council shall be held and to fix a place for the meetings to be held in,

Now therefore the Reeve and Council in sessions assembled enact as follows:

1. That the regular meetings of the Council be held on the second Wednesday in each month at the hour of 10 o'clock in the forenoon.

2. That the regular place of meeting shall be at the Municipal Hall situate, lying and being in the Townsite of Rorketon, being part of the North West quarter of Section Twelve (12) in Township twenty-eight (28) in Range sixteen (16) West of the Principal Meridian in the Province of Manitoba.

This building served the municipality until 1983 when it was demolished, to be replaced by a new building which proudly stands on the corner of first and Main.



Municipality Building

Curling Rink

49 1954 - A big project is undertaken. Rorketon decides to build a curling rink. A meeting was called and thirty people attended. Before they left for home that evening they all pledged \$100.00 each. There was then \$3,000 to start. What support! It took a lot of work to raise the money. One project was the raffle of a yellow Dodge car. It was purchased from George Laycock, at a cost of \$1,800. The tickets were \$1.00 each. The committee took turns to go to picnics to sell tickets. For this special occasion the committee built a platform approximately forty by forty by the skating rink on the site where the curling rink was to be built. The night that the ticket was drawn for the car they held an open-air dance. It was



Metro Chuipka with his Prize

a beautiful warm night. At midnight they drew the lucky ticket. The winner was Mr. John Chiupka. He had never owned or driven a car before. They went and got him out of bed to present him with the keys. He walked across the stage in a daze — he could not believe his good fortune. Frank Papuga talked Mr. Chiupka into buying a ticket, but only one. Dick Stark found a buyer for the car, a man from Brandon who bought it for his son for \$1,900.

The curling rink was built in 1955. The lumber was bought from McCreery's saw mill in Waterhen. Robbins' transfer hauled it to Rorketon. Mr. Tony Biletski was the main carpenter, and donated part of his labour. Pete Korotash was the electrician and donated all of his time. There were many other men from the area, too many to mention, who also donated their time. Such a big a project took all of the summer of 1955. The curling rink consisted of three sheets of ice, with a waiting room and the N.E. cor-



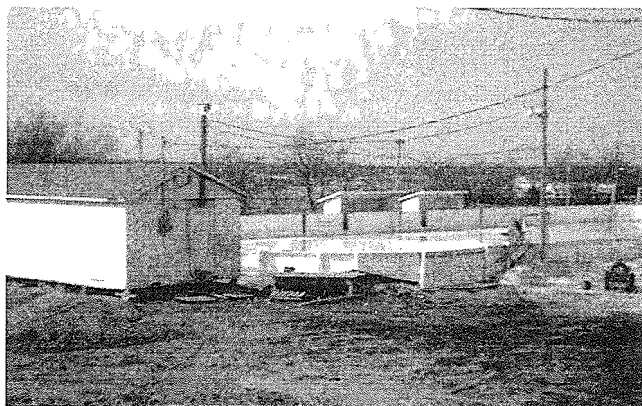
Opening of Curling Rink

ner converted into a small kitchen. Everyone who curled bought their own rocks at a cost of \$23.00 each. The ice ready, finally the big day, the grand opening. Norman Harpelle was the master of ceremonies. Mr. Ab Gowanlock from Dauphin who was a champion curler, had the privilege of cutting the ribbon and throwing the first rock. The ladies prepared a beautiful banquet. The curling rink became one of the busiest places in Rorketon during the winter months.

In 1969, the Rorketon Curling Rink was renovated. An artificial ice plant was installed, allowing for longer curling seasons. The ice conditions are now of a great quality. The bonspiels were always a big attraction and still are.

Skating Rink

41B The first skating rink was built in 1933 by Joe Storozinski's house. Then there were different places chosen for the rink. In 1937 it was behind Perpeluk's store when the construction began on the next Rorketon Community Skating Rink. A six-foot



The present Skating Rink

board wall surrounded it. The rink would be electrically lit using the generator from Mr. J. Perepeluk's Garage. In the 50's it was next to the curling rink. For several years Rorketon was without a skating rink. Then there was one built in the west corner of the school yard, where it remains to this day. The building serves as a recreational Centre for the youth in all seasons. Because the skating rink was in several places someone suggested it should be on wheels.

Red Cross Nursing Station

33 August 23, 1923, the R.M of Lawrence applied for a Red Cross Nursing Station to be established in Rorketon.

Mr. Lawrence from Abbottshall who had moved his family to Winnipeg donated his house to be used for the Red Cross Nursing station. It was moved to Rorketon by nine Oxen, three abreast in the early twenties. It became the main focus point for a first aid post. Miss J.T. Robinson was the first nurse followed by Miss Hill who spent many years in the district. She was taken by horse and caboose to see patients as far as Waterhen when they were too sick to come to the station. Some years later the nursing station was closed. In 1967 the Municipality rented the building to the R.M. administrator, Mr. Hellar Chorzewski.

Seniors' Duplex

48 The four duplexes that were built in 1978-79, for the seniors of Rorketon, was a great improvement in living accommodations for the tenants.

Two of them are situated on the old site of the Laycock Garage in the 1930's. Lot 1, 2 and 3, Block



House being moved to Rorketon for Nursing Station

1, Plan 192, was purchased from Mrs. Olga Laycock in May 1978 for the sum of two thousand seven hundred dollars. Lot 22 and 23, Block 1, Plan 192, was also purchased from Mrs. Laycock in May 1978, for the sum of one thousand eight hundred. The other two are located on the old Litwinowitch place. Part of Lot 9 and all of Lot 10, Plan 935, was purchased from the Rorketon Credit Union September 1979, for the sum of two thousand five hundred.

These facilities enabled the seniors to continue living in the village and they have been occupied at all times.

Post Office

82 Mr. Net Huddleston added a lean-to on the store and it accomomdated the first post office.

"The Postmaster General has given his approval in granting a post at Rorketon. Mr. Jas Irvine, post-master elect. Post Office to be opened 1'st of Nov. 1921."<excerpt Dauphin Herald>

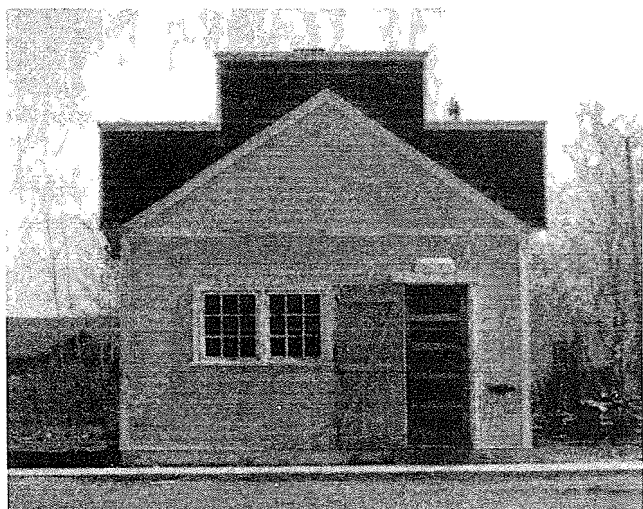
As the town began to progress there was mail delivered three times a week.

63 In approxiamately 1925 the post office was moved to the Farmer's Mutual (location 61) with Mr. Rorke being the postmaster.

46 In 1934, Mr. Rorke had a building constructed on Location 46 with Mr. Rorke continuing as postmaster.

On December 7, 1936 mail commenced coming to Rorketon by train. Steve Mazier received the contract to carry mail from train to post office.

When Mr. Rorke passed away in 1938 his daughter, Joy, took over. In 1945 Rusell Begg, her husband, became the assistant. He worked four hours each morning. His salary was fifty cents an hour.



Post Office

The New Post Office

79 The new post office was built in 1965 and Joy was the postmistress until 1968. Then Russell Begg became the Post Master and Margaret Mazier was the assistant. When Russell retired in 1972 Joe Katchur took over as post master and Norma Kendzierski became assistant. When Joe retired in June 5, 1987 Norma became the post mistress and Lorie Iwanchysko the assistant. On July 12, 1996, Norma retired and Lorie took over.



Rorketon Post Office

Telephone Office

67 John Huculak was the first telephone operator in Rorketon. On August 9, 1922 the long distance line was extended to Toutes Aides, Methley and Rorketon. To make a long distance phone call was a major undertaking. The first step was to go



Switchboard

through Ste. Rose, then Ochre River operator, then on to Winnipeg. It took a long time. In 1953 there were four phones - Begg's, Pulak's store, and Manitoba Power Commission. The Hotel had the pay station.

The telephone office was located in Joe Panagapka's house in 1956. It was a switchboard operated by local operations, among them Norma Kindzierski and Jeneatte Latulippe (Honish). At that time there were twenty-three phones in the district. In 1968 the systems were converted to dial and there was 150 phones in the district. 103 In 1968 a central telephone office was built at the entrance of the town, across from the R.C. Church. From this building many difficulties concerning the telephone, can be corrected.

In 1996 new telephone cables were buried which brought private phones to the rural area. This also opened the field to several means of communication. Fax machines could now be used and the availability of the Internet. There is also the option of several calling features. Their was a great improvement, we can only anticipate what the future holds for us in the field of communication.

First Manitoba Hydro Office

91 The first Manitoba Hydro Office was located near the end of the tracks. The line was built in 1949 from Ste. Rose to Rorketon. Norman Harpelle was the foreman. The hydro was turned on, April 1, 1950. It was serviced from Ochre River. In 1953 Rorketon became a district and was run by Norman Harpelle. Hydro sold appliances with a \$10.00 down and \$10.00 a month payment. One could purchase major appliances such as fridges, stoves, and deepfreezes. Through Norman many people availed themselves of the opportunity to purchase their appliances. Before one could get hooked up to the power one had to buy three appliances. Most of the customers bought a toaster, an iron, and a tea kettle. The Hydro Office was eventually moved across the road from the R.C. Church, its present site.

Credit Union

77 By 1949, every Canadian province had enacted credit union laws; co-op banks were springing up like mushrooms in places where chartered banks felt it uneconomical to open a branch. Even today, the only banking service in the tiny Manitoba village of Rorketon <population 261> is the Rorketon and District Credit Union, founded in 1961. The founding manager, Joseph B. Panagapka, received a salary of \$100 a year.



Rorketon and District Credit Union

Credit Union

The Rorketon & District Credit Union was incorporated on January 4, 1961. The Credit Union Charter Members are as follows:

Dan Rehaluk	John Pulak
Pete Panagapko	Len Charles
Frank Pupuga	Anne Rehaluk
Rev. J. Sholdak	Joe Werbiski
Mike Hanchar	Steve Gingera

The Credit Union Board of Directors, Committee Members, Management, and Staff throughout the years are as follows:

Francis Johnson	Board of Directors/First Pres.	1961-1972
Steve Gingera	Board of Directors & Secretary	1961-1965
John Zaplitny	Board of Directors	1961-1965
George Laycock	Board of Directors	1961-1962
Mike Chuipka	Board of Directors	1961-1973
Joe Panagapko	Manager	1961-1975
Dmetro Mazier	S.C./C.C./Board of Directors	1961-1978
Rev. J. Sholdak	Supervisory Committee	1961-1965
Mike Hanchar	S.C./C.C./Board of Directors	1961-Present
Frank Papuga	Credit Committee	1961-1972
Walter Tuer	Credit Committee	1961-1974
Peter Kukura	Credit Committee	1961-1966
Margaret J. Panagapko	Custodian	1961-1976
Ben Kujanpaa	S.C./C.C./President/B. of D.	1961-1992
Joe Smigelski	President/Board of Directors	1963-1973
Paul Moreau	Board of Directors	1966-1970
Fred Werbiski	Supervisory Committee	1966-1970
Norma Kendzierski	Staff	1966-1970
Nick Marchenski	Credit Committee	1967-1970
Morris Pretula	Board of Directors/Secretary	1967-1974
Denise Schurko	Staff	1970-1973/1976-Present
Raymond Moffatt	S.C./President/B. of D.	1971-1978
Norman Bass	Board of Directors	1971-1975
Mary E. Werbiski	Staff	1971-1975
Dan Iwanchysko	Supervisory Committee	1972-1975
Roy Laycock	Board of D./Sec.	1973-1976/1979-1979
M.N. Sliworsky	Board of Directors	1974-1985
Ron Marchinski	Supervisory Committee	1974-1976
Roland VanDeKerckhove	Supervisory Committee	1974-1976
Marguerite Mazier	Staff	1974-1975
Edward Frykas	Manager	1975-Present
Leo L. Hrushowy	Board of Directors/Secretary	1975-Present
Anne Frykas	Staff	1975-Present

Dan Rehaluk	Credit Committee	1975-1978
Debra L. Murray	Staff	1975-1976
Elaine Huhtala	Staff	1976-1987/1990-1992
Edgar Hudson	S.C./Board of Directors	1976-Present
Fred Taylor	S.C./C.C./Board of Directors	1976-Present
Terry Smith	S.C./B. of D./President	1976-Present
Donald Bretecher	Supervisory Committee	1977-1978
Mike Smigelski	C.C./Board of Directors	1979-1991
Nick Mazier	Board of Directors	1979-1988
Peter W. Solomon	Credit Comm./Board of Directors	1979-Present
Carol Sraybash	Staff/Custodian	1983-Present
W. Farrell Murray	Credit Committee	1986-Present
Sally Lytwyn	Staff	1987-1996
Mary Shewchuk	Staff	1987-1993
Ernest Michalot	Board of Directors	1988-Present
Brenda Kujanpaa	Staff	1992-1992
Darcy Hill	Staff	1993-1995
Brenda Blair	Staff	1992-Present
Geraldine Stykalo	Staff	1994-Present
Vivian Zamrykut	Staff	1995-Present
Heather Hill	Staff	1995-Present

The first Credit Union office was at Joe and Margaret Panagapka's house, with Joe as Manager. In 1964 Joe built the first Credit Union building with the understanding that the Credit Union would purchase the building from him before he retired.

In 1975 Joe Panagapka retired, after almost 15 years of service. On March 1, 1975, Edward Frykas was hired as Manager of the Credit Union.

29 In 1986 a new Credit Union building was built.

In 1987 the Credit Union switched from manual operation to an inhouse computer system. Since that time the Credit Union has been updating equipment to give the members the best service possible, at minimal cost.

The Credit Union has paid dividends and rebates for a number of years and is one of only a few financial institutions that has no service charges.

Growth of Rorketon & District Credit Union Limited

December 31, 1961 to December 31, 1995

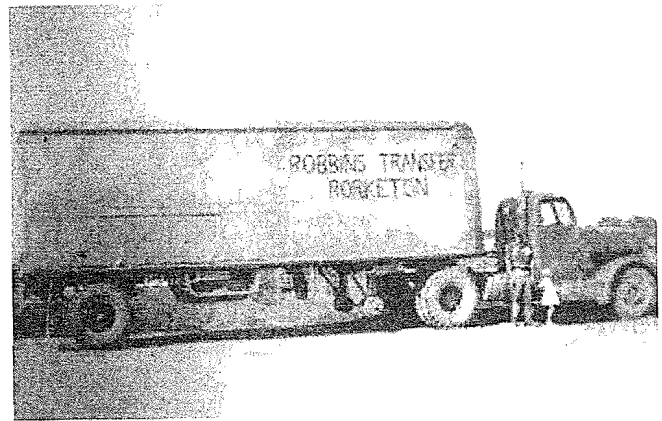
	Assets	Members
1961	41,784	176
1971	664,648	623
1974	1,042,707	760
1981	3,513,822	1100
1986	5,354,492	1107
1991	8,073,568	1107
1995	9,509,030	1104

Elaine Bonnett

77 In 1986 Elaine Bonnett re-located her insurance business to the old Credit Union building. She later added a movie rental outlet and in 1995 acquired the M.L.C.C liquor vendor.

Transfer

104&104B The first transfer in Rorketon was owned and operated by Bill Robbins. He sold it to Mr. Soko. In 1963 Nick Skakivitch and Julies Weigelt from Ste. Rose bought it. They operated it for a few years. Nick then went on his own. He later sold it to Mr. Adelard Lamey. Mr. Lamey operated it for a short while. It then was owned in partnership by Robert Taylor, Kenneth, and Doreen Stammen. Their driver was Norman Murray. They operated it from 1974 to 1986, when Rose Taylor bought out the Stammen shares. Robert and Rose operated it for another two years. In 1988 they sold to Gardwine. It is still in operation. It comes into Rorketon every Thursday.



Robbins Transfer

The Town Well

30 The town well, with its old pump, was in front of the theatre. For many years it served the townspeople and the surrounding area. People came with big barrels to get water. It was also a gathering place for the young. On hot summer days the children would splash in the cool water. It became a sliding place in the winter when the overflow froze. August 12, 1926, "Rorketon is blessed with a good water supply; town pump on Main St. now has a trough in front of it, all the dogs in town take a bath daily".<excerpt Dauphin Herald>

On behalf of the pioneers in the R.M. of Lawrence we would like to recognize the great service that the businesses provided to the public with their many kind and thoughtful gestures.

To the shop keepers, the customers came first. To attest to that are the old worn benches that were placed in front of each business for their customers to sit, visit, and rest.

The hitching posts were another familiar sight in the early days - two posts with a long rail in front of most every business. People came to town with their team and would tie the horses to the post. In the



Tony Pawlaski and Tony Pulak on "Old Bench"

winter they would cover the horses with a special blanket made from heavy canvas. It was a sight to see them lining the main street.

Rorketon's First School

94 In 1925, the Franham School from Micawber was moved into Rorketon. It was to be used as the first school. A one room school was opened on April 11, 1925 with grades 1-8. Miss Moar was the first teacher. The official trustee was N.S. Tate.

In 1926-27, the teacher was Mary M. Cumings. Her class list is below. Pg 82-83.

Age	Grade	Name
6	1	Audrey Forbes
7	1	Donald Hay
7	1	Mervin Irven
8	1	Gordon Bonnett
7	1	Tony Huculak
7	1	Mary Kaminski
6	1	Florence Stark
6	1	Matt Kindzerski
5	1	Norah Stark
9	1	Hilma Hill
10	1	Sylvia Hill
8	1	Maimie Hill

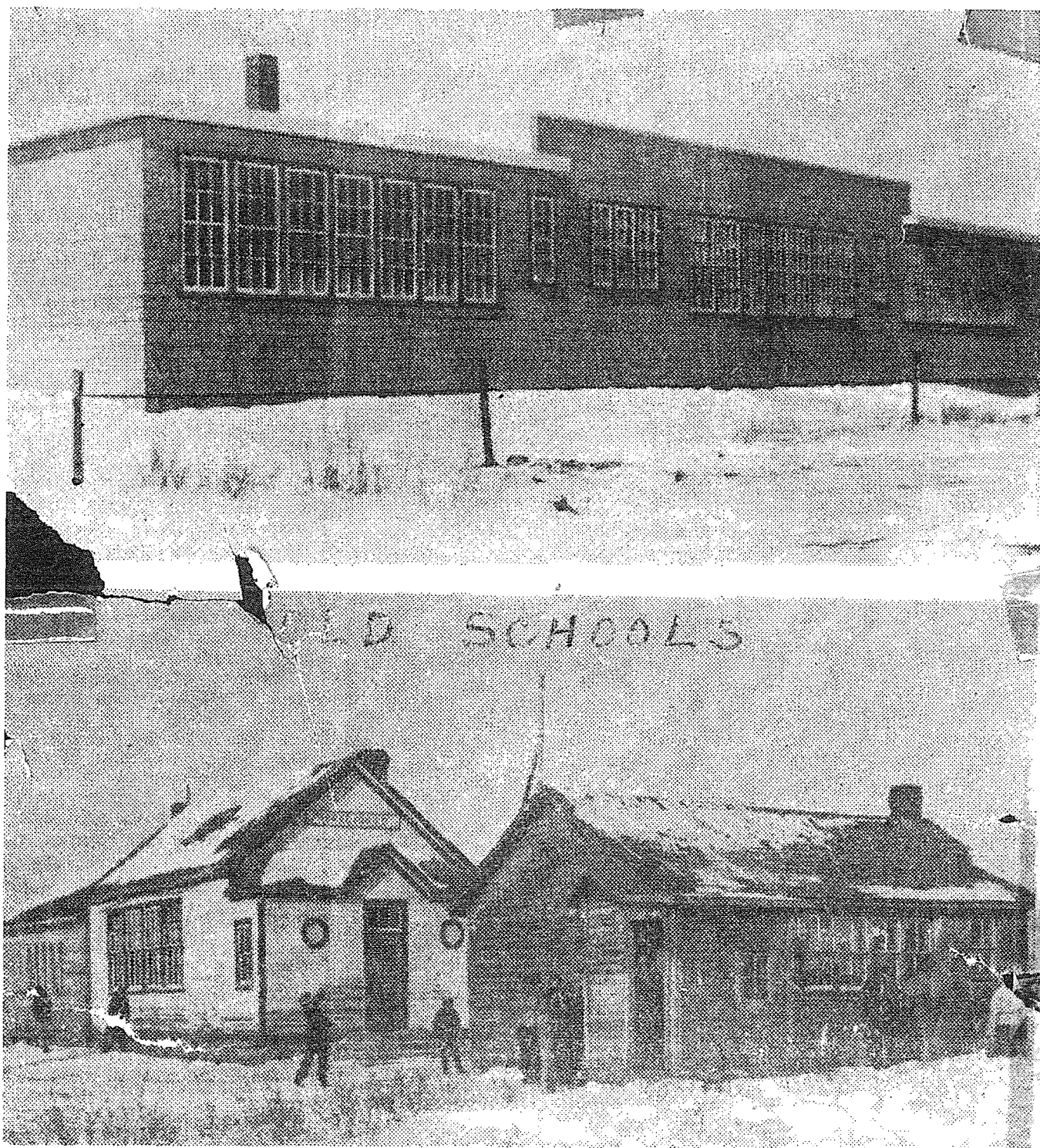
8	1	Steve Kindzerski
9	1	Mike Prociuk
10	1	Joe Kaminski
10	1	Mary Didychuk
10	1	Mary Dowhaniuk
6	1	Bernard Powloski
10	2	Dick Stark
13	2	Annie Prociuk
10	2	Jesse Stark
9	2	Vera Huculak
12	2	Mary Prociuk
8	2	Susanna Powloski
10	2	Rosie Kendzierski
10	2	Maggie Prociuk
12	2	Frank Kaminski
9	2	Melvin Forbes
10	2	Audrey Tate
8	2	Sheila Tate
7	2	Mike Pulak
9	2	John Pulak
10	2	Edgar Iriven
10	2	Sulo Aho
11	2	May Bonnett
12	3	Annie Kendzierski
10	3	Frances Powloski
11	3	Alick Didychuk
13	3	John Didychuk
11	4	Florence Hay
12	4	Levina Stark
14	4	Bill Prociuk
14	5	Walter Mazier
16	5	Kate Bonnett
13	6	Annie Huculak
12	6	Mary Pulak
14	6	Mary Powloski
15	8	Rosie Talpash
13	8	Edith Hay
15	8	Willie Hay

This was an enrollment of 50 students from grades I to VIII. The teacher was paid \$75.00 for the first term and \$180 for the second term.

The earliest "Minute Book" we could find for Rorketon was 1962. Apparently older ones have been lost to water damage.

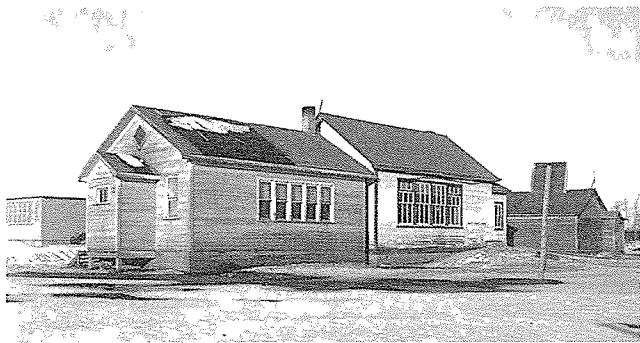
In 1962 D. Mazier was re-elected as trustee.

Helen Ackerman (the first principal-teacher) started in 1937. Being a devout teacher she rode her dog sled across three and a half miles of frozen snow each day during the winter to teach in the one room school. She was a powerful young woman who shaped the lives of many young children, one of them being Andy kivari with whom she was reunited 60 years later. She taught in Rorketon until 1946.



Adam Juce was Principal from 1944-1950. He was followed by Scottie Young who lasted until Christmas Break when he was replaced by Dagney Chonoboy (nee Christensen). 1950-1956
 1956-1960 Harry Chornoboy was Principal.
 1960-1966 Steve Gingera

1966-1967 William Nowasad
 1967-1990 Bill Bradford
 1990-1992 Stan Struthers
 1992- Present Walter Tymchuk
 Eighteen years after the original building was moved in 1943, a 24x30 building (Cecil School)



Rorketon School

was moved to Rorketon as an addition to the original school and this was to become the The Rorketon School District #2214. It now offered Grades 1-11.

The high school was affectionately referred to as the “chicken coop”. In 1947-48 the grade one and two classes were held in Bill Robbins House.

Local meetings were held in reference to a new school (1948- 1950). Delegates who went to Winniepeg were; Nick and rose Marchenski, Matt Mazier and Chales Wilson to meet with the Department of Education. They met with Mr. McDonald. When they met with Mr. McDonald, he asked how they intended to pay for a schol, Rose answered, “that’s your problem, we ned a new school. The children go outside to the bathroom in the middle of the winter when its forty below”. At the same time the deegates looked at some of the schools in Winnipeg. When they returned, a public meeting was called. Mr. Cameron, who looked after the schools in the area was also in attendance. It was decided to sell debentures and a government grant was promised. In 1950, a new school was built. Grade 12 was introduced in the fall of 1956.

After the Mitchner report of 1959, consolidation of secondary education took place. Buses wer provided fro transportation of secondary students who came from various districts surrounding Rorketon. This increased the high school enrollment very significantly and created a shortage of space.

As a temporary measure, The Greek Orthodox (Now Senior’s Drop- in Center) was converted into two classrooms. In 1963 two classrooms and a lab were added to the north end of the existing building to accomodate the increased enrollment with sufficient room for grades 1-12.

This school served Rorketon until 1967. It was in this year that the unitary school division was created which closed down the one room rural schools in the area. This swelled the enrollment to over 300 students which was too many students for the resent building. As a temporary measure, the present day



Rorketon School

Drop-In Center was converted into three classrooms and two huts were placed on the Curling Rink grounds. In 1969, the huts were relocated to the school site and connected to the school by a “breezeway”. It was in 1969 Rorketon had a record number of 308 students.

In 1970, the school underwent major renovations. With a resource center, a multipurpose room, a computer room and a large gymnasium. A large library was made out of one class room. There was also an open area which was equivalent in size to four classrooms. Staff were put into this large space without training and we had some “fun” adjusting the three other teachers and their classes on the same large space. A kindergarten room was made from one of the remodelled classrooms and Kindergarten started that year.

In 1985, the school had further renovations. The north end of the school was removed and the huts were sold. Three new classrooms including a lab were added on and a computer room and a business education room were built from some of the former class rooms. The principal’s office and a reception office was moved to the southeast entrance and this area remodeled. The staff room was enlarged and



Rorketon School

hardwood was placed on the gym floor. This is our present school which is a comfortable environment with good equipment for our 140 students, our 9 teachers, 4 special education assistants and 2 custodial staff.

Staff- Past and Present

1961

Steve Gingera, Jean Kujanpaa, Willy Ho, Ted Deley in High School

1962-1963

Grades 1 & 2- Olga Hanchar

Grades 3,4 & 5 - Elizabeth Werbiski

Grades 6,7 & 8 - Marvin Krawec

High School - Jean Kujanpaa

Bill Bradford

Principal - Steve Gingera

(In the next few years, Don Slobodian, Dan Stykalo and Bill Bunka taught in the high school area. Bill is presently a Principal in Carmen.

Unitary Division

1967 - 1968

Grade one-Olga Hanchar

Grade 2 - Maggie McKinnon

Grade 3 - John Remniak

Grade 4 - Sylvia Hrushowy

Grade 5 - Elizabeth Michalot

Grade 6 - Leo Hrushowy

Grade 7 - Richard Lytwyn

Grade 8 - Syl Didur

Grade 9 - Mary Korotash

Grade 10 - Donald Curtis

Grade 11 - Larry Smerch

Grade 12 - Jean Kujanpaa

Principal - Bill Bradford

1996 - 1997

K, 1 & 2 - Janice Sedor

3,4, Science - Wayne Inkster

5,6, French - Anita Koski

7,8, P.Ed Shawn Beatty

9, English, History - Marilyn Robinson

10, Science, Computers - Bill Bradford

11, Resource, Bus. Ed - Doreen Korotash-Shewchuk

12, Math, Biology - Elaine Shewchuk

Principal, P. Ed - Walter Tymchuk

Secretary - Betty Remniak

Special Education Assistants:

Joan Zamrykut

Debbie Murray

Sandra Huhtala - part-time Librarian

Rose Taylor

Custodians:

Barry Bonnett and Adrienne Dowhaniuk

Rorketon is a unique school because there are

very few schools that have k - 12 under one roof. In Rorketon this situation is a positive one. You often see older students playing with younger ones and helping them in some way. Academically we have "peer tutoring" on a voluntary basis and "future teaching" for student credit.

Rorketon, the smallest high school in our division titles Volleyball, Soccer, Fastball, Curling, and Badminton. In Badminton two girls (Marcie Hrushowy and Stephanie Remniak) advanced to the provincial finals in 1996 and did very well. Both boys and girls took divisional and zone titles on several occasions. In curling, several years ago our boys took the second event in the Junior Men's (Lloyd Galay) on Winnipeg. A few years ago our girl's team (Pam Bradford) placed third in the province. In track & field Edwin Hill set a record long jump, Judy Chiupka set a record for discus, Jazmen LaRocque took first in the province in Shot Putt, Discus and Hammer Throw (last two in summer games) just to mention a few of Rorketon School Sports Achievements.

In academics Rorketon has produced teachers, university professors, doctors, lawyers, mathematicians, scientists and successful ranchers and farmers and a Canadian National Team Volleyball Coach. We have won provincial and national awards in English and Mathematics. When we still had provincial examinations, one of our students scored 100% in Grade 12 Mathematics (present staff member) and another girl scored 98%. In distant education recently we had a girl score 100% in Calculus 305.

Meeting July 5/62

Marvin Krawec hired to fill vacancy for room 3 grades 6,7,8. Non-resident fees for Jenowski School sit at \$4.50 per child per month.

January 17/63

Mr. Joe Werbiski was elected as trustee for three years and Mr. John Biletski for one year.

March 15/62

There was discussion to add to the school an equivalent of four classrooms completing two rooms as classrooms and using the other two rooms as gym space.

September 17/63

It was agreed by all three trustees that the teacherage rent be increased to \$50 per month.

November 6/63

Moved that the rented for the teacherage as passed at the last meeting be repeated and a rental fee of \$45.00 per month be effective.

December 18/64

Teacherage rent increased to \$55.00 per month.

February 21/67

John Biletski was sworn in as trustee for a two-year period.

Curriculum in 1940-41

List of subjects for Grade IX:

History - Prehistoric, Greece, Rome, Christianity, Crusades, Hundred Year War, Renaissance, Reformations, Age of Despots, French Revolution, Industrial Revolution.

Science - How Earth was formed.

Hygiene - Plan of the Human Body.

Literature - Chambered Noutilies, Twelfth Night, Poetry.

Composition - Essay writing.

Grammar - Detailed sentence analysis.

A portion of the speech by Steve Gingera at the High School Reunion August 3, 1996.

"Lets look back at the school for a moment. The building has changed dramatically, a beautiful gym, a good resource centre, a computer room, a good lab and even a staff room, unlike the storage room we used during part of our time. The principal or classroom teacher no longer has to rush down the hall, only to find that the phone stops ringing by the time they can get there, but that is now handled by a full-time secretary in a very well laid out office. There is now administrative time provided - I had one period in a six day cycle. Now we even have teacher assistants."

"Although we were challenged by the many physical short comings, we were able to persevere because of our determination and commitment."

The Orange Hall

31 Turning from Main St on 1st Ave S. E. one could find the Orange Hall. It was built by the local Orangemen in 1921. "The new hall was opened on November 18th with a dance. A large crowd assembled. Those who remained for the all-night dance say that it was a most enjoyable time. About \$100.00 was taken in donations towards paying the debt of the Hall. The hall, we understand, is to be used for all public gatherings" <excerpt Dauphin Herald>. The Presbyterians held their services in the Orange hall on Sunday. There was no charge for the use of the hall. There were many social events held in this building from dances to movies and concerts. March 23, 1922, a hard times dance was held in the hall. As overalls were to be worn everyone was would be able to attend, providing they went across a half dollar in the old overalls pocket. Everybody went and were sure to leave their red tie off or they

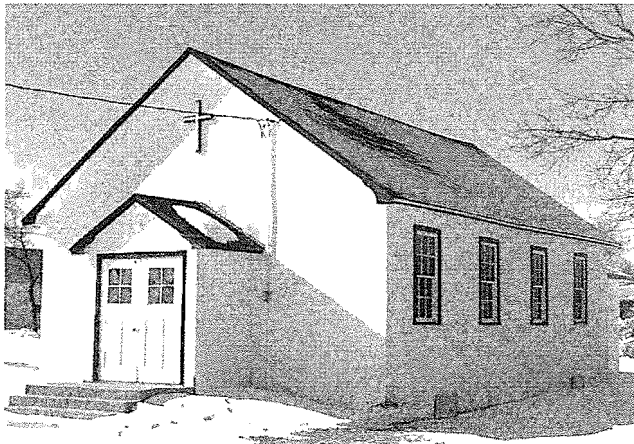


Flora Hill in front of Orange Hall

would have been fined at least \$50.00. Ned Bonnett, Bert Armison, Billy Laplant, Coutts, and Steve Mazier were some of the musicians that supplied the music for the dances. Their pay was whatever money was dropped in the hat, sometimes \$1.00, \$1.50 or \$2.00. It was money they otherwise would not have had. To everyone's chagrin the hall was struck by lightning in the mid- thirties and burned down, taking with it a livery barn situated behind Rehaluk's store.

Rorketon United Church

50 The land was donated by Mrs. Rorke for a United Church. In 1947 a building, just a shell, was moved from the air training base in Dauphin. The building was transformed into a church by volunteer labour and generous donations. C.L. Barbour was the first student minister in the area. In the early 1900's some of this area now served by the Rorketon Church, had student ministers sent out for the summer months by Anglican and Presbyterian churches and later by the United Church. Before the student left in the fall, an ordained minister from Makinak or Ochre River came to hold a communion and baptism service. During the rest of the year services were conducted by lay ministers. Today still proudly stands the small white church.



Rorketon United Church

In the mid-thirties, Mrs. Williamson and Mrs. Ingram, who taught Sunday School, for the Anglican church, for 2 or 3 weeks each summer. They came in a gray van and they parked it behind George Laycock's house and from there they taught the children. After the sessions were over they continued sending lessons to those who requested through the year.

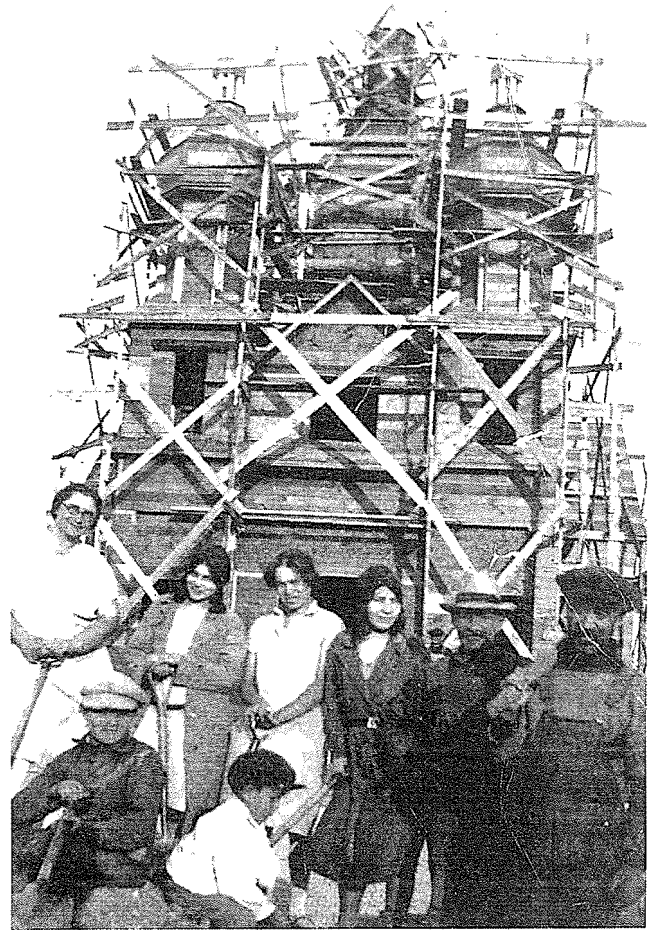
Ukrainian Greek Orthodox Church

40 The beautiful Orthodox church next to the hall was built in 1934 by Tony Biletski - that was his first building. The lumber was squared with an axe as there was no such thing as a sawmill. It has served for many marriages, baptisms, and funerals.

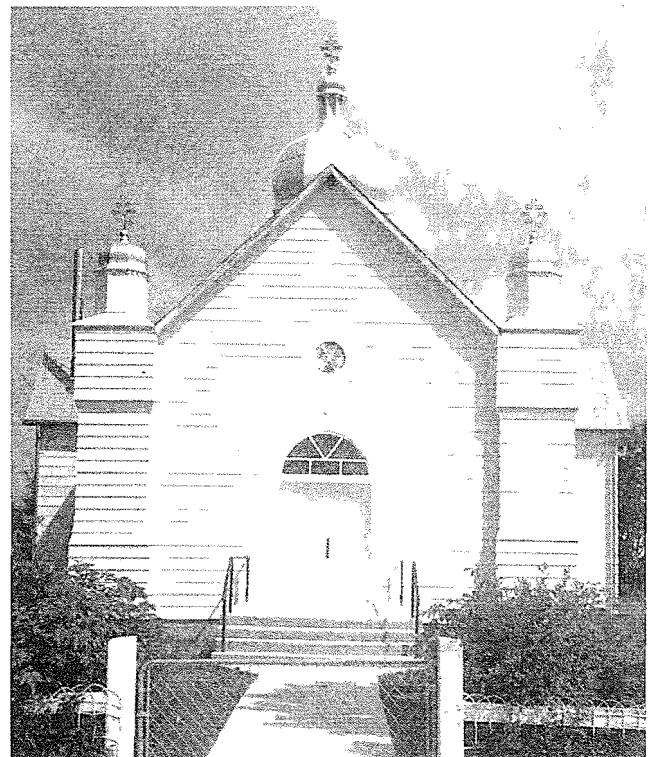
The Parish was formed in 1928 when Tom Biletski met with Rev. Father Iwan Mayba who was serving the Dauphin Parish at the time. Mr. Biletski invited Father Mayba to Moose Bay to conduct a Divine Liturgy in a private home and it continued that way until the church was built.

A general meeting was called where Father Mayba, Tom Biletski, Petro Pich, Ben Talpash, Nick Huculak, John Dutchak, Nick Pawluk and Alex Iwanchysko laid the plans out for organizing the Parish. The first Parish Executive were Nick Huculak, John Karpluk, Ben Talpash, Peter Huculak, and Alex Iwanchysko. They organized a Box Social on Jan. 27, 1934 and started fund raising for their church. The Sisterhood brought 18 boxes and they raised anywhere from 75 cents to \$3.30 each for a total of \$30.00. Their dances raised around \$10.50 and their musicians cost \$2.25. The members donated a lot of material and time as well as money.

The first shovel of dirt was dug in the spring by Rev. Father Zaparycuk. Tony Biletski was a building contractor and directed the building of the church. All labour was done by volunteers. By the



Building Ukrainian Orthodox Church



Ukrainian Greek Orthodox Church..St. Mary the Proctress

fall of 1934 the exterior of the church was completed. On the holiday of St. Mary The Protectress the first church service was held and thus the members chose this as the name for their church.

Soon after, the inside of the building was finished. Tony Biletski took upon himself the responsibility of constructing the conastas and altar table as well as the church pews and all the cabinets and cupboards. He did a beautiful job. By 1938 the church was completely finished and the normal work of the church progressed. Stella Biletski was the lead singer in the choir and did the cantor's job as well. She was always highly praised for her beautiful voice. Executives through the years were: Presidents — Tony Biletski, Nick Huculak, Bill Perepeluk, Bill Mudrey, John Karpluk, Roman Solomon, Peter Solomon, Dan Iwanchysko and Nicholas Biletski. Secretary — Peter Huculak, Peter Kindzierski, Peter Karlash, Bill Perepeluk, Mike Biletski, Stella Biletski and Lorie Iwanchysko. Treasurer — Mrs. Nick Huculak, Mrs. Mike Biletski, Morris Pretula, Dan Iwanchysko, Sonja Shakwitch and Norma Kindzierski. Elders were: Nick Huculak, Tony Biletski, Roman Solomon, Nicholas Biletski.

In the beginning the priests came by train on Friday night, stayed over Saturday and on Sunday conducted the Divine Liturgy and all other services required by the parishioners. Then on Tuesday morning they took the train back to Dauphin. They stayed and ate at the homes of Tony and Stella Biletski and Alex and Anne Iwanchysko. There was no regular Sunday School, but from time to time one of the priests' wives would come and have classes during summer vacation and the children would go to Dauphin and join in the concerts directed by Helen Henderson.

The church was rented to other religions for funerals and weddings until they were able to build their own.

In 1978 the inside of the church was remodelled. The main carpenters were Mike Kindzierski, Nick Skakiwitch, Peter Solomon, Nicholas Biletski and other volunteer members.

The main fundraisers were carolling and tea and bake sales.

In 1988 the Ukrainian Greek Orthodox Church worldwide celebrated their Millennium - 1000 years of Christianity.

The Reverend Fathers serving the parish were many. To the best of our knowledge they were Reverend Fathers: Iwan Mayba, Zaparyniuk, Stratuchuk, Hrytsena, Hrebeniuk, Novitski, Haik, Taras Slawchenko, Lescheshen, M. Olesiuk, E.

Stefaniuk, Aponiuk, Mykola Derewianka, O. Hudyma, Mykala Kryroonas, R. Szewczyk, Druel, Samseen, M. Pozniak and Taras Makowsky (at present). At first there was only one service a year, but gradually it went up to eight a year. Mostly the Dauphin parish priest served us, but from 1973-1988 we were served by Swan River.

Our Parish at present is very small, but is still maintaining the usual eight services a year and hopes to continue for many years to come.

Greek Orthodox Hall

39 The Orthodox hall was built in 1938. It was the only hall in Rorketon after the Orange Hall burned. In 1959 it was taken over by the seniors as a drop-in-centre and is still operating. The Ukrainian Greek Orthodox Church parishioners decided they needed a hall. Their first meeting, called by Peter Kindzierski, was held in Nick Huculak's General Store on October 25, 1938. Members present were Peter Kindzierski, Nick Huculak, Tony Biletski, Joe Talpash, Bill Prociuk, John Karpluk, Martin Biletski, Walter Tuer, Ben Talpash, Mike Biletski and Peter Huculak.

They all agreed to go ahead and that same evening they collected \$69.00. They immediately made arrangements that Tony Biletski was to be head carpenter and twenty-two other members were to help, with no pay.

The first ones to cut down trees were John Karpluk, Martin Biletski, Mike Biletski, Bill Boyechko, and Peter Kindzierski and Nick and Peter Huculak went to Winnipegosis to buy lumber, cement, shingles, doors and windows.

The building was to be 60 ft x 26 ft. It was not finished until 1946 and by then had cost over \$5000.

On Dec. 22, 1946 a meeting was called and President Bill Perepeluk gave a full report on what work was done. Walter Tuer gave a full report on the finances and Peter Kindzierski reported there was a debt of \$510.03 for the finishing of the inside of the hall. In 1947 a new committee was elected: president was Joe Talpash, vice president was Tony Biletski, Secretary Stella Biletski and Treasurer was Walter Tuer. Walter remained Treasurer until 1957 when he was elected as President and Anne Iwanchysko took over the treasurer's job. After that other committee members kept inter changing every year until 1975 when a committee was no longer needed.

"SPRING 1952 FLAMES DESTROY HALL: Rorketon has experienced its third major fire in less than two months. The Ukrainian hall was on fire last week. The fire brigade managed to bring the fire

under control in about an hour. Estimated damage is about \$ 2000. It was covered by insurance. It is not known whether the hall committee will repair or rebuild the structure.”<Excerpt Dauphin Herald>

In 1947 the family of Bill Perepeluk moved out and a new family moved in. There were new members for both the hall and church and boys available for the caretaking of the Hall.

The Rent rate set for the hall was \$3.00 and music for a social dance was \$4.00 and later went to \$6.00 and then to \$8.00.

From 1945 - 1948 Mr. Dmetro Budzey brought in films to show at the hall and paid \$10.00 rent out of which caretaking and heat had to be paid.

From 1961 - 1963 the Duck Mountain School Division rented the hall for two classrooms and again from 1967 - 1969.

In 1975 a special agreement was made between the hall and the Senior Citizens Club. The Seniors now have a right to run it as they see fit and the hall members have a right to use it when they need it.

At present this is how it is run and is now called The Rorketon Drop In Centre.



Rorketon Senior Drop-In Centre

St. Anthony of Padua Roman Catholic Church

55 In the 1920 the pioneers needed a place to worship. They got together and built a church on the corner of the Johnston farm approximately three miles from where Rorketon now stands.

It was a small church, approximately twenty feet by thirty feet. It was a hand-hewn log structure with a peaked shingle roof, adorned with a small cross. The cracks between the logs were plastered with clay. The windows were of single pane. The floor was made of rough lumber. There were a few benches without back support. The confessional was at one end under the choir loft. The women sat on the left side and the men on the right. There was a space heater, also know as a “box stove”. Because



St. Anthony's Roman Catholic Church

the heat was not evenly distributed, the parishioners near it were nice and warm and the ones who were farther away were chilled to the bone. People often changed places. It was the families that supplied the firewood. The closest parishioner to the church would start the fire early Sunday morning. The altar was against the north-east wall, with a communion rail in front.

At first there was mass only twice a year. Then in approximately 1938 a resident priest came from Winnipegosis. He came once a month, often getting stuck in the mud during the summer months, which made him late for mass. When the roads were impassable in the winter, he travelled by train, arriving on Friday at 8:00 PM and returning Tuesday at 5:45 AM.

Rorketon was growing rapidly, and in 1942 it was decided it would be more convenient to build a new church in the town. The new church was constructed by the volunteer help of the parishioners.

When we drove through Rorketon the first building on the left was the little white church standing on its own. It served many families for so many years as a place of worship. But like everything else it gave way to a newer building. In 1971 the Magnet church was moved into Rorketon by Nick Britski to the same site as the old one. The old one was taken to Bill Tuer's ranch in memory of their young son. When one drives by, one can still see the steeple of the little old church through the trees. It seems abandoned, and one wonders if anyone ever goes inside, just for old time sake.

Ukrainian Catholic Church

101 December 28, 1947, is an account of an organizational meeting at which it was resolved to build a church in the town of Rorketon, thereby

forming a new parish. The previously organized parish of the Rorketon district at Horyn was to be left to serve those faithful residing in its vicinity. At this meeting a church/community committee was struck consisting of Ivan Pulak, Nick Marchenshi, Harry Denyschuk, Dan Rehaluk, Philip Rehaluk, Ivan Karlash and Michael Antonyshyn, and a \$3.00 membership fee was initiated. Fedor Pulak purchased land from the municipality and donated it to the church. The official name of the church became "the Ukrainian Catholic Church of the Holy Apostles Saints Peter and Paul. The first of the subsequently organized fund-raising projects included Christmas carolling in Rorketon and surrounding areas and the parish picnics under the leadership of Mary Rehaluk. There was a construction committee formed. Master builders of the church were Alex Didychuk, Alex Solomon, two brothers Ploschak, and Ivan Karlash with a lot of volunteer help, too numerous to mention. In 1949, construction of the church was completed. The parish thrive under the pastorates of Rev. Ivan Lehky 1948-1951, Rev. Andrew Zajac 1951-1957, Rev. John Sholdak 1957-1965, Rev. Volodymyr Luchkiw 1965-1967, Rev. Andrew Zajac (again, this time from the seat of the pastoral district in Winnipegosis) 1967-1984, Rev. James G. Scharinger 1984 to 1992, Rev. George Malik 1992 to July 1994 and Ted Rosnowski July 1994 to July 1996. From its inception the parish has been visited every five years by Metropolitan Maxim Hermaniuk who at first came as Assistant Bishop then, after 1956, as Archbishop and on Sept. 4, 1966 - as Metropolitan Bishop Myron Daciuk visited the parish on July 15, 1984.

The wooden rectangular church has two frontal towers apexed by decorative domes and a frontal summit centrally crowned with a cross.

Entry to the church is directly through the main doors into an area with a flat ceiling over which extends a choir loft supported by two vertical columns, which is accessed by stairs located on the immediate right of the main entrance. Tucked into the space under the stairs is a small storage room. The sanctuary, located in the lower north section of the church, has an angularly vaulted ceiling and back wall. Upon the central panel of the wall behind the main altar hangs a painted church patron icon of the Holy Apostles Saints Peter and Paul (unsigned). Located bilaterally to this icon are two rectangular stained-glass windows and doors to the sacristies which exit to the church grounds. In addition to the aforementioned patron icon are also large painted representations of the Mother of God and Jesus Christ above the two side votive altars (both donat-



St. Peter & Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church

ed by Phillip Rehaluk) and small glass-mounted oil prints of the Stations of the Cross. The church is also generously adorned by many banners, crosses and one processional painting. The nave and choir loft are dominated by a vaulted ceiling. The interior is painted a neutral colour; a decorative brown border delineates the junction of the ceiling and walls. The wooden floor is covered with red carpeting up the central aisle and in the sanctuary. The building is illuminated by a large electric chandelier and heated electrically. Twenty symmetrically arranged wooden pews provide seating for approximately 120 faithful. The church measures 60 x 32 feet.

Near the church stands a cross as well as a parish hall constructed in 1959. The parish cemetery lies two miles east of the church.

The Ukrainian Catholic parish in Rorketon is one of a group of parishes which was formed later than most others. Even the post office of the area, established in 1921, is considered a late-comer. A Church Executive, Church Brotherhood, and Sisterhood have served the parish faithfully since its inception. One of the Sisterhood's contributions has been the organization of an annual summer Catechism course which is presently offered by correspondence and has a current enrollment of 13 students. For several years, Maria Rehaluk has assumed responsibility for singing and oral liturgical responses during Divine Liturgies.

At its inception the parish registered 48 faithful; currently, 50 member families, totalling 99 individuals, 8 of whom were born in Ukraine, belong to the parish. In 1988 the parish was under the directorship of Rev. James Scharinger, pastor, Michael Smigelski, Mykola Tkachyk, Donald Sedor, Leo Hrushowy, Michael Tkach, Peter Chiupka and Steve Ploschak.

The Ukrainian Catholic parish of the Holy

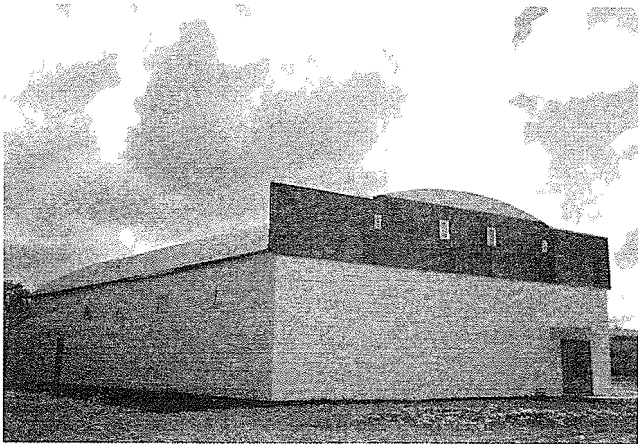
Apostles Saints Peter and Paul, Rorketon, is under the pastoral charge of Winnipegosis. <excerpt from Ukrainian Catholic Churches of Winnipeg Archeparchy>

Priest's Residence

102 Next to the church was a two storey house which was bought from Alex Didychuk and moved onto the church property to be used for the priest's residence. In 1981 Barry Inkster bought the house and Nick Britski moved it to his farm.

Ukrainian Catholic Hall

100 The Hall was built in 1957. As this was Father Sholdak's first parish he was insistent that a hall be built. The parishoners got together, with Alex Didychuk as the main carpenter and also with a lot of volunteer help, the Parish Hall was built. Many a good time was had in the hall. It accomadated as many as 500 people at one time for a wedding. It is the only hall in Rorketon at the present time.



Rorketon Ukrainian Parish Hall

Legion Hall

73 The Legion Hall was moved from Freedale in 1954. It was Matt and Margaret Mazier's first home. It may have looked small but they had thirty people in for Christmas one year.

The Legion in Rorketon started in the 20,s by a grand ole gentleman by the name of Boxall who lived in Methley and used to take the train to Rorketon for the meetings. He would stay overnight. There was another gentleman by the name of Barnet from Magnet who used to come to Rorketon Friday night and after the Legion meeting would have a few in the pub then play his bagpipes up and down Main Street.

Places Of Interest

Talpash Building

83 Talpash had a small building which he rented for a short time to different people. Later it was destroyed by fire. The lot remains vacant.

U.G.G. House

54 Next to the Northern Motors garage was a small house belonging to the United Grain Growers. It was available for rent to the Rorketon elevator agent. In 1982 Jim Alarie bought the house and moved it to the farm.

Wilson Shack

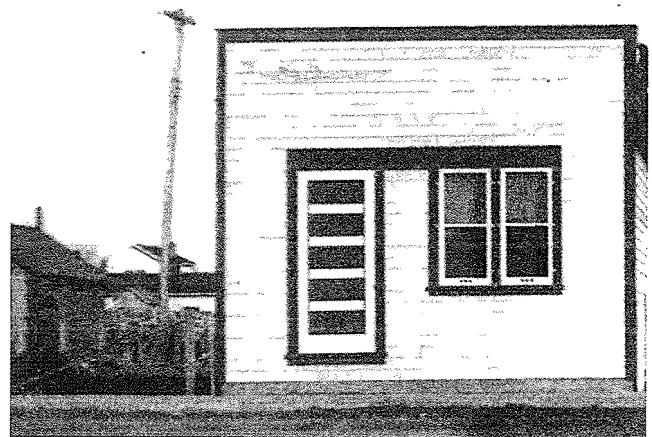
20 Ernie Wilson lived next to the livery barn, in a small building. He was on call twenty-four hours a day should an emergency arise.

Mr. Szport's Windsor Hotel

6 Mr. Szport was the colorful character of Rorketon. In the 1940's he decided he would have the largest hotel in town and set out to build a two storey structure on the south side of the tracks. His venture led him in search of nails which were scarce at the time. He affectionately referred to it as "My Windsor". In town it was commonly known as the "Windsor Hotel". In 1957 when George Claeys bought the building it had six bedrooms upstairs, complete with beds. The downstairs was an open area. He moved it to his farm, and renovated it into their home.

Dan Rehaluk's Little House

23 Dan Rehaluk's little house, next to the Red and White store was built in 1944. Dan and his fam-



Dan Rehaluk's House

ily lived in that house 'till they moved to their new home on New Year's Day, 1962. The building was turned into a warehouse until Mrs. Lula bought the place and made it into her home. In 1996 the building was moved.

A Temporary Home

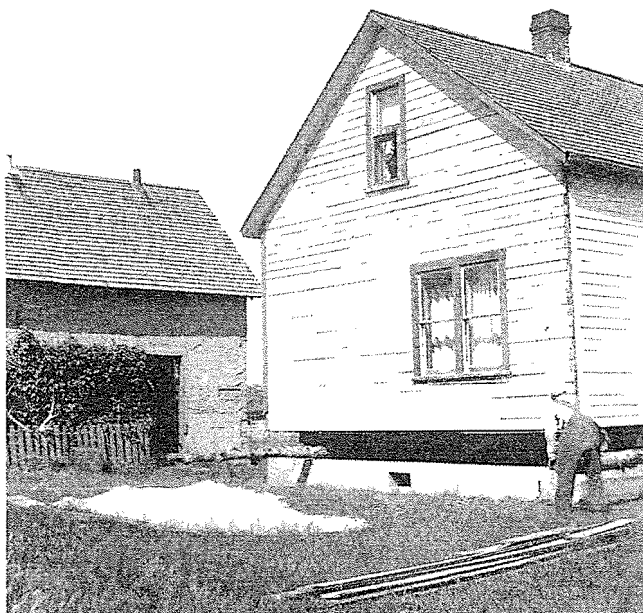
93 Next to the old municipal garage was a small white house which belonged to Nick Marchenski. It was a temporary home for many families. Nick moved it to the shore of Lake Manitoba for a cottage.

Joe Storozinski's House

85 After the fire in 1936 Joe and his family had no place to live. Joe then decided to move a granary and convert it into their home. A few years later he built a lean-to for a kitchen. There was a little bedroom up stairs for the children. They lived in that house until 1960. They then built a new home, which is still occasionally occupied by the family whenever they come back to Rorketon.

Tate's House

34 The municipality had a house built for Mr. N.S. Tate, a government engineer. Moved by Councillor Wilson, seconded by Robinson: that the Council finance the construction of and the material for a house for the Municipal Engineer, N.S. Tate, under the Department of Public Works, and allow the amount of \$75.00 per month for board to N.S.

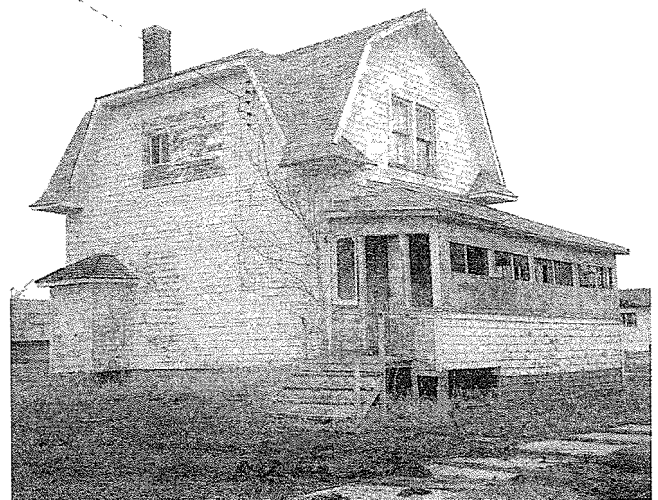


Tate's House

Tate for himself and R.S. Bowman, the Council agreeing to accept from N.S. Tate the sum of \$85.00 per month as payment on the house until the sum invested is paid for with interest and with the understanding that the house will be insured by N.S. Tate in favor of the Municipality until the house is fully paid up, at which time a clear title will be handed to N.S. Tate. Carried. In 1936 Nick Werbiski bought the house and with a team of horses moved it. <It is the same building with an addition for the beer parlor and remains in the same location today>.

Pete Adams' House

34 In 1944 Pete Adams moved the big white house from Toutes Aides to Rorketon. In 1945 they moved into the house and lived in it until 1949. He then sold it to Mrs Sologuk. She lived in that house until she moved to the low rental residence. The house became a land mark. It was a disappointment for many of us when this beautiful old house was demolished in 1995 for its lumber.



The original Adam's House

Air Strip

99 Rorketon's one and only air strip became a reality all because of Willy Robbins who owned a small plane and needed an air strip, to land and store his plane. In 1958 Bill built a short south runway on his property. In 1962 a larger runway was added and in 1963 it became a registered landing strip. In June, 1982, it was on this strip that an aircraft landed, conveying the Hon Howard Pawley, Premier of Manitoba, to a Rorketon graduation.

It was on this same stretch of ground that the pilot of a No. 10 F.S.D.S. plane touched down years before. He discovered that his plane was low on fuel and in an attempt to identify his location he swooped down to read the name of the school, and

finally landed in the area behind the location of the present day Ukrainian Catholic Church. What a sight to behold and excitement for the local townspeople when this flying machine swooped down out of the sky. Coincidentally this is where Willy Robbins built his air strip years later.

Airport

99 The Airport that was to be. A salesman for General Foods, Mr. Harbottle, generated a lot of excitement and hope in the little town of Rorketon. He had visions of building an airport. Meetings were held and the community wined and dined him. After a while everyone realized that it was just a dream.

Local Veterinarian

In the 1940's, Mr. Azarie Paradis, who lived on Iwanchysko's place was a cattle buyer. He also acted as the local veterinarian for the surrounding area.

Alex Didychuk

100 Everyone remembers Alex as one of the best finishing carpenters in the area. There are many buildings around to affirm his exceptional workmanship. To name but few are the Rorketon School, the beautiful Ukrainian Catholic Church, and the Ukrainian Catholic Hall. Although Alex is gone,

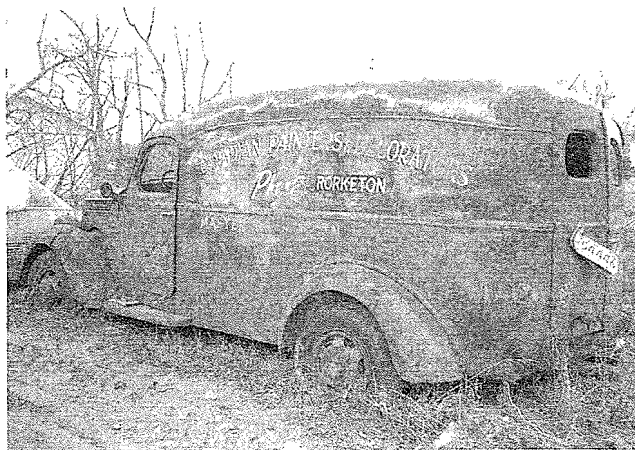
through his work he will always be a part of the community.

His old panel truck, licence number 154446, was a common sight in the area. Donny Smerch saw the beauty in the old International panel, bought it and hauled it to British Columbia on a flat bed.

Murray's Septic


Norman Murray purchased the business from Nick Biletski in 1988. Since then he has provided to the community, and surrounding area, a vital service.

During the summer he contracts various carpentry projects. Norman is a conscientious business man who strives to please his customers.



Our Interior Decorators

Due Dec 4th 1921

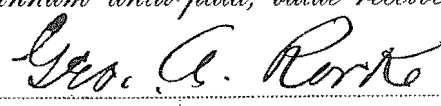
No.  Freedale, Man. May 4th 1921

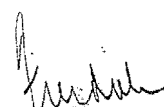
On December 1st 1921 months after date I promise to pay

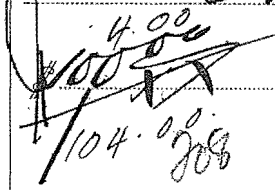
to the order of Lawrence Rural Credit Society at its office, Freedale, Manitoba

One Hundred 100 Dollars

with interest at 7% per annum until paid, value received,

 03563





CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

WESTERN REGION

LAND AND TOWNSITE DEPARTMENT

GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC DEVELOPMENT CO., LTD.
 THE CANADIAN NORTHERN RAILWAY CO.
 CANADIAN NATIONAL REALTIES LTD.

E. A. FIELD,
 LAND COMMISSIONER

G. G. BAIRD,
 MANAGER

WINNIPEG, May 20, 1926.
 CANADA

IN REPLY REFER TO FILE Rorketon - Susp.

ALL PRICES AND TERMS QUOTED ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE, AND THE LAND ALSO SUBJECT TO PRIOR SALE.

Mr. G. A. Rorke,
 Rorketon, Man.

Dear Sir:

Re: Fr. NW $\frac{1}{4}$ 12-28-16 W. 1 - Rorketon.

I am enclosing herewith Interim Receipt No. 1768 for \$41.00 and beg to acknowledge receipt of your application to purchase parcel of unsubdivided land having dimensions of 30 X 130 feet lying at the intersection of First Avenue and Main Street in the townsite of Rorketon at a price of \$125.00, terms one-third cash balance in Twelve and Eighteen Months, interest 8%.

Just as soon as we are furnished with a suitable description of the land from our Surveys Department I will be pleased to issue contract in your favor and mail you for signature.

Yours truly,

ABM/MB.
 Encl.

G. G. Baird
 Asst. Land Commissioner.



DAUPHIN, December 31st, 1939.

G. A. Rorke, Esq.,
Rorketon, Man.

Dear Sir:

I am returning herewith delivery copy of Mortgage No. 12264 together with discharge of same which arrived this morning.

The discharge has not been properly completed. The full description of Florence L. Bogen and yourself should be given as in the Mortgage and the wrong number has been given in the discharge of the Mortgage, the mortgage number being 12264.

Yours truly,

H. N. Macmillan,
DISTRICT REGISTRAR

F/S

Bowman, Macmillan & Ramsden

BARRISTERS, SOLICITORS, ETC.

JAMES L. BOWMAN
JOHN H. MACMILLAN
JOHN RAMSDEN

Dauphin, Man.
CANADA

December 28th, 1934.

G. A. Rorke, Esq.,
RORKETON, Manitoba.

Dear Sir:-

Re. Pt. S. W. 13-28-16.

After considerable difficulty we have at last succeeded in having title issued in your name to the above land. Enclosed herewith find Certificate of Title 25384 standing in your name clear of all encumbrances saving, of course, whatever taxes may be outstanding, which we believe however are only the 1934 taxes.

Cecil School District

Back in 1915, the population of the Cecil district, No. 1795, had expanded enough to require a school. School trustees were chosen, Mr. H. Arnason, Mr. C. Keetch, and Mr. C. Wilson. Secretary-treasurer was Isaac Radcliffe. Mr. Dave Payne was the Commissioner.

After their application was granted, construction of the school was begun. The school was completed and it opened in 1916.

In order to choose a name, suggestions were submitted by residents, and the winning name was drawn from a hat.

Ned Bonnett tells us that Cecil Forbes was courting Jenny Arnason at the time. She was suspected of being the one who submitted the name of Cecil. That was the name drawn out.

There were ten children, from the Keetch, Radcliffe, Arnason, Bonnett and Rappana families. The first teacher was Jessie Williams.

There was an influx of settlers to the territory, many of them of Finnish extraction, who emigrated

Land Titles Office - District of Dauphin

Certificate of Charge

Mortgage No. 12264

Certificate of Title No. 19949
9838

This is to Certify that a mortgage, made by *George Alfred Rorke*

who was at the time of the registration of the said Mortgage the registered owner of the land thereby mortgaged, for the sum of

Twelve hundred and sixty Dollars

in favor of *Florence L. Bogen*

affecting all the land described in said Mortgage No. 12264

was duly registered in the Land Titles Office at Dauphin, on the *March* day of *March*, A.D. 1933, at *11* o'clock in the *AM*

AND THAT NO REGISTERED MORTGAGES OR ENCUMBRANCES affecting the said lands are entitled to priority over the said MORTGAGE, except the following:

None

Dated at the Land Titles Office at Dauphin, this *March* day of *March*, A.D. 1933

H. N. Macmillan
District Registrar

from North Dakota which was then experiencing a severe drought. Soon there was a family living on every quarter section of land.

The boundaries of the district were altered in 1929 to allow for the formation of the school district of Rorketon.

By 1936, the Municipal School District of Lawrence had expanded to fifteen schools. Large families were the rule, rather than the exception. Some of the rural schools had forty students in one room.

Cecil School reached its peak enrollment in 1924 and 1925, when there were thirty-eight pupils.

During these glory years, Cecil School became famous throughout the region for earning athletic awards. We had notable athletes, especially from the Finnish community. We won the top trophy for so many consecutive years that they gave it to us to keep.

Miss Phyllis Mann was our teacher through several of these years. Miss Mann, who eventually became Mrs. Phyllis Turner, passed away in 1994 in Vancouver.

The "hungry thirties" proved disastrous to the

community. There was not much arable land. Vast meadows and more than adequate water made good cattle country, but the price of beef was abysmal. Often the selling price of the cattle was not sufficient to pay the freight rate. Some farmers were billed for the freight charges, still owing after their livestock was sold.

Many families simply packed up and left. Abandoned houses were common. Some still had furniture in them. Desperate people left with only their suitcases and meagre clothing.

By 1933, the school had dwindled to eighteen students. We no longer had a school board. The schools of Lawrence Municipality now had one official trustee to administer services.

The school inspector visited us once or twice a year. These hardy souls drove as far as they could and sometimes arrived on foot, with shoes and socks tied over their shoulders, using aspen boughs to vigorously fight off the voracious mosquitoes.

Because we were so isolated and rarely got out in crowds, the only epidemic I know of was an outbreak of red measles which occurred in about 1931 or 1932. It was first diagnosed as scarlet fever and affected families were quarantined.

By 1943 and 1944, the school had dwindled to eight pupils. Wartime had caused a shortage of teachers, so the decision was made to transport the school and pupils to Rorketon.

On July 17 and 18, 1987, a reunion of the Cecil School was held in Rorketon. Forty-one former pupils and seven former teachers attended. Many of those who attended, have since died. It was a wonderful nostalgic event.

Finn Hall

submitted by Sylvia Komula and Ben Kujanpaa

The Finn Hall was built, in 1925, on Frank Johnson's homestead NW 25-28-16. There were about 30 Finnish families living in the community at the time and the hall was built entirely by volunteers. The building was started on a Wednesday and the first dance was held on Saturday of the same week. The original building was 28 feet by 40 feet. The addition with the stage was built later.

The building was moved some years later to a more central location on two acres of land in the NE 23-28-16W.

The hall was used for dances, plays, Christmas concerts, meetings and picnics. Picnics were usually held sometime around June 24th, which is a big Finnish holiday. The last dance was held in 1967 (Centennial). Music was provided by Elie Saari and Company.

A couple of years later, after standing unused for some time, the hall was tendered and sold to the highest bidder. Proceeds went towards a booth built on Rorketon Centennial picnic grounds, a plaque donated by the Finnish Community Club of Rorketon, and a silver communion plate donated to the Rorketon United Church.

A Community House

From 1916 to 1926 the land NE 22-28-16 belonged to Mr. Robert Lyon. On it he built a wood framed house for his new bride.

The story goes she would not stay on the homestead, so the home and land were abandoned. The community turned the home into a home for the new comers who had no place to stay. They were welcome to stay until they found a place of their own.

After some time, this place was no longer needed, so it was abandoned and left to deteriorate. This house only has the foundation as a reminder of its past.

Family Histories

Edward and Olga Aho

Parents: Housula, Edward and Beata (Maasa) Levinsky, Myketa and Dora (Mischura)

Edward and Olga were married on October 23, 1948 at Rorketon United Church, and settled on the farm three miles north of town on the Finn Hall Road.

Ed's parents had emigrated from Finland in the



Aho Children '64, Linda, Eddie, Debbie, Sandra, Audrey, & Virginia

early 1900's, first to Winnipeg and then to the Finnish community around Rorketon. Ed was the youngest of four children; his sisters were Hilda, Vera, and Laina. Olga's parents came from the Ukraine, first to Winnipeg and then to the Cecil School District, northwest of Rorketon during the Great Depression. Olga had four sisters and five brothers including Steve and Peter Levinsky who resided in the Rorketon area until the 1960's. During the 1940's, Olga was a permit teacher at Edillen and Oak Brae Schools, boarding at the Alex Helash and John Matwzeian homes.

In his early years, Ed was both a farmer and commercial fisherman on Lake Manitoba. From 1962 until 1975, he also drove a bus for the Duck Mountain School Division. His routes took him through the districts of Weiden, Horyn, Meadow Portage, Toutes Aides, Magnet and Million. When Ed passed away in 1975, the family farm was sold to Gary Huhtala. In 1976, Olga moved to Winnipegosis with her two youngest daughters, and has since retired there.

Olga and Ed raised six children: Linda, Audrey (Audrhea), Debbie, Eddie (Jim), Virginia, and Sandra.

Linda married former Rorketon teacher, Larry Smerch, in 1968. They both teach school in Cranberry Portage where they live with their two grown-up sons, Ryan and Rick.

Audrhea's favorite childhood memory of Rorketon is the Lakson Theatre.

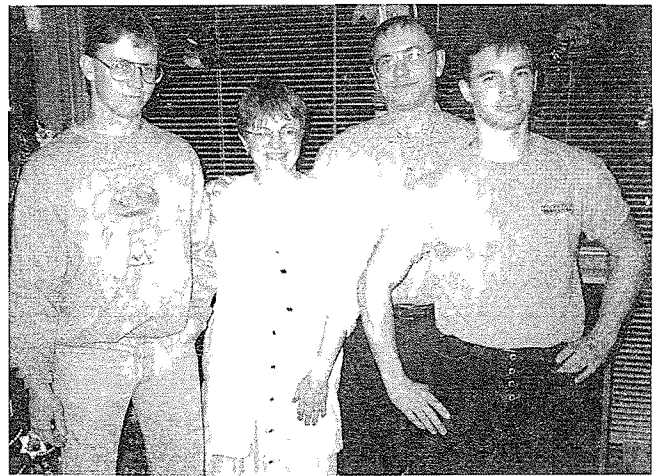
Debbie lives near Brandon with her husband Orval Hudson, formerly of the East Bay District. They have three sons: Shawn, Trevor, and Tyler, who are currently going to school/college and are working in the Brandon area.

Jim married Marlene Hotchen in Regina in 1978. They have two children, Daniel and Amanda.

Virginia and her partner Loren Gudbjartsson (from Riverton) live in Vancouver. She remembers fondly the neighborhood ritual of the communal sauna on the farm. "Living, as we did, on the Finn Hall Road had its advantages, the best of which was the Finnish tradition of the community sauna, or steam bath.

Every Finnish family's farmyard on that road boasted a little log building similar to ours, blackened inside from years of hot, smoky fires and steam. There was a fire pit surrounded by granite rocks for heat, and a few handmade wooden benches and tables along the walls. It had a small front entry room for changing, with pegs on the wall to hold one's clothing."

Winter and summer, Dad would trek out to the



Larry & Linda (Aho) Smerch, sons, Ryan & Ricky

sauna on a weekend morning to get the fire started and keep it stoked all day to get the heat up and the buckets and tubs of water hot. In the evening, when we walked in, the steamy heat hit our body. After sitting and breathing in the heat, we would wash and someone would pour a basin of cool, fresh water over us. Then it was time to step out and enjoy an evening with family and friends."

Alarie Family

Jim and Florence Alarie moved to the Rorketon area in 1971. Their family consists of; Laverne born in 1955, Sandra 1959, Linda 1961, Anita 1968, Joseph 1971, and James 1973.

Florence and the girls immediately began taking part in talent contests and other programs with talent participation as they had been doing in other areas for a number of years.

The children all graduated from Rorketon School. Laverne married Lloyd Hudson, and except for two years spent in Kenora, Ontario, has been



Alarie Family

with the Dauphin Co-op since graduation. She is president of the Parkland League for Life and vice president of St. Viators' Catholic Women's League. Their children are Daniel, Stacey and Edward.

Sandra and husband Gary Huhtala farm in the Rorketon area and Sandra works full time at the school in resource and library. They have four girls, Jennifer, Constance, Erica and Kristie.

Linda married Wayne Chiupka and they spent a number of years in Leaf Rapids, Manitoba before moving to Winnipeg where Linda was a government employee. In 1995 they moved to Marathon, Ontario. Their children are Jonathan and Caitlin.

Anita worked in Dauphin for a number of years before moving to Brandon in 1994. She works for Canadian Tire, and has a daughter, Caley.

Joseph is manager of Parkway Bowling Lanes in Dauphin. He has competed in a number of bowling tournaments in Canada and the U.S. In May 1995 he went to the Canadian National Ten Pin Championships in Ottawa, winning two gold and one silver medal. In his spare time, he is the umpire at ball games and tournaments in Dauphin and area.

James took a mechanics course after high school and upon completion became employed with Martin Motors in Dauphin - now Cooley Motors.

Jim as been a long time member, both third and fourth degree of the Knights of Columbus, and has held various positions in the organization. He is also a member of the local Royal Canadian Legion.

Florence is active in all aspects of St. Anthony's Roman Catholic church in Rorketon. She has played guitar and led the singing there for over twenty years and continues to do so as well in the Toutes Aides church. She has also been secretary of the church council of St. Anthony's for many years.

Jacob and Eva (Kravau) Bednarz submitted by Mike and Francis Bednarz

Eva Kravau emigrated from Poland to the U.S.A. She landed in New York and then went on to Hartford, Connecticut where her older sister lived. She stayed there for a year or so. She met Jacob Bednarz there and they were married in 1907.

Jacob Bednarz emigrated from Austria in 1905. After he and Eva were married, they moved to Butler, Prince Albert, where Jacob worked in a coal mine. Their first two children were born there: Steny in 1909 and Valentina in 1911.

Jacob did not enjoy working underground, so they decided to move to Canada and settled in Chater, Manitoba, a small village about sixty miles from Brandon. The railroad went through Chater, so Jacob got a job working for the railway, and after a



Eva Bednarz - 1950

few years he became a section foreman. Two more children were born during that time, Joe in 1913 and Francis in 1915.

One day while the family was away shopping in Brandon their rented house burned down and they had to live with friends for a few days. Jacob and Eva decided to take a homestead (a quarter section of land), so they bought a team of horses and a wagon and made their way to the Rorketon area, some 250 miles away. At that time Rorketon had only one store and no railway.

They stayed with friends in Edillen, until they could find the homestead that they had bought for \$10.00. William, their fifth child was born in 1916 at Steve Mazier's place.

On their way to their homestead (Abbotshall School District) they had to cross three marshes with water over three feet deep. There was no road, just a blazed trail through the thick bush and willows. They were approached by wolves. One wolf got close enough for Jacob to throw his axe at it - the axe was never found. They watched out for the surveyors' steel pegs that were driven into the ground every half mile, marking off the quarter sections.

The forest was thick on our farm. The trees were so tall that you could hardly see the sun, and flies, mosquitoes and horse flies were plentiful.

Jacob quickly built a small building so they could keep dry. Jacob and I cleared land and cut logs to build our house and other buildings (we had a couple of horses and cows). Jacob flattened the logs on both sides with a broad axe for the walls. Our house was approximately 20 x 30 feet - after a few years we finally had a house that did not leak when it rained.

During the winter we did some trapping. We could not afford a gun. Wildlife was plentiful - rabbits, weasel, mink, skunk, squirrel, wolves, deer, moose and elk. Jacob walked to Rorketon (9 miles) to pick up necessities like flour, tea, etc.

Abbotshall School was built three miles from our place - three miles that included three marshes. Jacob and I laid down logs across the marshes, so that our children could get to school during the spring and summer.

A year or so after we arrived we lost our horses to swamp fever. We broke some of our steers (into oxen) and used them until we had enough money to buy horses. The three marshes were always a problem. We finally built a corduroy road alongside the log crossings that we had laid down for the children to use.

During the summer Jacob worked around the Rorketon area or wherever he could get a job hewing logs or building log houses, returning home every two weeks or so. I was afraid for myself and the children in case of sickness or accident. The cows sometimes wandered miles away looking for grass or to get away from flies. Sometimes they ended up in Edillen (5 or 6 miles away) at the place where we bought them.

Michal was born in 1920. The two oldest girls looked after Michal while I did the work.

In the fall we used to butcher a hog as the meat kept well during the winter. The butchered hog also provided us with some lard. One time Jacob butchered a hog in spring. He got a wooden barrel and "salted the meat down" in it. I guess he did not put enough salt and the meat spoiled. He did not try that again.

I think it was about 1923 when the railway came to Rorketon. We then could order stuff from Eaton's in Winnipeg and receive it in a week or so. For example, we ordered bologna - it was sold in pieces (about 18 inches long) waxed all around, it kept for weeks when stored in a cool place away from flies.

During the winter, in addition to hog meat we ate rabbits - rabbits made into a very nice soup, too. Once we cleared enough land for grain and garden, we always had plenty of vegetables during the winter.

In 1927 Jacob and I decided to move closer to the Abbotshall School, so we moved to a farm that was one and a half miles from school. It was a big move because by then we had accumulated a lot: furniture, some machinery and about 25 head of cattle.

We had a lot of work milking cows and making hay all summer. We milked about 15 cows and

shipped cream (5 gallons at a time) by rail from Rorketon to either Ste Rose, Dauphin or Winnipegosis Creameries - whichever we chose. The cream cheques had to come by mail (with 2 cents postage) valued at about \$1.10 to \$1.30 depending on the grade of our cream. We used a cream separator, a crank turned by hand, that had to be washed after every use - May to September - no matter what else you were doing, the cows had to be milked. Some of the skim milk was fed to calves, hogs and chickens. We also made cottage cheese from it.

In 1928 Steny, Valentina, Joe and I were paid by the R.M. of Lawrence to dig a mile-long ditch, going west from Abbotshall School, to drain the marshes (Jacob was away at work). We used four horses, three oxen, a walking plough and a road scraper. We were only paid to dig the ditch, but we hauled the dirt and built up the marsh road. That made it possible for people to go across the marsh which was one mile instead of going three miles around. The pay was very little and the teams worked for free. That was an all-summer job. For a few winters Joe, Steny, Michal and I rented a small log building near John Berthaudin's fox and mink ranch in East Bay and fished in Lake Dauphin.

Steny married John Berthaudin on May 14, 1930. Then Valentina married Charles Inkster.

By the early 1930's Jacob was complaining about headaches — he ate countless aspirin tablets. Finally in July, 1935 he went to the St. Boniface Hospital in Winnipeg and had a few operations, but that did not help and he died in September. With some effort we came up with \$35.00 cash to have his body shipped back to Rorketon for burial. Michal had to quit school to help Bill and me when Joe and Francis went fishing on Lake Dauphin. In 1938 Joe moved to Victoria, BC.

In January, 1941, our house burned down. We had \$600.00 of insurance and the next year we built another house with logs that we cut. We also built a 28 x 60 foot log building in Rorketon. We had hoped to use that building as a movie theatre, but we did not have enough money for theatre equipment, so we used it as a dance hall for a few years. Rorketon was booming during the war- years, so we added 28 feet onto the back of the building and turned it into a cafe and pool hall. At that time we sold our farm and moved into Rorketon.

Some years later, Francis married Ned Bonnett and moved away and Michal went away to work in Ontario. By then the business was turning down, so Bill and I sold the building to Nick Pich and we

moved into a small house and it was hard-times again.

Michal got married in 1956. In 1967 Michal, his wife, Ursula and their sons, Larry and Wyatt came and we had a big family Christmas at Valentina and Charles Inkster's place.

Eva and Bill Bednarz passed away in 1969. Bill had a heart attack a day after his mother's passing and they were buried at the Ridgeway Cemetery west of Rorketon. Valentina Inkster passed away in 1989 at age 79 and Steny Berthaudin six months later at age 81.

In 1996 there are three Bednarz children left; Francis Bonnett of Brookdale, Manitoba, Joe of Salt Spring Island, BC and Michal of Victoria, British Columbia.

Michal Bednarz

submitted by Michal Bednarz

I, Michal, was born on October 10, 1920, while my family was living on the homestead three miles east of Abbotshall School.

Some of my earliest memories are of going with Mother to look at her trap-line and my dog, Pup, who was my close companion.

I started school when I was eight and had to walk one and a half miles.

When I was about nine years old, I took on the job of starting the fire in the school stove, so I had to be at school at 8:00 am and I got paid 10 cents a day.

As I grew older I went out stooking grain for farmers, in McCreary, at \$2.00 a day working from 6:00 am to 8:00 pm.

Pup, my dog and I pulled five skunks out from under an old house. Talk about stink! After skinning and stretch drying them. I made a parcel of skunk pelts to send to Winnipeg. Joy Rorke was working at the post office in Rorketon. I paid her for the postage and left. When the pelts got warm, the whole post office smelled like a skunk. Joy put my parcel of pelts in the back of the post office until I came back again - I had to ship the pelts to Winnipeg by freight.

My family and I still trapped and snared and shot rabbits. One winter the rabbits were so thick that it was easy to bring home 150 to 200 rabbits a day. We dug a trench in the snow, about four feet wide, all around a haystack. After dark we would scare the rabbits as they came to eat the hay. They would fall into the trench and we would catch them - maybe 30 to 40 at a time. One day we got over 500 rabbits - that was the best day that I can remember. The rabbit pelts were worth 5 cents each and we sold the meat for 2 cents per pound.

During the fifties I went away from home to make some money, basically working on building construction in places like: Saskatchewan, Red Lake, Ontario, Sioux Lookout, Ontario, Flin Flon, Dauphin, (Boulevard Hotel with Alex Solomon), Lynn Lake, (where Alex Solomon built a store for Bill Perepeluk), Stony Rapids, Saskatchewan, Churchill, north of Yellow Knife, Elliott Lake, and Victoria (where my wife and I still live). Every once in a while during the above mentioned jobs I used to come back to the Rorketon area to visit and work.

While I was working north of Yellow Knife, a friend of mine, Bill Smith, convinced me to write letters to some girls in Germany and Denmark. One of those girls, Ursula Patthan, eventually became my wife.

Ursula came to St. John, New Brunswick, from Liverpool on the Empress of France in February, 1956. I drove by car to meet her and we were married on February 25, 1956 in a Danish Lutheran Church on Fourth Street.

After marrying Ursula I felt that living beyond Yellow Knife was too remote, so we moved to Elliott Lake and I worked at the mine for 13 years. I built a house for us. Our two sons were born during those years, Larry in 1957 and Wyatt in 1959.

I decided to go to Saskatchewan in the late 1960's because the potash mines were opened and I hoped to find work.

I bought two lots in Langford and View Royal, British Columbia, because I liked the weather there. We lived in the house that I built on Quincy Street in View Royal and sold the house that I built in Langford.

Larry stayed with us and worked with me until I retired in 1985. He made a few trips to New Zealand and got married there. He and his wife separated after four years of marriage and she went back to New Zealand.

Wyatt left home after completing grade 12 and went to Williams Lake where he got married and I built him a house. He has two children, Bradley and Amanda.

We love Victoria, where we have lived for the last 30 years to get away from cold weather in the winter and mosquitoes in the summer. Our only trouble is traffic - when we came here there was a two-lane highway in front of us, then there were four lanes and now there are six.

Francis Bednarz Bonnett

In 1915, Francis was born to Jacob and Eva Bednarz in Brandon. She helped on the family farm and with the construction of the building in



Frances Bednarz-Bonnett on the farm, 1935

Rorketon that came to be known as “Bednarz Cafe”. She also helped with this business.

In 1945 to mid 1946, she went to Winnipeg to work, then came back to help with the family business. She then returned to work until her marriage to Ned Bonnett on May 22, 1947. They moved into a small 12’ by 12’ house next to “Bednarz Cafe”.

In 1946, Ned obtained lumber from Crane River and hired his brother and Pete Korotash to build a 24’ by 26’ house. In the fall of 1947, the house was completed. It was then that Ned’s three children, Fred, Arnold and Joy, came to live with them.

In 1950, the family moved to Brookdale where they presently reside.

Tony and Stella Biletski Family

Tony Biletski was born in Million in 1904 and lived in the Moose Bay area where he farmed, fished and operated a sawmill. Stella Yacyczyn, daughter of Sam and Dora Yacyczyn, emigrated to Canada in 1926 and settled in the Moose Bay area. A twin sister, Mary found employment in Kipling, Saskatchewan and lived most of her life there. An older brother, John Jason was employed by the C.N.R. out of Winnipeg.

Tony and Stella were married in 1930 and lived on the farm at Moose Bay until 1940. There were many fascinating stories of pioneer life and the most memorable was their courting days. The mode of transportation of the time was mainly walking and horses. Automobile transportation was just beginning. At social functions girls could identify men that had cars, by the dirty hands (from constant repairing) and the smell of gasoline on their clothes. Needless to say, it did not take the men very long to



Tony Biletski



Stella (Yaschyshyn) Biletski

figure out who was attracting the most women and why, so the fragrance of the day for social events was gasoline. Nick (Keyhole) and Audrey were born in Moose Bay and Alex was born in Rorketon when they moved to start a wood shop business in 1940.

Tony built a multi-purpose shop and catered to the demands of local farmers, making and repairing parts for various machinery, crushing grain and custom threshing. Before the coming of electricity, he fabricated most of his woodworking machines and made them run off a “one-lung” water-cooled gasoline engine. On the farm where he had a sawmill, people would bring their logs and go home with the lumber. In town, he re-built a portable sawmill (may be seen at the Austin Museum), portable re-sawing machine and a portable thickness planer thus taking his services to his customers.

Wood manufacturing consisted of fish boxes, doors and windows, church pews, and laminated arched rafters made mostly on his own manufactured machines, tools and jigs. Tony built a number of buildings in the Rorketon area, the most notable being the original multiroom Rorketon School and the curling rink. The windows for the school made professional puttyers out of Nick and Alex. He also built the original firehall in the 1950’s and served as volunteer fire chief for a number of years.

Stella was a homemaker and a dedicated volunteer to her church and community, serving on the executive board of both for years. She took pride in her task of mixing the official drinks (kool-aid) served at the annual Rorketon and district “field days”. Each year she would make dozens of traditional Easter eggs (Pysanky) for family and friends. She was one of the founding members of the Rorketon Drop-In Centre and would be happy to know that it is still going great guns today. She could always be counted on to translate a letter from

Ukraine or Poland, make something for a bake sale, babysit in a pinch, or visit the sick or elderly.

Oldest son, Nick worked on road construction starting out with his uncle John Biletski, the Highways Department and Lawrence Municipality for a number of years. He has been operating his own backhoe, gravel and plumbing business in Rorketon for the last thirty years.

Audrey married Walter Shyiak and lived in a number of towns in Manitoba, mostly in Thompson and Winnipeg where Walter worked with Manitoba Hydro for thirty-five years.

Walter started out as a lineman in Rorketon with Norman Harpelle and worked his way up to the ranks of Maintenance and Construction Manager - Central Region. Their son, Tim, has also started a career with Manitoba Hydro and likewise for their daughter Tanis's husband, John Cairney. Audrey and Walter are retired in Winnipeg and among activities like hunting, salmon fishing and garage sale(ing). They are succeeding in spoiling their grandson, Kieran.

Youngest son, Alex, married Eleanor Gardovich and they have two teenaged daughters, Amber and Burgundy in Calgary. Alex taught school at Crane River, Laurie River and Flin Flon for fourteen years and the last twenty years in Airdrie, Alberta. Following somewhat in his father's footsteps, Alex is a certificated carpenter and has been teaching Industrial Education and Building Construction since he moved to Alberta.

John and Nellie Biletski

John is the youngest son of Thomas and Dora (Gorski) Biletski. (See Million) He was born in 1913 at Moose Bay.

Nellie Pich is the youngest daughter of Andrew and Petronilla (Swederski) Pich. She was born in 1921 at Moose Bay also. They both attended Moose Bay School. Nellie went on to complete her education at Moose Bay, but John had to quit and help on the farm.

John then went to live with and help his older brother, Pete and Nellie (Bratko) Biletski on the farm in Volga, where Walter Biletski (Bill's son) lives now. They worked hard together, custom breaking land, custom threshing and custom sawing lumber.

In 1940, John and Nellie married and settled at Moose Bay, NE 27-27-17, across the fence from his home place. They grain farmed, raised chickens, pigs and cows and also winter fished commercially.

They bought two threshing outfits to do custom threshing in the Moose Bay, Oak Brae, and Rice

Lake area. John also bought the saw mill from his brother, Tony. He remodelled it and made it portable, enabling him to do custom sawing in a large area, from Moose Bay and Oak Brae, to Meadowlands, Rice Lake and Weiden areas. This kept John very busy, but also away from home. It was difficult for Nellie, who had to stay on the farm by herself to do all the work and look after the babies. These were very hard years. John and Nellie had three girls while they lived at Moose Bay:

Judy Janet (1942-1944).

Mary married Steven Sliworsky and they live in Rorketon. They have one daughter, Tracy Leanne Marie, who lives in Brandon.

Sally Ann lives in Rorketon. Daughter Trisha Sal lives in Brandon, and son Trevor Ric, lives in Flin Flon.

Their son, Thomas John was born after they moved to Rorketon in 1948. He married Marilyn Biletski and has a step-son, Les. They all reside in Drumheller, Alberta.

John worked for N. R. Werbiski as a mechanic in the garage. In 1949, they bought their first bulldozer, which started a lifetime of road construction and land clearing. He sold out in 1973.

John worked for a few summers for the Department of Northern Affairs as a construction supervisor before retiring in 1979.

John and Nellie still live in Rorketon and enjoy gardening, playing cards, and visiting with their family.

The Boettcher, Chambers, Masters and Stubner Family History

In approximately 1910, William (Bill) and Maude Chambers, along with their two children, Richard (Dick) and Eva emigrated from England. Initially they settled in the Neepawa area where Bill was involved in farming and was also a cattle buyer. Some time later, they relocated to the Freedale area and farmed there until they lost their home to fire. They were able to save very little and decided to move to Rorketon where they established a second farm. William injured his right arm in a farm mishap, and it became infected. His arm was amputated just below the elbow. This made farming difficult, but he continued with the help of Dick. Eva married Frank Rodway, and they lived in Sioux Lookout, Ontario, where he was employed as a carpenter for the Department of Forestry. They had one daughter, Joyce. She was married to Jim Noble who was a CNR engineer. Soon after, he was killed in a head-on train collision. They did not have any chil-



Mr. & Mrs. Bill Chambers

dren. After many years of widowhood, she married Ransome Bowman of Hudson, Ontario, where they lived until his retirement. They then moved back to Sioux Lookout and built a new home on the site of the old Rodway home. Eventually the senior Chambers retired and after Bill's death, Maude spent her time between the family farm in Rorketon and Sioux Lookout. Both Maude and Bill are buried in the Ridgeway Cemetery.

Charlotte Stubner immigrated to Winnipeg from Germany with her two children, Charlotte Jr. and Richard. Her husband was in the army, went missing and was eventually reported killed. The family owned a jewellery manufacturing company and the government confiscated it. Charlotte Sr. and her children left for Canada with very little money or possessions. Her brother-in-law, Ernest Stubner, was a prison guard at East Braintree, Manitoba. Soon after her arrival, Charlotte and Ernest were married and later had two children, Henry and Hazel. Henry was accidentally shot at five years of age. Ernest died a short time later and both are buried at East Braintree. Charlotte moved with her children to Fisher Branch where she worked at the Red Cross Nursing Station. Charlotte Jr. moved to Winnipeg where she was employed. Later, she married Harold Boettcher who farmed with his family in Rosser and was also employed in Winnipeg. Charlotte Sr. moved to Rorketon with Hazel and worked for Nurse Hill at the Red Cross Nursing Station. She married David (Dave) Masters who had come from the U.S.A. to Mulvihill, Manitoba where he homesteaded and trapped. They farmed at Million. Richard joined the Royal Air Force in May, 1941 and was a Pilot-Officer in the Transport Command. He was killed in active service on April 11, 1944 at Georgetown, British Guiana. Hazel moved to Winnipeg to seek employment and lived with her sister, Charlotte. Charlotte and Harold had

a son, Victor. Harold contracted leukaemia and passed away a short time after their second son, Terry, was born. Some years later Charlotte met Dick Chambers during visits to her mother in Million. She married him and moved to Rorketon. The Masters moved to Rorketon also and Dave was employed by the Rural Municipality of Lawrence and farmed on a small scale.

Charlotte Sr. had been suffering from two eye diseases and had several operations, but unfortunately she became blind. This did not prevent her from continuing to do many of the things she had done on the past and Dave was very supportive. Hazel married Norbert Cote and they lived in St. Vital. They had seven children. Dave passed away and Lottie continued to live in Rorketon with Charlotte until her passing. They are at rest in the Rorketon Roman Catholic Cemetery. Hazel passed away in 1990.

Dick and Charlotte continued to farm in Rorketon. Dick had several other jobs as well, over the years. He worked at the CNR Station and Laycock's Garage, drove school bus and was custodian at Rorketon School for the Duck Mountain School Division. Both Dick and Charlotte were involved with the Rorketon United Church and served on committees and the church board. Charlotte was active in the Ladies Aide. Dick was mayor of Rorketon for quite a number of years. They retired and sold their farm land to the Dowhaniuk brothers. They continued to live on the homesite on 2nd. St. NW, just behind the school. In 1973, Charlotte was diagnosed with lung cancer and died shortly after. She is greatly missed and well remembered by her children. In 1974, Dick passed away and both are at rest in the Ridgeway Cemetery.

Victor lives in St. Vital and was employed by Canada Packers for many years. On their closing, he was transferred to Scott National. He enjoys visiting his friends in Rorketon and hunting and fishing with them. Terry married Darlene Pura of Fort Garry. They lived and taught in Rorketon for some years. A daughter, Christy, and a son, Jamie, were born while there. They now live in Charleswood and both Darlene and Terry teach with the Winnipeg School Division.

Bonnett Family History

Henry Charles Bonnett was born on July 9, 1875 in Cattstock, Dorset, England. He married Kate Hansford and they had two children, Alfred James (Ned) and Dorothy Kate. Kate Hansford Bonnett died in childbirth in 1911.

Elsie May Peach was born May 18, 1892, at



Charles Bonnett, Ernie Huntsley, Mrs Bowey, Elsie Robinson, Vi Bowey, May & Katie Bonnett

Litton Cheney, Dorchester, Dorset, England. She went to school and helped in the dairy and garden until she went to work for Charles and Kate Bonnett in 1911.

Charles Bonnett married Elsie Peach on November 7, 1912. She had promised Kate that she would take care of the children, Ned, eight, and Katie, two. They immigrated to Canada in the spring of 1913. They had a rough sea crossing, Elsie being sick all the way. They settled in Dauphin for two years. Charles working on the farm for William Buchannon in the summer and getting out lumber in the winter. In January of 1915 they moved to homestead a quarter section at Rorketon, SE 14-28-16. He chose that quarter of land because it had an overflowing well on it. Although there was no intention of a town at that particular time, his quarter of land ended up being only a half a mile from the town of Rorketon.

Travelling by team and canvas covered wagon box heated by a coal oil lantern. With a borrowed team of horses Mr. Bonnett hauled the 3000 feet of lumber he bought for ten dollars per thousand feet, from Fork River, to build his house. They stayed with Ab and Sid Ball at Freedale until their house was built in the spring. Life was not easy for them. Charles (Charlie) had to supplement their income by various means. He crushed grain, did carpentry work (he worked on the Nursing Station at Rorketon). He had learned his father's trade, blacksmithing, and worked on and off at Kenora, Ontario working at times for the CN Railway and at other jobs. By 1929, they went into the chicken business, having as many as 600 chickens at times.

Their children were born in Dauphin; Elsie May Bonnett was born in 1914, Gordon in 1918, Florence in 1919, Harold in 1921 and Olive in 1924. Elsie did a lot of midwife work and helped the nurse look after sick people in the area. In 1947-48,

Charlie and Elsie were caretakers at the Rorketon School and lived in a house across the street from the United Church in Rorketon. The Rev. Lynn Barbour boarded with them and used Charlie's tools to build the United Church. They moved to Vancouver, to daughter May's in October 1948. Charlie died on March 17, 1949, of leukaemia.

Elsie stayed on in Vancouver and made her living at various jobs, mostly housekeeping and child care. She went to England in 1955 for a three month visit with her Peach relatives and son Harold and family. She went again in 1963, and at the age of 72, she married her childhood sweetheart, Walter Darby. Walt died, after a series of strokes, in July, 1973. Elsie returned to Canada in 1974, living mostly in Vancouver. She had a series of strokes, dying in the Vancouver General Hospital on February 20, 1982. Her ashes are buried with Charles at the Ridgeway Cemetery, Rorketon.

Alfred James (Ned) Bonnett was born to Charles and Kate Bonnett on December 18, 1902. He came to Canada with his family in 1912. He grew up on his fathers homestead. At twelve he already had the responsibility to help the family.

Ned went to Ontario to work for the Hydro. The first four years he worked, he sent his money home to his father. In 1929, with the depression, Ned was unable to find employment so he came back to the homestead and stayed until 1935. One summer he worked for Walter Talpash and in return received ninety dollars.

Ned married Annie Prociuk in October, 1935. They had three children, Fred, Arnold, and Joy (Jones). Ned and Annie divorced in 1947.

Ned married Francis Bednarz in 1947. They moved to Brookdale, Manitoba with the children where Ned owned and operated a construction outfit, cat, backhoe and gravel truck until his retirement. They were divorced in 1990. Ned lives in Seniors' Housing in Brookdale.

Dorothy Kate Bonnett was born to Charles and Kate Bonnett on September 23, 1909. She married John Robinson on April 29, 1942. She had been working for him at East Bay, house keeping, after his first wife died. John died in 1959. Katie lived with her step-son, Fred Robinson, until his death on March 27, 1984. They moved to Dauphin in 1982. Katie lives at the Kinsman Villa in Dauphin.

Elsie May Bonnett was born in Dauphin on December 14, 1914. May married Jack Wickert in July 1939. They ran a rooming house in Brandon during the war years. They had 2 children, Dale and Gail (Fell). They moved the family to Vancouver in 1948. Jack died in 1963. May remarried Norman

Curran in 1970. Norman died in 1991. May lives in Garden Bay, British Columbia.

William Gordon Bonnett was born on March 12, 1918 in Dauphin. Gordon married Margaret Bottrell on May 10, 1942. They started off on the Bonnett homestead in Rorketon, spent some time at the Bottrell homestead in Ochre River, moved back to Rorketon, then in 1960, bought a farm, SE 33-28-16W, in the Freedale district where son Dennis still lives. Gordon and Margaret had ten children; Barry, Marlynn (Dumas), Robert, Charles, Dennis, Edith (Taylor), Keith, Martin, Kenneth and Richard. As well as farming, Gordon drove gravel truck for a number of summers. Among the contractors he worked for were Charlie Strasdin, Harry Deneschuk and Nick Marchenski. In the winter months he worked on and off diamond drilling for Pete Gisler out of Red Lake. He took over buying fish from Charlie Strasdin for Booth Fisheries from 1951 to 1954. Margaret died on October 3, 1965 of a kidney infection. In 1971 Gordon turned the farm over to Dennis. He had been working under ground diamond drilling for Westcore at Thompson.

Gordon married Gertrude (Carlson) Campbell on May 4, 1974. They lived in Thompson where Gordon worked for Union Carbide until the plant burned down. He was then transferred to Transcona and worked there until his retirement. In 1983, they bought a house in Rorketon, from Steven and Mary Sliworsky, and moved home. Gordon is active in the Senior Citizens Club at the Drop In Centre, holding the position of President for many years. He has also been active with the weekly Friday night and bi-weekly Sunday night bingos there. Gertie has been one of the Seniors in charge of the three nights a week Meal Program that is run at the Drop In Centre. She also helped with Bingo and Nevada sales for many years. Gordon is active on the Ridgeway Cemetery Committee and is one of the founding members of the Trust Fund to maintain and upgrade the cemetery located two and a half miles west of Rorketon. They are also members of the Freedale Community Club, Gordon being a member since 1960.

Winnifred Florence Bonnett was born in 1919. Florence died of Spinal Meningitis in January, 1920 at 19 months of age. She was buried in the Million Cemetery.

Frederick Harold Bonnett was born on October 19, 1921. He joined the Royal Canadian Army, Fort Garry Horse Division, in 1940 and served in World War II. He married Mavis Henly in Wales in 1944. They came back to Canada after the war, living in Brandon and Rivers. Patsy was born in Brandon in

1946. They returned to Wales in 1949, living at Carduff with Mavis' parents. Harold (Harry) took an electrical course, and when he got a job at the tin factory at Llanelli, they moved there, where Larry was born. Harold & Mavis visited relatives in Canada in 1974 when they brought Grandma Darby home. They live at Oxon, Great Britain, in an apartment built on to Patsy's cottage.

Annice Olive Bonnett was born on October 26, 1924. Her left leg was crippled after a fall from a bed when she was a year old. She spent some time at the Childrens' Hospital in Winnipeg when she was 2-3 years old, then spent 6 months in the Ste Boniface Hospital in 1939 having her left leg lengthened. She still limps on that leg. She spent her early working life in Brandon with her sister May, working at a laundry. On May 2, 1942, Olive married Lynnton Weaver and they farmed in the Million District, raising horses, cattle and sheep. Olive was Million Post Mistress for twelve years, and they attempted to start a small store which didn't do well and was closed down. Lynn and Olive had three daughters, Elaine (Bonnett), Lorraine (Iwanchysko) and Lynda (Beasse). They sold their farm to daughter Lorraine and husband Dan Iwanchysko in 1974, keeping a 20 year lease on the house and yard site previously occupied by Lynn's Dad, Gordon and Annie Weaver. Lynn worked out for many years after that. They eventually started spending the winters in Dauphin, and in 1994, they moved into Spruce Manor in Dauphin, moving all their possessions away from the land and area by Lake Dauphin that Lynn called home.

Grandchildren

Barry Raymond Bonnett was born on February 14, 1943 at Ste Rose. He married Aileen Coombs on August 7, 1965. Barry and Aileen had two children, Barry Jr. and Tiffanee. They were divorced in 1976. Barry lived in Thompson for most of his working life. He worked for INCO, West Core and Laidlaw. He presently lives in Rorketon having bought the Bill Robbins land. He is custodian at the Rorketon School and President of the CUPE Union Local for Duck Mountain School Division. He is active in the Freedale Community Club, having served terms as Treasurer and President. He is also active on the Ridgeway Cemetery Committee.

Marilyn Mavis Elsie Bonnett was born on August 1, 1944 at Ochre River, Manitoba. She married Dan Dumas on Feb. 3, 1961 in Brandon. Dan & Marilyn lived at Toutes Aides, Meadow Portage, and Waterhen where they ranched and did commercial fishing on Lake Manitoba in the winter time.

They had four children, Vanda, Bonny, Daniel Jr.(Buz) and Micheal. Marilyn works as caretaker at the Waterhen School. They live in the Waterhen Townsite on Frontier Street. Vanda lives with her husband Ron Fuller in Stonewall, Manitoba. They have two children, Janet and Robert. Bonny lives in Waterhen with her five children, Leilani, Benjamin, Jaime, Philana and Justin. Buz and Darlene have a daughter, Taneisha, born Jan. 20, 1996. They live at Grand View. Mike lives at Waterhen.

Robert Douglas Bonnett was born on September 20, 1945 in Ste Rose. Bob married Elaine Weaver on February 3, 1968 in Calgary. They had one son, James (Jim) in Thompson where they spent three years, Bob working underground for Wescore Drilling and Paddy Harrison. They bought a farm, SE 22-28-16W from Pete and Jean Levinski and moved back to Rorketon in May, 1971. Between 1972 and 1975, Bob owned his own cat, a D7U and did his own bush clearing and dugouts and also custom work in the area. He also worked out, mostly on the Diamond Drills. He worked for Roy Laycock at Laycock's Garage for about a year. Starting in 1979, Bob drove School Bus for eleven years before being laid off due to decreased enrollment. Then he worked three seasons for the R.M. of Lawrence as gravel truck driver. In June 1995, he opened the Rorketon Liquor Vendor in the Bonnett Insurance Agencies building, taking over from Mrs Olga Pulak. Bob served for eighteen years on the Rorketon Volunteer Fire Department. He also was assistant coach for the Midget hockey team when there was enough boys, and coach for the Freedale Broomball team for about five years. He is an active member of the Freedale Community Club and has served one term as president.

David Charles Bonnett was born on December 24, 1946 at Rorketon. Charlie married Margaret Miller on July 9, 1966 in Winnipeg. They had one son Darren at Thompson. Charlie and Maggie live in Thompson where Charlie works in the First Aid division for INCO. He joined INCO Employees' Quarter Century Club (25 years Service) in September 1991. Maggie works as a caretaker at the Thompson schools. Darren married Brenda Locoshavich on June 17, 1989. They have two children, Devon and Ashley Justine. Darren works in diesel mechanics at the INCO mine in Thompson, and Brenda works in a flower shop.

Dennis Gordon Bonnett was born on March 30, 1950 in St Rose. He married Susan Gaudry at Dauphin on December 6, 1968. Dennis and Susan bought the farm SE 33-28-16W, from Dennis' Dad, Gordon Bonnett, in 1971. They lived mostly

between Rorketon and Thompson until 1978. They have three daughters, Crystal, Jackie and Dawn. Dennis and Susan are both active members of the Freedale Community Club, both served several terms on the executive. Dennis was a Councillor for his ward for the R M of Lawrence from 1990-93.

Edith Mary Bonnett. (see Fred Taylor Family History)

Keith Ellis Bonnett, was born on Oct. 19, 1952 in St Rose. He married Geraldine Gaudry on February 26, 1972 in Thompson. They moved back to the Rorketon area in 1978, buying the Moose Bay General Store and started to accumulate land for farming. They eventually shut down the store in 1986 and remodelled it into a showplace of country living. Keith started driving School Bus for the Duck Mountain School Division in 1983 and drove for seven years before decreasing enrollment caused his route to be discontinued. In 1995, Keith was rehired as School Bus Driver for Duck Mountain School Division. Geraldine has done some sign painting, most notably the Rorketon Businesses sign at the corner, three miles east of Rorketon and two Meadow Portage signs, one at each end of that community. She has also made magnetic and wooden crafts for sale at craft sales, in and out of the area. She and her daughter Jennifer have also started a clothing venture called Fresh Fashions. They decorate jeans with leather patches and laces and other appliques and make tops from underwear. Keith and Geraldine have a son and a daughter, Jennifer and Jeffrey.

Glen Martin Bonnett was born on October 20, 1954 at St Rose. He obtained his education at the Rorketon, Freedale and Thompson schools. He married Gayle Holt on November 22, 1975 in Thompson. Martin adopted Angela Holt and they had a son, Jeremy. Martin and Gayle moved out of Thompson to Waterhen in 1981 where they live on a farm.

Kenneth Burchell Bonnett was born on May 24, 1956 in St Rose. He obtained most of his education at Freedale, Rorketon and Thompson schools. He married Virginia Geddes on Jan. 26, 1974 in Dauphin. Ken and Ginger were divorced in 1977. Ken's daughter Amy was born in 1981 in Edmonton. Ken married Catherine Hollohan at Gander, Newfoundland on June 17, 1989. Ken and Cathy lived at Thunder Bay. Ken passed away on July 6, 1996 and his ashes are buried next to his mother in the Ridgeway Cemetery, Rorketon. Amy lives with her mother in Sault Ste Marie.

Richard Lynton Bonnett was born on March 5, 1959 in St Rose. He obtained most of his education

at Freedale, Rorketon and Thompson. Rick married Pat Vigfussion on May 24, 1981 in Thompson. They have two sons, Christopher and Tylor. Rick has worked in Thompson most of his working life and now works for Laidlaw.

Elsie Elaine Weaver was born at St Rose on November 27, 1943. She spent two years working for the Bank of Nova Scotia in Dauphin, then spent three years, from 1963 to 1966 serving in the Royal Canadian Navy mostly at Shelburne, Nova Scotia. In 1966, she received an efficiency commendation from Commander, Oceanographic System Atlantic. She spent another year working for banks in Winnipeg and Thompson as head teller. In 1968 she married Robert Bonnett and they had one son, James in Thompson. Elaine and Bob bought a farm in the Rorketon area and moved back in May, 1971. Between 1976 and 1978, she took Income Tax Preparation courses from H&R Block and U&R and did income tax at home. She was active with the Rorketon Skating Rink and Minor Hockey Teams. She is a member of the Freedale Community Club and has served several terms on the executive there. She is also a member of the Lawrence Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion.

Lorraine Anne Weaver (see Iwanchysko Family history)

Lynda Olive Weaver (see Weaver Family history-Lynda Beasse)

Great-Grandchildren

Barry Edward Bonnett was born on October 30, 1966 in Dauphin. He lived in Thompson with his parents and now lives in Winnipeg. He has two sons, Shaun Alexander, born November 30, 1993, and Nathan born November 21, 1994.

Tiffanee Dawn Bonnett was born on January 19, 1969 in the Thompson Hospital, weighing one pound, four ounces. She stayed in the premature ward until she had gained enough weight to come home. It was discovered later that she had a hearing problem and she spent several years in special classes for the deaf, learning to talk and read. She moved with her Dad, Barry Bonnett, to Rorketon for her last year of high school. She has a daughter, Geraldine, born on May 20, 1995, and has the wedding date set with Fabian Konowalchuk for June 29, 1996.

James Robert Bonnett was born on July 19, 1969 in Thompson. Jim has worked on farms, cow/calf, PMU, and with grain farming for the last five years with the intention of joining his parents, Bob and Elaine in their farming operation. In the winter of 1996 he started helping some of the com-

mercial fishermen on Lake Manitoba. He lives in town, next to the United Church (Nellie Yurkiw's house) with his fiancée, Brenda Hill.

Crystal Lee Bonnett was born on March 27, 1973 in Dauphin. She graduated from Rorketon High School in 1991 and presently works in Dauphin.

Jacqueline Beatrice Bonnett was born on March 19, 1976 at Thompson. Jackie graduated from High School in June, 1994 and worked a summer job for the R.M. of Lawrence. She is presently working in Dauphin.

Dawn Margaret Bonnett was born on July 10, 1979 in Dauphin. She lives with her parents, Dennis and Susan.

Wanda Marie Taylor (See Fred Taylor)

Candace Dawn Taylor (See Fred Taylor)

Jennifer Jane Taylor (See Fred Taylor)

Jennifer Jay Bonnett was born on July 11, 1974 in Thompson. She has worked at home with her mother in a clothing design business. She is presently working at Food Fare in Ste Rose du Lac.

Jeffrey Percey Neil Bonnett was born on July 26, 1976 at Thompson. Jeff graduated from High School in June 1994. He worked on an electrical apprentice ship program with Perry Korotash of Korotash Electric, Rorketon. He took his first level of school in Winnipeg, then worked his next apprenticeship at the Louisiana Pacific Plant in Swan River, returning to Winnipeg to take his second level of school. He is presently living with his parents, Keith and Geraldine at Moose Bay.

Judith Ann Iwanchysko (See Dan Iwanchysko)

Gary Daniel Iwanchysko (See Dan Iwanchysko)

Bradford History

Bill's grandparents came from Austria and Ontario. His dad served overseas in World War I and was wounded when a bomb exploded over him. When he returned to the Birch River area, he bought a grocery and dry goods store. He married Dorothy Koch in early 1941. The first store burned down, but his dad built a new store, with a house attached. Bill was born on December 29, 1941 in Birch River, in a nursing home.

Loretta's grandparents came from Ontario and the Ukraine. Her dad, Isadore Larock, settled in the Stenen, Saskatchewan area where he farmed. He married Anne Kuralak in 1930. Loretta, the youngest girl in a family of 6, was born in Stenen, on April 6, 1944. Shortly after she was born, her family moved to the Lenswood area, where her dad and brothers opened up a half section of land and they continued with mixed farming.

Bill graduated from Birch River Collegiate in June 1959. He went on to Brandon College where he completed two years of the Science program. He took a twelve week summer course at the University of Manitoba and began teaching in Rorketon in September 1962. He completed his B.Sc. and B.Ed. degrees through summer school and some winter courses.

Loretta took her elementary school at McKay School, then went on to Bowsman School. She started working at the Swan River Hospital in 1960. Bill and Loretta were married on July 1, 1963, in Birch River with the reception at the Lenswood Hall.



Bill & Loretta Bradford w/daughter Lorena, Allison, Pam and Families.

Their first daughter, Lorena Audrey, was born on May 20, 1964 in Swan River. She graduated from Rorketon School in 1982 and continued her education at the University of Manitoba where she graduated with a degree in Human Ecology. While at the university, she met Darryl Rawniak, a student in Architecture. They were married on May 18, 1991, in Dauphin and the reception was in Ste. Rose du Lac. They moved to Edmonton where Darryl worked in his area of study and Lorena was a safety inspector and trainer for parents who looked after children in their homes. They built their own home in a small community, Cardiff, near Morinville, about twenty miles north of Edmonton. On February 27, 1995, they had a daughter, Jasmine Lorena, born in Edmonton.

Their second daughter, Pamela Kim, was born on March 14, 1969 in Ste. Rose Hospital. She graduated in 1987 from Rorketon School and started working in Winnipeg. Later, she graduated from a hairdressing course and has enjoyed full time work in this area. Pam married Barend Tollenaar in Dauphin on July 18, 1992. They live in Winnipeg where they own their own home. They had a daugh-

ter, Myriah Emma, on June 2, 1995. Barend is an electrician and Pam is back to work on a part-time basis.

Bill and Loretta's third daughter, Allison Dorothy Ann, was born October 21, 1971. She graduated from Rorketon School in 1989. She went to Winnipeg and graduated as a legal secretary from Robertson Career College. She worked as secretary with Motorcoach Bus Lines, then as a legal secretary with a firm that sold alarm systems. Later, she returned to work with Motor Coach. While still attending school in Rorketon, she met Dale Delaurier from Laurier. He attended school at Red River Community College in Winnipeg after graduating from Ste. Rose Collegiate and is now a qualified Diesel Mechanic, working for Wajax. Dale and Allison were married on July 22, 1995 at Laurier and are living in Winnipeg.

While attending school in Rorketon, the girls were all active in student council and sports in the school and won numerous awards both academically and for sports, especially in curling. Pam and her team curled in the provincial spiel and placed third in the province losing to Cathy Overton.

Bill taught in Rorketon from 1962 to 1966. He moved to Roblin in the fall of 1966 and returned to Rorketon as principal in 1967.

Bill served as president of the Community Club for several years. He was instrumental in getting artificial ice into the curling rink in 1969. He served as president of the Duck Mountain Teachers' Society for two terms and was on the executive for many years. He coached many sports teams over the years and, for a smaller school, Rorketon was, and still is, very competitive. The school is much smaller now than back in 1967 when there were over 300 students and 16 staff members (presently 130 students). After 23 years as principal, Bill decided to take the job of Computer Coordinator for the division. Bill has also been a member of the Rorketon Legion for over 20 years and the Wildlife Association for many years. While Bill was principal, he also worked for the Education Manitoba (provincial government) revising the Physics Curriculum that is presently used today.

Loretta was also very active in the community being involved in curling and 4-H. She was a group leader in Sewing and Cooking for 12 years. Loretta is presently serving as co-leader for crafts for the Ste. Rose and District Resource Council in the Seniors area for Rorketon.

Bill hopes to retire in June, 1997, and do some travelling, more hunting and fishing and visiting with family and friends.



Budzey's Wedding

Budzey Family History

Dmetro Budzey was born in the Ukraine November 8, 1894. His father, Fred, came to Canada alone in 1910. He worked at any job he could in Winnipeg, saving his money so he could bring his two sons, John and Dmetro to Canada, and then the rest of his family, which included his wife, Mary, and his two daughters, Anne and Nellie. At this time John was almost old enough for conscription into the Cossack army. In order for him to be allowed to come to Canada and escape being placed in the army, John's age was reduced by one year and Dmetro's had to be as well. Both John and Dmetro came to Canada in 1911, and with the three men working and saving their money, they were soon able to bring the rest of the family to Canada. They bought a homestead at Rice Lake and a fifth child, Bill was born in Canada.

Anna Budzey was born on the homestead six miles from Sifton on November 7, 1905 to Ivan (John) and Sophia Marciniuk. Siblings Harry, Dora, and Sam were born in the Ukraine, while three daughters, Maria, Pearl and Anna were born in Canada.

On October 16, 1920, when Anna was a month short of 15 years of age and Dmetro was almost 26 they got married in the Sifton area. The first year of their marriage was spent with the Budzey family at



Mr. & Mrs. Mike Budzey's wedding

Rice Lake. After the first year, Anna and Dmetro decided to leave the family farm and strike out on their own. They travelled to Detroit, Michigan, United States of America where Anna was able to get a good job cleaning automotive parts for the Ford Motor Company. Anna had no difficulty crossing the border and getting a job since she was born in Canada and had Canadian citizenship papers. Although Dmetro became a naturalized Canadian on July 22, 1921 this was not considered sufficient legal papers to work in the United States, but he went anyway and worked at whatever he could, often taking less pay just to get a job.

Although Anna and Dmetro were making progress, Dmetro was uncomfortable with his immigrant status in the U.S.A. and he missed his family from Rice Lake. The Budzeys moved again, this time stopping in Winnipeg. Both got jobs and were able to make a living, but this was still too far from friends and relatives.

In approximately 1923 Dmetro and Anna bought a small piece of land in Rorketon, Manitoba. They built a small home on the west side of the property and with tending to a few chickens, cows, pigs and a garden, were able to survive. For the next few years Dmetro tried his hand at working on the railway, fishing, and buying cattle.

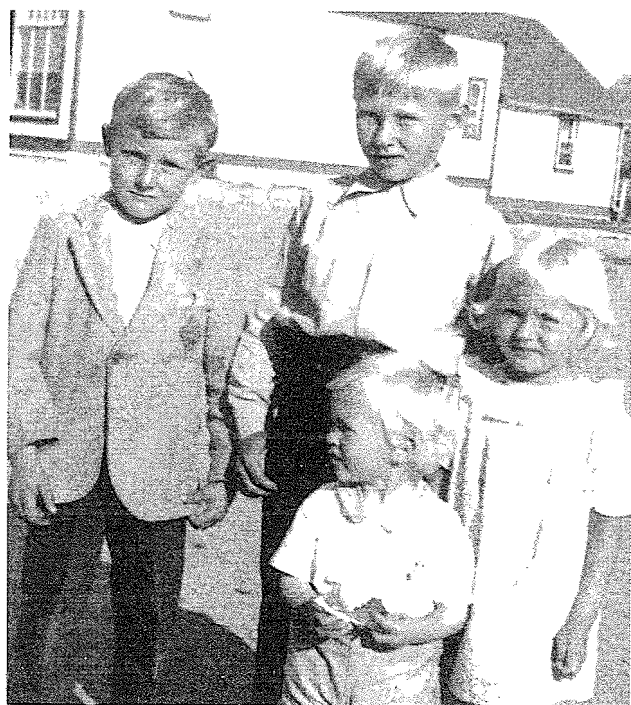
Their first child, Omilyan (Omalin) was born on April 15, 1930. Eighteen months later, a second son, Meroslaw (Mersil), was born on September 27, 1931. On May 5, 1934, a daughter Olya (Olga) was

born. The house was getting crowded, and when Anna became pregnant again, they knew they had to have a larger home. They made an agreement with Bill Rehaluk to buy a piece of land from him, and started to build a new home. They moved in with winter coming fast and the new house barely finished. On November 14, 1936 their fourth and last child, Fedor (Fred), was born. Because of the cold house and partly due to lack of proper care, Anna got a very severe fever and both mother and child were near death. A priest was summoned from Sifton and last rites were given to Anna and Fred was baptized. Thanks to Nurse Flora Hill, both Anna and Fred survived.

The four Budzey children received their education (only Grades 1-11 available) in Rorketon. All four earned pocket money working at Sam Hancharyk's (Hanchar's) store as they became old enough to hold this responsibility. After Grade 11, Omalin and Mersil tried their hand at becoming CNR agents. This did not work out and Omalin took a summer course to become a permit teacher at Edillen School, while Mersil went to work at the Queen Charlotte Islands in the bush camps driving logging trucks.

Omalin met Sophie Burdeyney and what started as a teacher-pupil relationship ended up in marriage. For the first year of marriage Omalin and Sophie lived in Rorketon. He worked as caretaker of the rink, at Marchenski's Lumber yard and as a projectionist at the local theatre. Opportunity seemed better in the East, so Omalin and Sophie took their daughter Darlene, and moved to Hamilton, Ontario. A son Gary was born. As of this writing they still live in Hamilton. Omalin is retired after working forty-two years at Jervis B. Webb, Sophie is retired after working at Proctor and Gamble's for twenty years. They have six grandchildren.

Mersil was not able to find suitable employment in Rorketon so he too moved to Hamilton. He started working in construction, then bought a truck and was employed by the city of Hamilton with the sanitation department. Eventually he bought two more trucks, hired drivers and also contracted these trucks to the city of Hamilton. He met Brenda Anderson and they got married. They had three children, Terry, Cheryl and Kevin. When the Ford Company opened its plant in Oakville, Ontario, Mersil applied for employment and was hired. He worked there until he decided to buy the Blue Water Hotel in Selkirk, Ontario. At this writing, Mersil has eleven grandchildren. He still lives in Hamilton, has sold his hotel and is presently working for Jervis B. Webb.



Budzey Children

To finish her high school, Olga had to take Grade 12 in Dauphin. She lived with a nice family and in exchange for a lower amount to pay for room and board helped to baby-sit two young children and helped with household chores in her spare time. After Grade 12 she taught one year on permit at Methley School, staying with the Luke family. She then pursued her dream of becoming a nurse. She moved to Toronto, Ontario to take her nurse's training at St. Michael's Hospital. While there she became friends with Joe Fielding, the brother of a close nursing colleague. This friendship grew and after graduation they got married. Joe was with the Canadian Air Force and his duties took him to many parts of the North American continent. They and their three children, Anna Marie, Gregory and Robert John became very adept at packing their belongings and moving to a new posting. At this writing Olga and Joe live in retirement in Arnprior, Ontario (near Ottawa), and have two grandchildren.

Fred wanted to teach and in order to do so had to finish Grade 12 before he could enter Normal School (Teacher Training). It was more economical (for the family) for him to live with his brother Omalin and sister-in-law Sophie in Hamilton to finish his final year. It was also easier for him to find a job in Hamilton to earn enough money to continue with his education. After graduating from Normal School, Fred taught for four and a half years at Brochet, Crane River, and Barrows for the Special School Division (now Frontier Division). While earning his University degrees he lived and taught in Winnipeg. There he met and married Joyce Andreychuk. They have three children, Sandra, David and Mark. They have lived in Anola for the last twenty years and after thirty and a half years with Winnipeg School Division #1, Fred retired in June, 1992. At this writing Fred and Joyce are both retired.

Dmetro Budzey passed away on March 22, 1970 at the age of seventy-six. Had he lived, he and Anna would have celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in October, 1970. On November 7, 1995, Anna will have reached her ninetieth birthday. At the time of this writing, due to health problems she now lives in a personal care home in Winnipeg.

Wally H. Burtنياك

I arrived in Rorketon on September 10, 1956 to take over the station agent's position with Canadian National Railways. My father and step-mother, Harry and Xenia Burtنياك came to Rorketon in the summer of 1957 to live with me.

I have a lot of fond memories of my stay in



Mr. & Mrs. Burtنياك



Wally Burtنياك

Rorketon and made a lot of lasting friendships. I remained in Rorketon for eighteen years. The station was closed at the end of October 1974. I then moved to Watrous, Saskatchewan for two years and then on to Hudson Bay, Saskatchewan for nine and a half years. On June 20th, 1985, I took early retirement after forty two years service and moved to Winnipeg. My father passed away in September 1964 and my step-mother passed away at Clearbrook, British Columbia in July 1991.

During my stay in Rorketon, I enjoyed the curling in the winter months. We entered many bonspiels in the surrounding towns, having fun and some hairraising experiences. In the summer, we did a lot of fishing, swimming, attending sports days, etc.

Maria (Bzawy) Didychuk History submitted by Marie E. Barker

Maria Didychuk, daughter of Theador and Anna Bralkowski, was born on July 7, at Mulaeca, Austria. She died on April 5, 1981, in Dauphin, at the age of 91.

Maria was the oldest and only daughter of a family of five. The rest were boys; Nick, Peter, Bill, and Michael.

They came to Canada in 1903, settling first in Emerson, Manitoba, then to the Toutes Aides area.

In 1908, Maria married Stephen Bzawy. Stephen was born near Senkiw, Austria in 1887, and died on March 5, 1975. He was the only child of Yvonne and Paraska (Zabarzan) Bzawy.

Steven and his parents first settled in Pembina, North Dakota, in the early 1900's, where Stephen had some schooling. Later they came to Canada, settling first at Emerson and then at Rorketon.

After his marriage to Maria, they bought a farm near Rorketon, NE 7-28-15W. As well as farming, Stephen was a horse and cattle buyer and later built and operated the first store in the village of Rorketon.

After raising a family of nine, they left Rorketon in the early 1920's, to settle in the district of Bay Centre in the R.M. of Dauphin. Previous to this move, the two oldest daughters were attending a boarding school in Sifton.

The family whose birth place was Rorketon are; Anne, born January 17, 1909, and died October 1992. She married Jack Castelane of Winnipeg in 1929.

Liele France was born in 1906, and died in 1987. He worked as a tradesman and salesman for Furnasman in Winnipeg, and also had his own business for some years. They have a family of two boys.

Ernie was born in 1930, and married Pic. They live in Toronto and have three girls.

Ronald was born in 1931, married Pat Hunter in Winnipeg in 1954, and they have a family of four; Cole, Mark and Susan live in Winnipeg; Karen married and lives in Toronto.

John was born in November 1909, and died in 1960. He married Dora Maksymchuk of Toutes Aides in 1943. He farms in the Bay Centre district. They had three children.

Peter was born in 1944 in Dauphin, is not married and is employed with the Town of Dauphin.

Kathleen was born in 1946 in Dauphin, married Ken Suri in Winnipeg and works for Manitoba Hydro. Their son Rakesh, is in fourth year medicine at Oxford University, Cambridge, England. Daughter Michelle is a student at St. Mary's Academy.

Thelma was born in 1948, and married Al Ross of Winnipeg, who works for the Manitoba Telephone System. Thelma is employed with the Department of Justice in Winnipeg. They have no family and live in Dugald.

Lena was born in 1912 and died in 1986. She married John Kostiwi in 1933, at Rochester, Alberta. They farmed there until John's death. They had eight children, the eldest Bobby, dying at the age of two. Bill married and farms in Rochester. Dorothy married, and both her and her husband teach school at Westlock. Betty, Pat, Joy, and Jean are all married.

Peter was born June 21, 1914. He did not marry. He died at the age of 21, in August of 1935, at Ponoka, Alberta where he was employed.

Kathleen was born February 12, 1916. She attended Bay Centre School. After leaving home, she worked for the Wrigley Gum Co. She married Ernest Plemley in Montreal in 1937. Ernest worked on ships on the Great Lakes. He died in the early 1970's. They had four children; Ernie (Sonny), married Sandra in Montreal. He worked for the Otis Elevator Co. Later he moved to Sidney and started his own company. They have three children: Janet, E.J. and Pamela. All are living on Vancouver Island.

Joni was a skater with the Ice Capades, now married to Larry Voorhees, and live in North Hollywood. They have one daughter Heidi, who also lives in Los Angeles and is a professional golfer.

Bill (William, Wilfred) was born March 4, 1918. He attended school at Bay Centre, helped on the farm, then served in the army. After his return, he farmed, then married Ruth in 1945, in Dauphin. He worked for C.C.I.L. in Dauphin. They had a family of one boy and one girl. He divorced, and then married Elsie (widow), in New Westminster. Bill worked as a mechanic. He is now retired and lives in Chilliwack with his wife.

Marie Elizabeth was born 1920, attended school at Bay Centre and McKenzie High. She left home in 1937, and went to work for the CNR in Winnipeg. She returned home in 1942, where she married Orvol Fredrick Barker.

Orvol was born on June 19, 1914, and lived in the Eclipse district for two years, then moved to Ochre Beach where he built a store. They operated the store in the summers, and, in the winters, Orvol was in the fishing business, buying and transporting fish to Winnipeg. In 1968, they built the store they called "Super-Saver", on River Ave. E. (Town and Country Market). Their home was and is still at Ochre Beach. Both are retired and spend their time gardening and doing volunteer work. They had no family.

Pauline was born in 1922, attended school at Bay Centre and lives in Dauphin. She married and has three daughters.

Matt (Max), was born November 1924, attended Bay Centre School. He is not married and lives at Bay Centre on the old homesite and is retired.

The next four were born in Dauphin.

Alice was born in 1926, attended Bay Centre school. After leaving home she worked for the CNR. Later she joined the C.W.A.C. Army and in 1947, married Roy Budishien. Ray was born in November 1925, and served with the Canadian Navy in the east. They have two daughters. Valerie married Jim Holmes in 1982, and Laura married David Sheherd in 1991. In the early 1960's, they moved to Sidney and are now retired.

Fred was born January 14, 1928, attended Bay Centre school and later McKenzie Junior High in Dauphin. He worked in Flin Flon in the mines and later moved to Edmonton. In 1958, he married Rose Yurkiw. They have four children, Gale, Bev, Karen, and David. Fred and Rose have separated and Fred retired in Smokey Lake, Alberta.

Lillian Frances was born in 1930, attended school at Bay Centre, and left school in the mid 1940's to work for the CNR. She then moved to Vancouver and worked as a cashier and later married Kenneth Wren, who was born in Winnipeg. He was an accountant and operated a garage business in New Westminster. He died in 1982. Lillian remarried, to Arthur Burnside, who was born in 1915 and died in 1995. She now lives in the U.S.A.

Bette was born in 1932, attended Bay Centre School and McKennzie Junior High in Dauphin. In 1948, she left home and went to Vancouver where she worked as a cashier in the Vancouver Theatre. She married Ralph Seymour, who was born in November, 1925. His occupation was a seaman and later a captain on ships and he is now retired. They have three children;

Billy who is married to Helene Ferguson, is editor of a paper in Prince George.

David lives in Vancouver.

Carolyn was born October 10, 1966 and works at a Royal Bank in Burnaby, British Columbia.

Maria Didychuk was a caring mother and grandmother. She was a very good cook and passed on her cooking skills to us. With such a large family, she shared her love even through difficult times.

Bzawy Family

submitted by Lillian F. Burnside

Lillian, born May 5, 1929, is the twelveth child of thirteen children of Steve and Maria Bzawy (Didychuk). Our dad was a very proud man and hard working as was our mother. Even during the depression we always had food on the table as

mother always had chickens and eggs and grew all the vegetables. During hunting season we ate lots of deer meat as they would come to our hay stacks, they were home grown.

One very cold winter my dad decided it was too cold to send the kids to school at Bay Center, two and a half miles away. He could not afford to buy clothes for seven or eight kids at a time. Someone told the school board that the Bzowy children were not attending school. They came out to the farm to see our dad and told him he had to send us to school. He explained he couldn't afford the clothes and they told him to apply for relief or welfare. He said "no way".

Out by the well the snow was so deep it was like a tunnel to walk through and the cattle and horse barns were just beyond that.

We raised a lot of chickens. We sold eggs, cream and chickens to local Co-op in Dauphin. We also raised geese and turkeys.

Mom made all the girls' clothes, sewed on the treadle. We would all have the same style and colour of dress out a bolt of material bought at old Netaras' general store in Dauphin. I tried to make over my older sisters' dresses. We all wore hand me down clothes and shoes. Our winter school clothes were fleece lined bloomers, serge ski type pants, and Indian Mocassins. In the summer we were bare footed.

We lived far from town so our religious teaching was done by dad. Every Sunday morning we all had to kneel on the hard wood dining room floor while he read the Bible and preached to us. This was done before breakfast. Later on we had Sunday school at the school.

submitted by Katherine Bzawy Plimley

I remember Rorketon. We left in 1924. My father had the first general store and also a livery stable where people left their horses when they came in to town.

We lived about five miles from the Toutes Aides area where my grandmother lived near the church. My grandfather and the priest built the church; I'll always remember his name, Father Saburne. He baptised me. They had a big bell near the church and during the service everybody had a big candle of about three feet long, made from bees wax. During the service the candles were lit.

The priest always stayed at my grandmother's when he came to preach. The church was about a half a mile from my grandmothers'. When I visited relatives in 1980, I saw a new church was rebuilt.

I still remember the wild flowers.

My father's mother lived with us. She was a midwife to a lot of mothers.

We left Rorketon when my father lost his store. Times got hard. He gave out credit and people were not able to pay. Then he started buying cattle and again he lost.

Two brothers and one sister served in the war of 1939-1945.

It's been so long ago, but I often think of those years in Rorketon. The town of Rorketon was supposed to be named after my father if he would have taken the post office - my mother told me that.

I have four children. My son is the owner of Plimley Elevator Company in Victoria, one daughter was a model in London and Paris and one daughter lives in Los Angeles where she was a member of Ice Capades.

William Bzowy

submitted by William Bzowy

I was born on March 6, 1918, in the district of Rorketon. I attended school which was just east of Rorketon, about two or three miles. We lived on a farm one mile east of Rorketon. I went to school for about two or three months. We moved to Dauphin in 1924. We farmed there until World War II. I was discharged after spending four years in the Army and came back from overseas for the second time.

I farmed for a couple of years, left home, got married and lived in Dauphin. I worked in a Ford garage in 1948. I married Ruth Callingbourne.

Our first child, Lloyd, was born on March 23, 1949. Our second child, Barbara, was born on December 26, 1952. We lived together until 1963, then separated.

In 1965, I moved to British Columbia, worked and owned a service station. In 1969, I remarried to Elsie Biagden. We had no children. Elsie had two girls from her previous marriage. Both are married. Diana, the oldest had two girls, Cindy and Teresa, and one boy, Roland. Lil, the younger daughter had one girl, Tracie and a boy, Steve Petkanan.

We moved from New Westminster to Saudis in 1975. In 1982, I retired and so far am in good health, playing a lot of golf.

John and Annie Bzowy

John and Ena Woliski immigrated to Canada to Sarto, Manitoba. They homesteaded in Sarto, where they raised four children. Annie Woliski was born there in 1902.

There is no information about John Bzowy's parents, only that he was born in 1892 in Senkiew, Galicia, Poland and came to Canada around 1910,



John & Annie Bzowy, 65th Wedding Anniversary

worked for Canadian National Railways, until he met Annie Woliski in Sarto, Manitoba. They were married in 1918 and later moved to Rorketon, where they farmed. They retired and moved to the town of Rorketon in 1948. Then they moved to the Dauphin Happy Haven in 1975. They celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary in 1981. They both passed away within months of each other in 1982.

The eldest daughter of John and Annie Bzowy (Woliski), Lena was born in 1919 in Sarto. She then moved to the Rorketon district with her parents. She went to Edillen School. Lena married Leslie Wilson in 1938. They farmed, but later on moved to Rorketon where he became manager of the Rorketon Egg Station. They raised four children; Lorraine, Audrey, Albert, and Alan. She passed away in 1994. Her husband predeceased her. My name is Mary and I am the second daughter of John



Danny & Mary Kowalchuk (Bzowy)

and Annie Bzowy. I was born in the Rorketon district and went to Edillen School. I left home when I was 17, went to work in MacGregor and then I worked in Carberry, Manitoba. I went home for my sister Lena's wedding. I met Danny Kowalchuk in Austin, Manitoba and we made our home in MacGregor. Danny retired from C.P. Railways in 1977 and passed away in 1985. I continue to reside in MacGregor where most of my close friends and relatives live. The hobbies I enjoy are; fishing, bowling, gardening and growing flowers.

Mike Bzowy, the only son of John and Annie Bzowy, was born in the Rorketon district and went to Edillen School. He enlisted in the army in 1943. He was a Lance Corporal and his regiment was the Carlton York. When his regiment was leaving for duty in Dieppe, he didn't go with them because he was very ill with influenza. He was sent to Italy later and fought for six weeks in the front lines.

My name is Kay and I am the youngest daughter of John and Annie Bzowy. I was born in 1928 and went to Vedenia School which was located in the Rorketon area. Our school won the trophy for softball three times at the Rorketon Fields Day. The last two times I was on the team.

When my brother enlisted in the army and my two sisters had left home, I had to quit school to help my parents on their farm. During the war, many girls had to work on the farm in place of their brothers who were in the army. This meant that as well as milking about five cows, I also had to help to look after about 200 chickens and feed about 12 pigs daily. I also had to help my dad with seeding the crop, working the summer-fallow, cutting the grain and stooking, as hired help was unavailable. We also had about fifteen cattle and seven horses, for which we had to make hay in the summer. The only advantage was that we didn't have to buy gas as everything was done by horses.

When my brother returned home, I worked in the Egg Station in Rorketon until I married Anthony Chiupka in 1947. When Anthony went fishing up north, I went along to cook for him for two winters at Laurie Lake near Lynn Lake. At that time, I could hear the blasting at the site where the Lynn Lake mine was being built. I liked Laurie Lake as we used to fly in and land on open water. It was also very peaceful and beautiful in the northern country. I also went with my husband for one winter to South Indian Lake in northern Manitoba. Oh yes, I forgot to mention that I also washed our clothes on a scrub board. So when I went to cook for Anthony, I brought along my trusty scrub board.

I stayed in Rorketon while our first two children

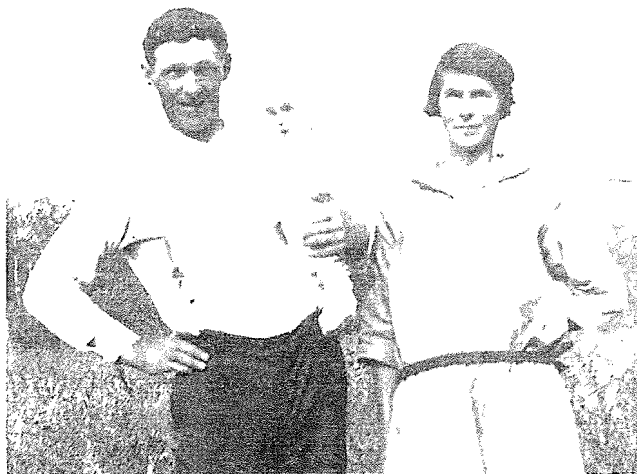
were born. When my husband quit fishing, we started raising cattle. Before that time, we grew only grain in the summer and fished in the winter. Hobbies I have enjoyed over the years on the farm include; gardening, growing flowers, cooking, reading, sewing, curling, and carolling at Christmas time. I also love nature, bird watching and feeding. Raising such a large family, my husband and I have many fond memories, too many to name. Life also had its harsher side; times of hardships, illness, budgeting to make ends meet, and times of crisis, but our family always stuck it through together. I think of how hard we had to work when I was young, milking cows, making hay, raising chickens, selling eggs and cream to make a living. Things sure have changed now with running water, indoor toilets, satellite television, air conditioning and better tractors. Working on the farm today is a lot easier and more manageable.

Jacob Chiupka Family **submitted by Anthony Chiupka**

In 1905, Andrew Chiupka and wife Annie (Smadella) and family emigrated to Canada from Bjaltobzica, Austria. They settled in the Moose Bay district NW 3-28-17W.

Jacob, the oldest of the ten children, born in Austria in 1893, was a helping hand in building up the homestead. He had no formal schooling in Canada, only some Ukrainian instructions in Austria. In 1916, Jacob married Titiana Zaplitny, daughter of Dmetro and Anna Zaplitny of the Oak Brae District. Unfortunately, she died that same year of a flu epidemic.

In 1917, Jacob married Pearl Hrushowy, daughter of Fred and Rose Hrushowy from the Moose Bay District. They started their farming on SE 4-28-17W



Jacob & Pearl Chiupka with son Fred

and also some winter fishing on Lake Dauphin. Eventually, Jacob had his own threshing machine and did custom threshing for local farmers. Jacob and Pearl had five children; Fred, Walter, Mary, Tony and Olga.

In the fall of 1927, while Jacob was busy custom threshing and fuel was running low, Pearl and Jacob's younger brother, Bill, drove to Rorketon with a team of horses and wagon. They went to pick up two barrels of fuel and some groceries. On the way home, tragedy occurred; the bridle had come off one of the horses. Because of Pearl's trust of the horses, she decided to walk the tongue of the wagon to replace the bridle. This scared the horses and caused a runaway. Caught on the tongue, between the two horses who were out of control, she made the decision to jump over one of the horses. Unfortunately, she did not clear the wheel of the wagon. Pearl suffered crushed bones in one leg and a loss of blood before another team came along and took her back to town. She was rushed to Dauphin General Hospital by a C.N.R. jigger to Ochre River and then by car to Dauphin. There were no automobiles in the Rorketon area and roads were mainly wagon trails. After an operation and then amputation, Pearl did not survive.

In 1928, Jacob married Helen Roznowski, daughter of Andrew and Nastazia Roznowski of the Meadowlands District. To get away from the sorrow of tragedies endured in the area, he made the decision to move the family and all to southern Saskatchewan and start a new life. Jacob, Helen and the family settled in the Val Marie area, half a mile from the U.S. border. With the help of Jacob's brother, Bill, who came along, a make do house was constructed in a hurry and also a barn for the livestock, a masterpiece dug out into the side of a hill, only the roof and front door section out of lumber.



Helen holding Nellie, Jacob, & his brother Bill

A flock of wild turkeys that would land within range, provided a feast for the family. In 1930, Jacob came to the conclusion that Manitoba was still a better place to make a living. That fall, after buying a Whippet car in Regina, it was back to Manitoba in grand style. This time they settled in the Meadowlands District, Spence Lake area. The children attended the Meadowlands School. Livelihood was mainly milking cows and some beef cattle.

In 1934 Jacob bought a farm in Million, SW 24-27-17, and the family moved for the last time, hopefully. Here Jacob established a mixed farm, and did winter fishing on Lake Dauphin. The children attended Million School. Helen Chiupka was a hard working farm wife offering help wherever it was required. Cream cheques were the guaranteed annual income.

Clearing and breaking new land was always on the priority list. Before the bulldozer era, it was the axe, a back-breaking, sweat-pouring job, but many hands made the job seem easier. The Emerson tractor, bought new in 1926, transported by C.N. freight to Saskatchewan, then back to Manitoba, still had the power to pull the breaking plough. Jacob was a craftsman with an axe. His hewed-log buildings still catch an eye, walls as smooth as plywood. He enjoyed life on the farm. His hobby was visiting neighbours until two o'clock in the morning. He was a great hunter and an afternoon hunt could yield four or five deer, the family meat supply for most of the winter.

Jacob and Helen were blessed with nine children, two boys and seven girls: Nellie, Annie, Tillie, Lawrence, Margaret, Eva, Alice, Pearl, and Andy. In 1978, Jacob and Helen celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary. They preferred living on the



Chiupka Family

farm in their old age. Jacob passed away in 1981 at the age of 88 years. Helen stayed on the farm for quite a few years after her husband's death. Presently, Helen is in the care of her daughter, Margaret, in Winnipeg.

Fred and Anne Chiupka

Fred Chiupka was born in 1920. He attended school at Moose Bay, Val Marie, Saskatchewan, Meadowlands, and Million and completed grade 7. He helped out with various jobs on the family farm. He learned to play a violin as a young boy and played at some local dances. To earn money, he was fur trapping and winter fishing on Lake Dauphin. At age 16, in partnership with his younger brother, Walter, the Million Fur Farm evolved (mink ranch). The ranch flourished with much expansion. Now his partner, brother Walter, had other ventures in the planning, fishing the lakes in Northern Manitoba. As much capital was required, Walter decided to go working at the mines in Ontario. Now Fred was a busy man, extra help badly needed. He said he would only marry a girl who would help skin horses for his mink. The thought of skinning old horses didn't go well with the girls.

In the early 1940's, due to war in Europe, the fur demand fell and so did the price. The mink ranch became "just a white elephant." As Walter now returned with a bundle, it was full swing ahead for fishing in the north with a newly purchased two ton Chevy and other necessary gear. First year of operation in 1943 was at Rippers Point, north shore of Lake Winnipegosis. In 1944 came disaster, the drowning of Walter. With much sorrow, Fred continued fishing two more seasons at Rippers Point, then went on to fish in northern Manitoba. Central Northern Airways provided air service, hauling fresh fish to Sherridon. Air freight at eight and a half cents a pound seemed like a bit of a rip-off, and this is where the first Bombardier came in. Now Fred was fishing and freighting.

After two years, he went fishing to South Indian Lake. Fred's Wife, Anne, cooked for the men at the camp.

Fred married Anne Drewniak from Fork River in October 1953. They moved north to South Indian Lake where Fred continued commercial fishing, hauling fish to Lynn Lake via trans air planes.

In spring of 1956, Fred and Anne moved to Eldon Lake where their main fish plant was located. Also in 1956, their first born, a daughter, Dianne, arrived.

In 1959, they built a home in Eldon Lake, four

miles southeast of Lynn Lake. In the spring of 1959, their second daughter, Adeline, was born.

Fred bought his first aircraft, a Norsmen, in May of 1959. Hauling the fish with Transair was becoming too costly.

In March of 1961, their third daughter, Nancy, arrived.

Fred continued to fish from South Indian Lake and surrounding northern lakes. Fish was hauled by aircraft to Eldon Lake fish packing plant. The fish was then shipped to buyers in Winnipeg via C.N. rail.

In 1962, Fred purchased his second aircraft, a bushcraft, to aid with the fish transporting.

Fred continued to purchase aircrafts and hire workers to maintain the prosperous fishing business. He eventually accumulated seven aircraft, canso, cesna, two norsemen and three buchcrafts, "Chiupka Airways Ltd."

Complimenting the fishing industry, Fred operated a fishing tourist camp, attracting many American tourists. Tourists would be flown to his fish camp with guided fishing expeditions.

Fred and Anne enjoyed travelling during their off season, ice break-up, spring and fall. They travelled to Italy, Russia, South America, United States and Hawaii.

In 1963, Fred had a hangar built to maintain the aircraft.

In 1965, Fred and Anne further expanded the business by building a fish filleting and packing plant. At this point, Fred had approximately 100 staff on his payroll between fishing, filleting plant and aircraft business.

Unfortunately in 1967, the filleting and packing plant burned down.

In 1968, Fred, Anne and family moved to the town of Lynn Lake.

Unable to slow down, Fred ventured on building an apartment block, accommodating eight suites, conveniently located one block from the Lynn Lake school. Most of his tenants were teachers from the school.

In 1970 Fred and Anne sold the airline business. His airline remains to operate under a new owner, "Calm Air". It remains to serve the north and operates in association with "Canadian Air".

In 1972 Fred, Anne and family moved to Dauphin, Manitoba. He continued to have ties with the north - renting his apartment block. Fred would make regular trips to Lynn Lake to maintain the building.

While in Dauphin, Fred and Anne enjoyed fam-

ily life, seeing their daughters receive their education.

On January 28, 1988, tragedy struck. Fred and Anne were in a two vehicle car accident while travelling north to Lynn Lake. Fred died at the scene of the accident just south of Thompson at the age of 67 years.

Walter Chiupka was born in 1921. He attended school at Val Marie, Saskatchewan, Meadowlands and Million in Manitoba. He quit school in grade 6. As a young boy, he fished and trapped to earn some money. His hobby was brewing beer by the barrel. He was often visited by neighbour boys for sampling and the recipe.

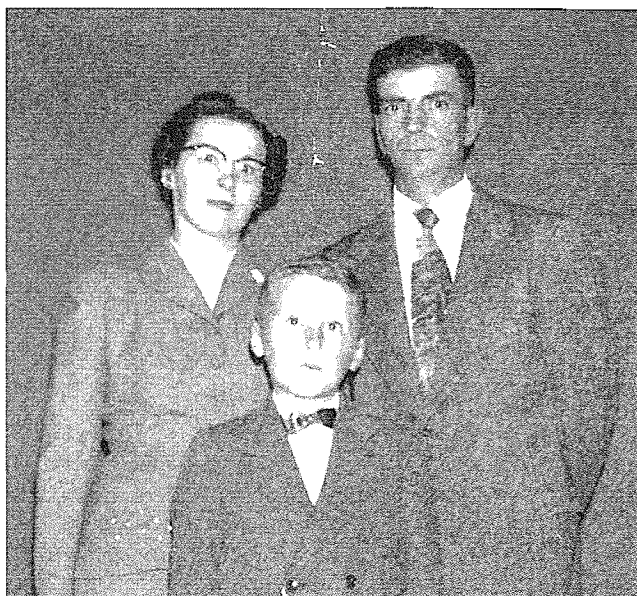


Walter Chiupka

Walter was everyone's friend. He started the Million Fur Farm in partnership with his brother Fred.

Later he worked at Utchi Lake, St. Anthony and Pickle Crow Gold Mines in Ontario. In 1943, in partnership with Fred, he fished at Rippers Point on Lake Winnipegosis. The following year was the tragedy of his drowning. So the era of an ambitious young man ended at only 22.

Mary was born in 1923. She attended school at Val Marie, Saskatchewan, Meadowland and Million. She completed grade 7. In 1939, she worked for a farm family at Dauphin. She then went to Ontario and got a job at St. Anthony Gold Mine working in the mine cook shack. There she met Bill Nahuliak. They were married in 1942 and went farming at Dallas, Manitoba. After a few years, they quit farming and moved to Thunder Bay where Bill worked for Canada Car Manufacturing and Mary worked in an ice cream parlour. They had two chil-



Mary, Bill Nakuliak & son John

dren; a Olga, daughter who died in infancy, and a son, Johnnie, now working for Proctor and Gamble in Mississauga, Ontario. Her husband Bill, passed away in 1978, and Mary passed away in 1993.

Anthony (Tony) Chiupka was born at Moose Bay in 1924. My parents were Jacob and Pearl Chiupka. My first memories of my childhood were of mother Pearl taking me along going fishing.

I attended Meadowland and Million school and completed grade 8. In 1941, Million school junior softball team won the Silver Cup at the Rorketon Field's Day. I had the honour of being the pitcher and captain of the team.

At 16 years old, I went harvesting at Neepawa. I worked twenty-four days stooking and running a stook team for wages of \$3.00 a day. In 1941, at 17 years old, I went to work at the mines, working twenty months at St. Anthony and Pickle Crow Gold Mines for fifty-three cents and fifty-eight cents an hour plus some bonus. Then I worked one year at Flin Flon. In the fall of 1944, I went winter fishing of Lake Winnipegosis north shore area. In 1946, I bought a farm in the Lawrence Municipality E 30-28-15W. The following year I married my fiancée, Kay Bzowy, an ambitious young farm girl, daughter of John and Annie Bzowy. Kay liked to sing, play guitar and drive horses. We farmed in the summer and went winter fishing on Laurie Lake, in Manitoba.

It was a big relief now with Kay being a great cook and looking after other camp duties. We were mainly catching trout and pickerel.

Herds of caribou migrating during winter provided us with fresh meat. We moved to fish on



Anthony & Kay Chiupka (Bzowy)

South Indian Lake. Fishing was great. We counted as many as 286 white fish out of one net. With one man, we caught as much as 4,000 pounds of white fish in a day. This was Kay's last winter at the fish camp. The following year, she stayed in Rorketon looking after our first born, Judy. I fished four more winters, the last two with a Bombardier. In 1954, I sold my fishing outfit and the same year we built our new house on the farm. Now we were full time farmers. Our farm expanded to eight quarters, with 1,000 acres under cultivation and a herd of around fifty beef cows. Our farm was a family operation. Hired men were never required.



Joseph Chiupka & Judy Mergel (Chiupka), Patricia (Chiupka) Lamy & Wayne Chiupka

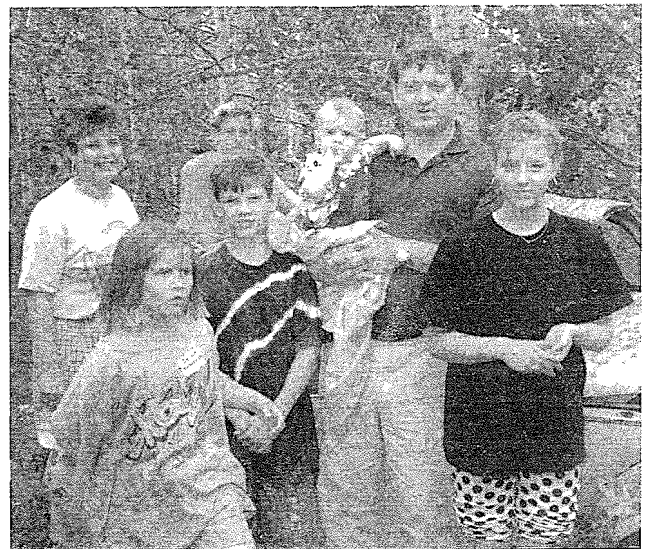
We enjoy sports, music, travelling and all outdoor activities. We raised six children; Judy, Carol, Joseph, Wayne, Raymond and Patricia.

At present, we are still farming in partnership with our son, Raymond, and his son, Rory, who is also very efficient at operating farm equipment. We enjoy life on the farm and the beauty of nature.

Judy, our oldest child, was born in 1950, attended Rorketon Collegiate Institute, and then went on to University of Manitoba where she obtained her Degree in Physical Education. She worked at the Health Sciences Centre in Winnipeg as a Recreation therapist. Judy then moved to Red Deer, Alberta where she married Keith Hansen in 1978. She has

two children; Louise and Bobby. They divorced. In the summer of 1995, she married Vernon Mergel. They are presently cattle ranching at Wood Mountain, Saskatchewan.

Carol, our second daughter, took two years of Arts at the University of Manitoba and then acquired her Teacher's Certificate. She married Peter Slobodzian in 1971. They taught school at Pukatawagon, Camperville, Rivers, Ethelbert, Sherridon, Crane River and Winnipeg. They raised five children; Ryan, Crystal, Patrick, Cerrie-Ann, and Brigg. At present, they are living in St. Ann, Manitoba and her husband teaches in Winnipeg. Peter and Carol are celebrating their twenty-fifth wedding anniversary on October 9, 1996.



Peter & Carol Slobodzian (Chiupka)

Joseph, the oldest son, was born in 1954. He graduated from Rorketon Collegiate then attended the University of Manitoba and obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree. He studied in the field of Geology and graduated with honours. He worked for Gulf Oil Company in Calgary, Alberta for quite a few years. In 1983, he moved to Melbourne, Australia, and worked for oil companies as an Exploration Consultant. Joseph then took Ph. D. studies in the field of Geophysics and is presently working for Echidna Mining as a gold exploration Geologist in the Great Dividing Range of Victoria, Australia. In 1987, Joseph married Lisa Werbicky who was born and raised in Australia.

Wayne, our fourth child and middle son, was born in 1957, and graduated from Rorketon Collegiate in 1975. Wayne pursued education and training in the fields of Mechanical Engineering, Industrial Millwright Apprenticeship, Power Engineering and Management. In 1982, Wayne mar-

ried Linda Alarie, daughter of Jim and Florence Alarie, also of Rorketon. Following their wedding, Wayne and Linda moved to Winnipeg where Wayne worked as the Assistant Facilities Manager for the Transcona Springfield School Division. In 1994, Wayne accepted a position as Manager of Plant Services for the Lake Superior Board of Education of Northwestern Ontario. Wayne and Linda have two children; Jonathan, born in 1983, and Caitlin, born in 1988.

Raymond, our youngest son, completed his grade 12. Then he went to Red River Community College where he obtained his Certificate in Industrial Electronics. He married Rosalyn Kuyp in 1981. They live in Toutes Aides and are raising two children; Ramona and Rory. Raymond repairs household appliances and air-conditioning. He also plays violin, guitar and drums. He plays with different bands and also farms part time with his dad.

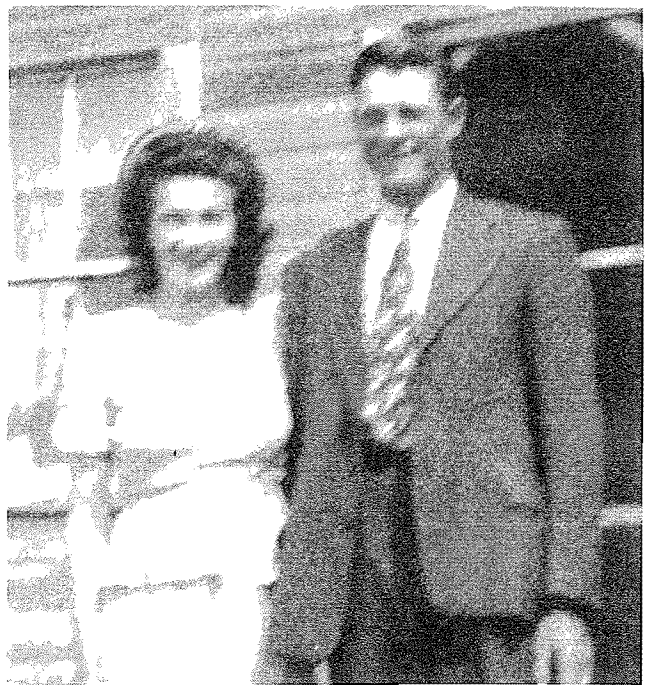


Raymond Chiupka

Patricia, our youngest daughter, completed her grade 12 and then completed her first year in a four year Bachelor of Education Program at the University of Brandon. She also received her Teacher's Aide Diploma from ICS. Patricia married Richard Lamy in 1983 and they have one daughter, Angela. She has worked as an Educational Assistant, tutor and presently works as a Family Support Worker. They now live in the Rorketon area. All of our six children received their first 12 years of schooling from Rorketon Collegiate Institute.

Olga (Chiupka) Woychyshyn

Olga was born in 1927. The youngest child of Jacob and Pearl, she attended Million School and completed grade 7. She was the dishwasher of the family. Olga enjoyed playing the guitar and singing. A scribbler full of songs and a guitar made her day. In 1943, she went to Winnipeg and got a job at Misericordia General Hospital where she worked



Olga & Mike Woychyshyn

until 1947. In Winnipeg, she met Mike Woychyshyn and they were married in 1947. They went farming at Newdale, Manitoba, growing grain and raising some cattle. They had one son, Melvin, who is now married and is working and living in Calgary. Olga passed away in 1951 due to cancer of the brain.

Margaret Chiupka

Margaret Chiupka was born in 1938 and went to school in Million. After finishing school, she moved to Winnipeg and worked at the Hudson Bay for five years. Then she got a job at Paulin Chamber's where she became a supervisor. She married in 1962 and is still living in Winnipeg. Now she is working for U.L.M.G. Reliance.

Alice Chiupka

Alice was born in Million, January, 1942. She attended Million School and Rorketon High School. She married Wilfred (Butch) Styve in 1965. Alice lived in Australia a number of years. Her husband Butch is a Captain with Canadian Airlines.

They raised two children. Jason, born in 1973, is presently teaching Chemistry and doing post graduate Ph. D. studies at University of Houston, Texas.

Gaylene, born in 1975, is presently doing post graduate Ph. D. studies at University of Maryland, Washington, D.C. in Criminal Justice/Psychology.

Alice and Butch moved to Lewiston, New York in 1996. They spend a great deal of their time at their summer home in Woodridge, Manitoba.

Nellie (Chiupka) Woychyshyn

Nellie, born September of 1929 near Val Marie, Saskatchewan, came with my parents to Manitoba as an infant. I received my education at Million. I left school at age 14 to help out on the family farm. In the fall of 1946, I went to Winnipeg to find work. There I met and married Walter Woychyshyn in 1947. In the years that we were married, I helped my husband with trucking, farming and a pool room business we owned in Swan River. We were blessed with one daughter, Enid, married to Jeffery Hayes and they live in Brandon. We semi-retired to Minnedosa in 1975. We enjoy travelling in our motor home and fishing.



Nellie & Wally Waychyshyn & Enid & Jeffery Hayes

J. Pearl (Chiupka) Black

I was born in 1943 to my proud parents, Jacob and Helen Chiupka, of Million.

I attended Million school and then Rorketon High for my education. Upon leaving school, I was employed at Evan's Drive-In at Neepawa and later Alex's Grill in Winnipeg.

In 1963, I married Elmer Black, a farmer near Holmfield, Manitoba. Once there, I was active in church as a Sunday School teacher and the U.C.W. Other activities included being an avid curler, a 4-H leader and a part-time home care worker.

We raised three children. Trudy who married Carey Friesen, has two daughters of her own. She is a legal aid secretary in Winnipeg. Rhonda is a certified Horticulturist in British Columbia. Gerald owns a farm near Holmfield and assists Elmer with running the family farm raising cattle and grain.

Tillie (Chiupka) Copeland

I was born to Helen and Jacob Chiupka on March 15, 1933, in Meadowlands. The third child. I don't remember moving to Million, but that was where I went to school.

After finishing grade eight, I left for Winnipeg,



Tillie & Charlie, Sharon, Cindy, Marion, & Fred

where I went to work in a restaurant. Later, I took another job at a sewing factory. Later, I moved to Dauphin where I met and married Charles Copeland.

I have four children; Marion born 1954, Cindy born 1959, Sharon born 1960 and Fred in 1962. All our children went to school in Dauphin.

Marion married Henry Janzen and lives in Arborg, Manitoba. They have two daughters, Marla and Meighen. Marion is presently working at Chicken Chef in Arborg.

Cindy married Lyle Tholt and they have two children; Theresa and Mitchell. She lives in Lockport, Manitoba and works at Gardwine in Winnipeg.

Sharon married Brendon McMurshy and they have three daughters; Crystal, Jewel and Robin. She lives in Winnipeg and works at I.B.M. Computers.

Fred left home after school to work in Flin Flon mines until his dad passed away suddenly. Then he returned home to work around Dauphin. He is presently employed at Swan River.

After the death of my husband in 1984, I took a job as a cook at Sticky's Restaurant in Dauphin. I remarried in 1994 to Donald Beaty from Erickson and we are presently living in Dauphin where I continue to cook at Sticky's.

John and Anna Chornoboy submitted by Ethel Masiowski

My dad emigrated to Canada in 1901 with his parents, Michael and Anna Chornoboy, and his four sisters: Mary (Bilay), Michalina (Krawec), Annie (Merchak) and Nellie (Zabiaka) and one brother, Bill Chornoboy.



John Chornoboy, Baba Chornoboy, Bill Chornoboy

Their first habitation was a homestead in the wilderness of Northlake, Manitoba. They then moved to Weiden in hopes of finding land that was free of rocks and swamps. This period in their lives was very hard, as they had few tools to work with and the winters were cold.

Slowly the children married and moved away from home. My grandparents retired to Fork River until their death. Grandpa died in 1939 and was buried in the Fork River Cemetery. Grandma lived for many years, the last several in Rorketon with my dad and mom. They took care of her until she passed away. Grandma was laid to rest beside Grandpa in 1953.

My father's first marriage was to Nellie Sass of Winnipegosis. They farmed at Weiden on the farm that was later Joe Baschuk's. They were blessed with five children. Anna married Joe Baschuk. Carrie married John Zaplitny. Victoria married Joe Halko. Stella married Wilf Jensen (Kuchylima). Mike married Doris Kolochuk.

Times were really tough when the family was growing up. There was a dry period when nothing grew for lack of rain. There was no money to buy seed for next year's crop, but they always hoped that next year would be better.

Every year dad would try and break a little more land for cultivation. They had to contend with great drought. Grasshoppers destroyed what survived the heat. Then there were worms that destroyed any vegetation that was in sight.

My father and other men would leave their families alone, and go in search of work hoping to make

a few dollars at harvest-time. Pay was only 50 cents a day with board, but it helped to buy flour, salt, sugar, and tea, and seed for next spring.

As years went by my father's first wife's health began to deteriorate; her condition became worse. She had a bad heart. Stella was then a baby, but mom hung on; she wanted to see her little daughter grow up. I cried when I heard Dad talk about this. There was a Christmas Concert at Meadowlands and Mom had promised the children that Dad would take them to see it. She became very ill the day of the Concert. Dad didn't want to go, but Mom said she promised the children, and they must go. She assured Dad that she and Stella, who was three years old then, would be all right, so they all piled into the sleigh and were off. When they returned towards morning, they found that mom had died, with her baby sound asleep in her arms. We sometimes wonder how people can get over tragedies like that. But my dad was a survivor. In those days a person had to be one.

This is the time my mother "Anna" came in to Dad's life a year and a half later. My mother came to Canada, sponsored by her mother's brother, Bill Kindzerski in Sifton. Bill also had a brother, Steve, who farmed at Rorketon. My mother's parents, Mary and Alex Beyak, and her two sisters and a brother were going to follow the next year. In the meantime war broke out and that was the end of their immigration. Mom never saw her family again.

My dad knew Bill Kindzerski at Sifton, because every fall the farmers made a long pilgrimage to the Sifton flour-mill. It seemed to be an event everyone looked forward to after harvest. Some grain was stored away for seed the following spring, some for feed, and the rest was hauled to the flour mill to be



John & Ann Chornoboy & Family

ground into flour and crushed into cereal. Dad and his first wife (Nellie) often stopped to rest at my mother's uncle's place and many times spent the night there. So it is through Uncle Kindzerski, two years later that he met my mother; they courted a short time and were married in May, 1931. They farmed at Weiden across from the school.

Stella left home when she was in her early teens. She worked out for a while and then joined the armed forces CWAC. Dad was always very active in community, school and church affairs. He served as a trustee for the Ukrainian Catholic Church at Weiden for over twenty years.

My parents retired from the farm in 1948 and moved to Rorketon. While building their home, Dad was quite content, but once he had nothing to do he felt very lost, so he started working with my uncle Bill Chornoboy, building schools around the area.

Dad and Mom then became custodians of a lovely new school at Rorketon. These were their retirement years and they both loved it.

Dad's health was failing him and when he no longer could work he to just gave up. He passed away in January, 1966. He was buried at the Rorketon Catholic Cemetery.

At a High School Class Reunion in 1982 I was quite surprised that the street that the school was on was named John's Street. If it was named for my father, I'm very proud.

In 1969, my mother relocated to Ninette, Manitoba. which is presently my home. She married a very fine gentleman, Peter Konowachuk. Peter was stricken with T.B. at a very early age. He was in and out of the Ninette Sanitarium. Prior to meeting my mom he spent 19 years there and had just got out. He bought a pool- room and barber shop and barbered there. Unfortunately his health did not allow them very many years together. They were very happy and he became dear to my family. They were the only grand- parents my children remember.

My step-father passed away in the fall of 1973 and was buried at the Ninette Cemetery.

I am married to Frank Masiowski of Fork River. We were blessed with three lovely children:

Brad and his wife Marie and their little year old daughter, Sydni reside in West St. Paul, Winnipeg.

Arline and her husband, Estwood Davidson, are living at Cape Breton Isle, N.S.

Debbie and her husband, Don McKay and their three children, Darren, Justin and Alesha, reside at Winnipeg, Manitoba.

We lost our little son, Frankie, in 1959, but have been blessed three fold since then. Our grandchildren also have brought great joy into our lives.

We moved to Ninette in 1974 to care for my mother. It gives us great consolation knowing that we made her final years happy. Mother suffered with heart problems and diabetes. Mama suffered a stroke and spent the final three years at the Wawanesa Personal Care Home, until she passed away in December, 1987. She was laid to rest beside her husband in Ninette Cemetery.

With great sadness, I have lost all my family but one sister, Stella, who is residing in Winnipeg.

It may be of interest to report the history of my sister, Victoria and her husband, Joe Halko since they were long time residents and in business in Rorketon for many years. Joe and Victoria had three children: Florence, Johnny and Walter.

When they were first married, Joe and Victoria operated a general grocery store at Weiden. Next they moved to Rorketon. In the early 1950's, they moved to Ontario where they owned the "Hilly Lake Cabins" in Kenora, on Trans Canada Highway East.

They retired to Brandon with hopes of living closer to their children and families. Unfortunately their lives have been saddened by the loss of their son, John, who passed away at the age of 33. In 1974 Florence suffered a stroke that left her mentally affected. Florence's youngest child at the time was only one and a half years old. Florence was married to Arthur Pulak. They had five children: Marlene, David, Greg, Patrick, and Lenard. Marlene owns Marlin Travel Agency in Brandon.

Joe passed away in 1980. Florence's husband passed away shortly after. Victoria passed away, in 1984 and Walter shortly after. Florence is the sole survivor. Although she is healthy and happy, she's absolutely oblivious to her surroundings. She is always happy to get company. She recalls many childhood memories. Presently she is in the Central Park Lodge, well taken care of and loved by her family.

In conclusion, just as my husband was thinking of retiring in 1986, I went back to school. I acquired my diploma in cosmetology and operate my own shop in Ninette.

Harry and Jean Chornoboy **submitted by Harry W. Chornoboy**

It was in August, 1947 that Harry Chornoboy, of Fork River, fresh out of grade 12 and a graduate of the six week short course for permit teachers in Winnipeg, came to the Rorketon area. The Weiden School, with an enrollment of forty-two pupils in grade one through seven, was to be his home for the next ten months.

The following year, Harry attended the Provincial Normal School in Winnipeg and, upon graduation, accepted a teaching position at Rorketon where he taught grades six and eight for three years.

In 1952, he married Jean Rehaluk, second daughter of William and Eva Rehaluk, of Rorketon. Jean received most of her public school education at the Rorketon School and graduated from its high school. She enrolled at the Success Business College, Jean worked as a model and stenographer for a fashion clothing firm in the city. A year of teaching at each of the schools at Blue Bell (East Bay), Magnet and Methley brought her teaching career to an end.

Following their marriage in July, 1952, Harry and Jean made their home in Pine River where Harry was the school principal for the next four years. Harold, our first child, was born in Fork River.

In the summer of 1956, Harry, Jean, infant son, Harold, and the family dog, Mitzi, returned to Rorketon where Harry accepted the principalship of the grade 1-12 Rorketon School. Grade twelve was being offered for the first time that fall. Their second son, Douglas, was born while the family was living in Rorketon. During his teaching years in Rorketon, Harry was very involved in curling and boys' hockey.

The family moved to Winnipegosis in 1960 where Harry was the collegiate principal for seven years and then on to Roblin for two years where

Harry held a similar position. In 1969, Harry was appointed school superintendent with the Fort La Bosse School Division based in Virden, a position he held for twenty years before retiring in 1989. Harry and Jean continue to make their home in Virden.

Their son, Harold, is married to the former Joanne Unrau, of Souris, Manitoba and they have two children, Scott (nine) and Reagan (seven). Harold is employed as an area manager by the Bank of Montreal in Winnipeg.

Douglas is married to the former Katherine Unrau, of Austin, Manitoba and they also have two children, Nicholas (five) and Morgan (two and a half). Douglas is employed with Wood Gundy, an investment and consulting firm in Toronto. They make their home in Pickering, Ontario.

Croft Family History

Judy and Paul Croft moved into Rorketon, September 1996, when they purchased Hanchar's Lucky Dollar Store and Mike and Olga Hanchar's house. For the previous five years they had been living in the community of Cross Lake, Manitoba. During that time Paul was managing a gasoline station and convenience store while Judy was operating a flower and gift shop out of their home, while at the same time home schooling their oldest son. Prior to that, they resided in the community of Bissett, Manitoba, for three years where they co-managed a general store.

Judy was born and raised in the Volga District about twelve miles from Winnipegosis. She lived at home until graduating from grade twelve at Winnipegosis Collegiate. After that she moved to Winnipeg where she worked in various jobs until 1986.

Paul was born in Manchester, England. He moved to Winnipeg in 1972 on his eighth birthday. He lived in Winnipeg until 1979 when along with his parents he moved to La Salle, Manitoba. He graduated from grade twelve in 1982 from St. Norbert Collegiate.

Paul and Judy were married in June 1986. They have three boys, Daryl, born March 4, 1986, Jared, born October 17, 1989 and Shaun, born October 17, 1991.

They enjoy living in Rorketon, as they feel for the first time that this is their home. Having lived for sixteen years away from home, Judy finally hopes to enjoy some fine Ukrainian food and Ukrainian weddings. Also, since they married they have always dreamed of operating a Country Store where it's safer than the city and people are much friendlier.

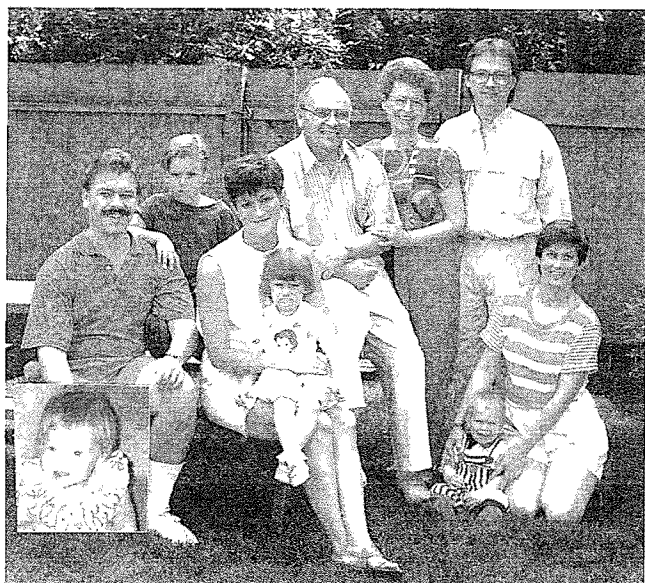
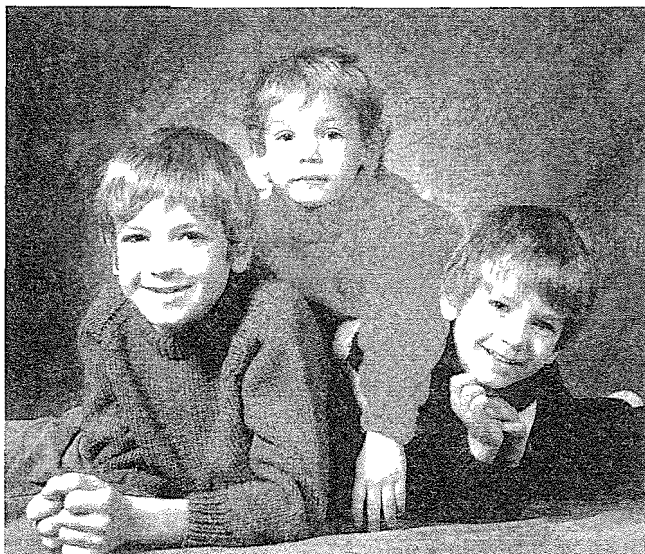


Photo taken on the occasion of Harry and Jean's 40th Wedding Anniversary in 1992. Pictured from Left to Right: Harold Scott, Joanne, Reagan, Harry, Jean, Doug, Kathy, and Nicholas. Inset: Morgan



Judy & Paul Croft children, Daryl, Shaun and Jared

Syl and Claire Didur History

We, Syl and Claire (Van De Kerckhove), were married on June 29, 1963, in the town of Rorketon. My home town was Garland and Claire came from Toutes Aides.

My first teaching position was at the Horyn School, from 1960 to 1963, with a beginning annual salary of \$2400.

Following our wedding, we moved to a little community country school called Million. The school was located less than half a mile from the shores of Lake Dauphin, and was situated on about three acres of land.

While at Million, our first son, Ronald, was born on August 31, 1964. Our second child, Lynn, was born on August 16, 1965. At the same time, I accepted a position at the Rorketon School, teaching some grades 7 to 10 subjects, as well as taking the responsibilities of vice-principal for two years.

We lived in Rorketon for four years, renting Hanchar's and Litwinowich's house, which was heated only by a large coal fed furnace. With an expanded family, we felt it was necessary to buy a car that was very reliable. We approached the local Credit Union manager, Joe Panagapka, for a loan difference of \$1,800. We traded our 1959 Ford at George Laycock's garage for a brand new 1964 Ford Galaxie 500, two door, red and black hardtop.

After our four year stay at Rorketon, I accepted a principalship at the Pine River School. We spent five years there, and became very involved with the community. Our youngest son, Lawrence, was born on July 10, 1967.

Following Pine River, we moved to Winnipegosis, where I took on the responsibilities



Anita, Ron, Lawrence, Cathy, Claire, Syl, Jordon, Lynne, Brian & Brianne

of teacher, special ed coordinator for the division, and that of a vice-principal at the Winnipegosis Elementary School. After spending six interesting years at Winnipegosis, we then moved to Flin Flon in 1979, where I accepted the position of Superintendent for the next seven years. While at Winnipegosis and Flin Flon, we were involved with the Elk's, Royal Purple, Rotary and Knights of Columbus.

In 1986, we moved back, where I was employed as Superintendent of the Duck Mountain School Division. We are currently living at Benyk's Point. At present, our oldest son, Ron, is married to Anita Jang, and is living in Vancouver. Our second child, Lynn, is married to Brian Heintz, has a family of three daughters, Brianne, Jordon, and Carlee, and is living in Winnipeg. Our youngest, Lawrence, is married to Cathy Sealy and is living in Winnipeg.

Delphine Janice (Gower) Doerkson

Born November 4, 1954, Delphine attended Mowat School, then the Dauphin Collegiate Technical Institute. She married Lorne Doerkson on September 2, 1972. They presently reside in Stettler, Alberta, where they own and operate a machine shop. They have four children:

Gregory Jacob Earl Doerkson, born June 14, 1977, died December 17, 1995.

Charlotte Mae Doerkson, born March 25, 1979.

Sarah Anne Doerkson, born June 22, 1982.

Triston John Doerkson, born November 1, 1987.

John Dowhaniuk

My grandfather John Dowhaniuk came across by ship from the Ukraine to Montreal with his parents George and Dormna (Dora) and his four brothers and three sisters in 1902. Their journey by ship



John Dowhaniuk's Mother

took about six weeks. My grandfather was only six years old at the time.

After they came to Montreal they moved on to Vita, Manitoba. In Vita he started his schooling in a small log schoolhouse. Later on the family moved to Rorketon and he completed his schooling at Edillen School.

Their form of transportation at first was oxen and a cart and later on a couple of horses and a buggy.

In 1924 he helped lay the railway tracks from Ochre River to Rorketon. Their pay at the time was about fifteen to twenty cents an hour which at the time only amounted to about a dollar a day. Their schedule was not like our eight-hour day, but they had to work from sunrise to sunset for the little pay that they got. Their home was a very small thatched roof log house with a clay chimney and a bake oven.

When my grandfather moved to Rorketon in approximately 1917 he found Rorketon not to be more populated than it is now.

My great grandfather died at the age of 41. He was killed by a couple of horses and a wagon that had driven over him. My great grandmother died at the age of 92.

My grandfather married Lena Solomon in 1928.

After their parents passing Mike and Bill continued farming the home place.



Metro Dowhaniuk & W. Solomon

Peter married Adrienne Knockart in 1959, and had four children.

Linda married Michael Paksec, they have three children, John, Darko, and Dannielle.

Brian married Terry Wilner and he has three stepchildren and a son Jonathon, Jess, Jason, and Jordon.

Dwayne married Jocelyn Proulx.

Natalie is presently in Winnipeg.

Steve, youngest son of John and Lena, married Tricia and are now living in Love, Saskatchewan.

John and Anna Dutchuk submitted by Mrs. Evelyn Tallan

John Dutchuk was born in Austria in 1881 and died in 1952. Anna Rolla was also born in Austria in 1890 and died in 1973. After coming to Canada, they were married in 1906 and settled on a farm NE 20-28-15 in the R.M. of Lawrence, three miles NE of Rorketon.

Their house, built in 1922, still stands today. They farmed and raised four children. The first was Mary (1908-1984), who married John Shieck and settled in Brandon. They had one daughter, Joyce, who married Ralph Harwood. They also have one son, Rodney, who lives in Vancouver. Rodney has two children. Ralph Harwood was killed in an unfortunate highway accident. Joyce still lives in Calgary.

The second child was Kate (1910-1993), who married Joe Wizniak. They had one son, Victor, who married Margaret Blahoot and lives in Regina. They have three children. Joe died on the job in Dryden, Ontario, in 1970.

The third child, Alex, was born in 1912. He married Vera Huculak in the late thirties. In the early forties, Alex drove the mail in a Model "A" Ford to Million, Moose Bay and surrounding area. Vera's dad, Nicholas, homesteaded at Moose Bay, then built a General Store in Rorketon. It still stands today on the main street. Vera came from a family of fourteen. Her mother, Melancia Pich, was from Moose Bay. Vera taught school at Edileen, Rorketon and Horyn. In the mid-forties, Alex and Vera had two children, Evelyn and Maury. Later, they moved to Ontario where Alex was employed at Sioux Lookout Radar Base, run by the U.S. Air Force. He retired in 1977 after twenty seven years. Daughter Evelyn and husband, Jack Tallan, live in Edmonton. Son Maury and wife Carole live in Chiliwack. Maury is a retired R.C.M.P. Officer after serving twenty-eight years. Vera and Alex enjoy their adult grandchildren in Chiliwack.



Evelyn Tallan

The fourth child was Anne, born in 1923. She married Merv (Bud) Pateman. They have a son, Dale, who married Maureen Wilson. They have two children and all live in Courtenay.

Merv and Anne also have a daughter, Trudy, who married Philip Bell. They have two children and live in Toronto.

Merv and Anne are retired and live in Calgary.



Anne Bonnett, Anne (Dan's) Sophie, Angel, Evelyn

Italo and Silvia Ferrarese

Purchased the Tuer Ranch in 1981.

Moved to Rorketon from Turin, an industrial city in Northern Italy, at the foothill of the North-West Alps, on the border with France. Italo owned a factory that specialized in the production of brass and stainless steel furniture that was sold not only in Italy but also in Europe and Canada. Silvia was employed as secretary of General Manager at the Head office of one of the Major Italian Banks. They decided to leave everything behind and start a new life-style in Canada. In January, 1985, they started to operate their Limousin-cattle ranch.

They have been Rorketon residents for 11 years.

Richard "Elmer" Forbes
submitted by Robert M. Forbes

Members of the Forbes family came to Canada as early as 1750, settling first in Quebec and later in Ontario. As time went on some of the family moved on to Manitoba, settling first in Portage la Prairie in 1907, where they ran a market garden. In 1911 they moved to Rorketon to take up homesteads there.



Elmer Forbes, age 17, 1911, with Bill Burton, walked 36 miles to Makinak to register their homestead.

Elmer Forbes and friend Bill Burton walked into the Rorketon country in 1911 and staked out their homesteads. Elmer's homestead was NE 12-28-16. Also living with them were his brother Cecil and sister Myrtle. Myrtle later married Andrew Little, a long distance runner, who received provincial recognition for his running. Cecil homesteaded in the area. He farmed there for a short time and then moved back to Portage la Prairie.

In 1913 Elmer built the first hip-roofed barn in the area. He lived in a shack on the property which was later used as a granary. In 1914 he built his own house, a 14' by 20' frame construction. This burned in a forest fire. He also bought his first two cows. In 1915 he built another home with a shanty roof



Jenny Forbes, Cecil Forbes, Elmer Forbes, & Louise Forbes

where he and his family lived until they left Rorketon.

On July 10, 1915, Elmer married Louise Isabella McKay. Louise was the daughter of Allan and Margaret McKay, who came from Muskoka, Ontario in 1912 to take up a homestead in Rorketon. Louise was a younger sister to Margaret Radcliffe. The McKay's sold out in 1920 and moved back to Muskoka.

Elmer became attracted to Louise when he saw her going for the mail with her dog team. They met formally at a dance and were married three years later. They raised a family of six boys and two girls. Five of the children were born while they lived in Rorketon, four of whom were born on the homestead and one in Dauphin.

Things went fairly well the first few years. They broke up a fair acreage and pasture and hay were plentiful. In 1918 they bought a Model T car.

In 1921 they grew their first crop of registered grain which was Leader oats. The wet seasons came and with no drainage they were continually

drowned out year after year. To add to this hardship, in seventeen years they lost seventeen horses to Swamp Fever.

While on the homestead, Elmer worked off the farm to supplement the farm income. He worked at Ochre River and Birnie, he also acted as assistant time keeper on the railroad. He farmed for one year at Gilbert Plains but there was no water for the horses. He drew gravel on the road near Lake Dauphin, and worked on threshing gangs at Humboldt, Saskatchewan.

Louise stayed on the farm, raising the children. At one period she earned a little money baking ten loaves of bread a day for the railroad construction crew.

A medical experience involved the children having their tonsils removed. A doctor came into town and asked that all children of a certain age be brought to the hall. As the tonsils were removed one by one the children were laid on benches around the room. Following the surgery, the parents gathered them up and took them home to care for them.

After leaving Rorketon in 1928, Elmer and Louise and family moved to the Wilson River area where they rented a farm until they moved to the Mountview district south of Dauphin. They established a permanent residence there and three of their sons still farm in that area.

Melvin, the eldest son, now deceased, was born on the Rorketon homestead. He served with the R.C.A.F. and later worked as a garage mechanic and garage foreman in Dauphin and The Pas. Audrey, born in Dauphin, became a Registered Nurse, was married to Dr. J. Bawden. They live in Regina. Both are now deceased. Robert, born on the homestead, still farms south of Dauphin. Reg, also born on the homestead, served with the R.C.A.F. After the war he attained his degree in Agriculture. He was inducted into the Manitoba Agriculture Hall of Fame in 1994. Ross, born on the homestead, also farms south of Dauphin. Bill, born at Wilson River, farms south of Dauphin as well. Jean, born at Dauphin, became a Registered Nurse and lives with her husband John McCall in Seattle, Washington. Ken, the youngest son also born in Dauphin, attained his degree in Agriculture. He was part owner of Feed Rite Mills, in Winnipeg, until his death at the age of 45.

Elmer was very active in community and public affairs after he settled in Dauphin.

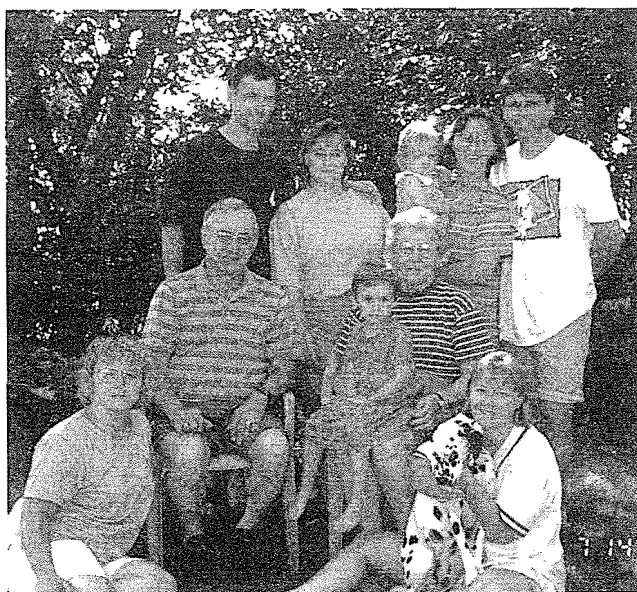
He was a farmer and registered seed grower; school trustee; Manitoba Federation of Agricultural District Director; finance chairman, Dauphin Agriculture Society; councillor, Rural Municipality of Dauphin; member Executive Union of Manitoba

Municipalities for four years. Was Progressive Conservative candidate in 1953 and defeated. First elected to the House of Commons as Member of Parliament for Dauphin in 1958 and re-elected again in 1962 and 1963.

Elmer passed away in 1978 at the age of 85 years. Louise passed away in 1993 at the age of 102 years.

Steve and Anne Gingera History

Steve Gingera, his wife Anne and two of their daughters, Dori and Donna, came to Rorketon in the fall of 1960 when Steve assumed the principalship of the Rorketon School. In September of the same year, the size of the family increased to three girls with the arrival of Laurie. The final count came to four daughters with the birth of Carole in 1971 in McCreary.



B: Greg, Carole, Olivia, Laurie, & Gerry F: Dori, Steve, Emily, Anne, and Donna with Hakeem

Steve and Anne were born and raised in the rural communities adjacent to Pine River and Garland, where they received their early education. While Steve pursued most of his secondary education through correspondence courses, Anne completed her grade twelve at St. Andrew's College in Winnipeg. Subsequently, they each completed their teacher training at the Provincial Normal School which was located in Tuxedo.

After one year preceding and five years following her marriage to Steve on October 10, 1952, Anne changed her career from teacher to that of mother and homemaker - a move she never regretted. Besides raising their four daughters, Anne found time to be an active member of her church

and C.W.L., Ladies' Hospital Auxiliary and for many years a 4-H Leader. Anne and Dori who was then Chief of 4-H, are probably the only mother-daughter combination in which a mother received a long service certificate from her daughter. Anne continues to keep busy with her gardening and homemaking, always looking forward to visits from and with their children and grandchildren.

With the exception of a couple of years of full time farming in the early 50's, Steve pursued a life long career in education. While doing so, he continued to improve his own training by way of summer sessions and correspondence courses. Over the years, while working full time, he was successful in attaining his B.A., B.Ed., and M.Ed. degrees from the University of Manitoba.

Steve started his teaching career in a one-room school in Zalcia in 1947, at the ripe old age of 17. It was there, at a Valentine's dance in February 1948, that he met his future wife, Anne. After one year of permit teaching at an annual salary of \$950, Steve went off for a year of teacher training at the Provincial Normal School. Following that, he taught at Rosa, Jubilee, and Asquith, all three being rural schools in the Pine River area. In 1958, it was on to Pine River itself where Steve taught for two years at the secondary level.

In 1960 came the move to Rorketon for the next six years as teaching principal. In 1966, the family moved to The Pas for a year where Steve was supervising principal of Opasquia School. In 1967, the family came back south, this time to McCreary (where the school division office was located), for Steve to become the first Superintendent of Turtle River School Division, a position he held for 21 years until his retirement in 1988.

Dori, the eldest daughter, studied Agriculture at the University of Manitoba and upon receiving her B.Sc.A., she joined the Dept. of Agriculture to pursue her life long ambition of 4-H Youth Specialist, in the Eastern Region. Following three years of service in that position, she was appointed Chief of 4-H for the province, becoming the first female and youngest person to fill that position. After ten years in that post it was back to the Eastern Region, this time as Regional Director, working out of Portage la Prairie. In December of 1993, she was appointed Director of Marketing and Farm Business Management, responsible for a number of branches, 4-H still being one of them. This position she currently holds, with her office being in the Norquay building in Winnipeg and her home in St. Adolphe.

Donna pursued studies in recreation and holds a B.P.Ed. from the University of Manitoba. After a

brief stint in sales of recreational and playground equipment, she served as Director of Recreation at the Man. Developmental Centre in Portage la Prairie for three years. In 1986 she joined the city of Portage as their Director of Recreation for a couple of years, then moved on to the University of Winnipeg with Public Relations in Sports. Her next move took her to the University of Alberta as their Sports Public Relations and Communications Director. She is currently Public Relations and Communications Director for the Catholic School System in Edmonton. Donna and Greg, who is a photographer with the Edmonton Journal, make their home in Edmonton.

Laurie, the second youngest in the family, followed in the footsteps of her parents and received her teacher training at the University of Manitoba graduating with a B.Ed. After four years of teaching at Souris, she once again became a student, studying part time and teaching part time. After two years of studying Special Ed., she took on a position with River East School Division in Winnipeg as a Resource teacher. In 1989, she married Gerry Hector who is presently vice-principal of John Pritchard School in Winnipeg. Laurie, currently, is on leave of absence raising their two daughters; Emily, aged four, and Olivia, aged two.

Carole, the youngest of the girls, completed her secondary education at McCreary School and moved on to first, University of Manitoba, and then to the University of Regina from which she earned her B.A. in Political Science. She then went on to Grant MacEwan College in Edmonton where she completed a two year program in Advertising and Public Relations. She is currently employed by a tri-level government organization, the Winnipeg Development Agreement as Communications Coordinator. Carole commutes to Winnipeg from St. Adolphe.

Steve and Anne make their permanent home in McCreary, but still call Rorketon their second home. They spend their summers at their cabin at Manipogo, keeping busy with their hobbies.

All in all, we can say we have, as a family, a lot of pleasant "remember when's" of Rorketon.

Paul and Annie Glena Family submitted by Stephanie (Glena) Zwarich

John, born in 1865, and Maria, born in 1872, emigrated to Canada in 1903 from Skala, Chortkiv, Ukraine. Their journey by ship took them a few months. With them came two daughters, Mary and Frances. They arrived in Halifax, then boarded the train for Sifton. They settled in Sifton for several

years, where Paul, Peter and Sophie were born. They then decided to move to where the rest of the pioneers of the same origin and generation had settled. They chose Moose Bay, SE 9-28-17, just east of Lake Dauphin. With the help of friends and neighbours the land was cleared and a home was built. John Glena did not live too long after his move. In 1937 he died of cancer. Maria continued to live on the farm by herself until 1940, when the farm was sold to Fred Smadello. She then moved to her son's place, Paul, at Rorketon for a few years. She passed away 1958.

John and Maria had a family of five. Mary married Prokop Smadello, Frances married Andrew Dzuba, Sophie married Pete Linski, Paul married Annie Ladyka and Peter married Nellie Remniak. They are all deceased.

Maria married Fred Demchuk and moved to Dauphin. She passed away December 13, 1958.

The homestead is still there; John Smadello's son Ernie now owns it.

Paul Glena was the eldest son of John and Maria Glena. He was born on February 23, 1905, in Sifton. Paul received his education at Moose Bay School. He later farmed with his father and was employed at various other places. He met Annie Ladyka and they were married on January 24, 1926, at Oak Brae.

Annie was the daughter of Hilko and Maria (Helash) Ladyka of Weiden. Annie was born on September 26, 1907, at North Lake. She was baptized in Gruber Winnipegosis Farm Church.

Paul and Annie moved to various places, before they bought a farm one and half miles west of

Rorketon, SE 15-28-16 in 1934. He farmed and worked various places in Ontario, as well as for CNR Railway for several years, on the line from Rorketon to Ste. Rose.

In 1946 Paul sold his land to Fred Scutt and moved to Rorketon, where they rented for two years. In the fall of 1948 they moved to Hudson, Ontario. He worked in saw mills and for the CNR Railway. He retired after he had the misfortune of breaking his ankle. In 1975 Paul and Annie moved to Sioux Lookout, Ontario into Patricia Plaza, a Senior Apartment. Annie enjoyed her bingo games, and their family's and friends' visits. They belonged to Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church in Sioux Lookout. On June 14, 1979 Paul suffered a heart attack and passed away. Annie continued to live at the Plaza until her health failed in 1989. She then resided at the Westmount Personal Care Home in Thunder Bay until her death on November 26, 1992. Paul and Annie are both buried at Hill Crest Cemetery, Sioux Lookout, Ontario.

Paul and Annie had a family of twelve children. All the children, except the three youngest, attended Rorketon School.

Mary married Matthew Butschler (now deceased) and they had six children. Mary now resides in Thunder Bay, Ontario.

Stephanie married Mike Zwarich and they had a family of three daughters. She resides in Dauphin, Manitoba. (see Zwarich)

Mike married Margaret Strum and had one daughter. He lived in Sioux Lookout. Mike passed away on October 27, 1991, at the age of 59 years.

Tony married Colette Jodium. They had a family of three. He resides in Clinton, British Columbia.

Olga married Dick Vicqueray and had a family of three. She resides in Clinton.

Morris married Marnie Vollet and had a family of three daughters. He resides in Grand Prairie, Alberta.

Walter married Linda Backlund and had a family of four. He resides in Sioux Lookout.

Harry married Bernice Bouchard and had a family of four. He resides in Hudson, Ontario.

Eva married Joe Gosselin and had a family of two. She resides in Mattice, Ontario.

Victoria married Wally Slobodzian and had one daughter. She divorced and remarried Don Michelin and had a family of three. She resides in Thunder Bay.

Elizabeth married Brian Daniels and had a family of three. She resides in Sioux Lookout.

Lawrence resides in Thunder Bay.

In July 1994, a Glena Family Reunion was held



Annie & Paul Glena

at Vermilion Bay, Bowmans Northland Lodge in Hudson. Approximately ninety family members attended and a good time was enjoyed by all.

Ailie Ann (Hill) Gower

Ailie Hill was born on June 16, 1920. She attended Cecil School through grade eight, worked on the farm until 1942, then moved to Winnipeg where she worked for Mr. and Mrs. Hamm as a domestic doing housework and taking care of children. She moved back to Rorketon in 1943 when her mother died, to help out on the farm and look after the house for her brothers Frank and Fred. She met Earl Frederick Gower at a dance that fall and they were married in St. Paul's Anglican Church in Dauphin on December 1, 1944.

They moved to the farm on the Mossey River where they raised four children: Richard, Elaine, Delphine, and Daryl. Ailie worked for St. Paul's Nursing Home in Dauphin from Oct. 1969 until her retirement in January 1985. Celebrating their golden anniversary in 1994, Earl and Ailie still reside on the farm and enjoy bird watching, reading, traveling, and bingo.

Elaine Hilda Gower

Born November 18, 1949, Elaine attended Mowat School, then the Dauphin Collegiate Technical Institute. She married Floyd Elmer McLean on November 18, 1967. They farmed near Fork River, Man. for a number of years. In November 1979, she began working as a switchboard operator for the Dauphin Regional Health Centre, where she is currently employed. Divorced, she now resides in Sifton. She has two daughters:

Heather Leah McLean Sowtis was born May 13, 1968. Heather attended Winnipegosis Collegiate, graduated from Hertzling Career College in 1987, and obtained her Health Records Technician Certificate in 1992. She married Terrence Sowtis on Aug. 12, 1989. They reside near Dauphin. Heather works at the Dauphin Regional Health Centre. They have three children:

Derrick Floyd Sowtis, born April 9, 1984.

Samantha Rae Sowtis, born June 20, 1990.

Dylan Paul Sowtis, born May 14, 1994.

Shelley Verna McLean was born Dec. 9, 1969. She graduated from the Dauphin Regional Comprehensive Secondary School (DRCSS) in 1987, then attended Georgian College in Barrie, Ontario, where she received her degree in Fashion Merchandising in 1989. She moved to Winnipeg where she met Gordon Kidd. Working for Costco, she transferred to Lethbridge, Alberta, in November, 1993, where they presently reside.

Eliot William Earl (Bill) Gower

Born June 5, 1970, Bill graduated from St. James Collegiate in 1990 and is presently attending the University of Guelph, taking his undergraduate degree in Honors Science. He works for the University in the Resource Science Department, as a researcher.

Daryl Frederick Gower

Born November 3, 1956, Daryl attended Mowat School, then the Dauphin Collegiate Technical Institute. He worked in Churchill and Flin Flon, then moved to British Columbia in 1980, where he met Marilyn Machuk. They presently reside in Vernon, British Columbia, where he works in Silviculture.

Richard Earl Levison Gower

Born January 29, 1948, Richard attended Mowat School, then Dauphin Collegiate Technical Institute. He was active in Air Cadets during his high school years, and worked summers in Churchill first at the Whaling Plant, then for the National Harbour Board. Upon graduation in 1965, he moved to Winnipeg, where he worked in the electronics industry. He married Debra Kozminski on September 27, 1969. They had one son, Eliot William (Bill) Earl, born June 5, 1970. They later moved to Dryden, Ontario where Richard worked as a commercial pilot, then to Guelph, Ontario where he owned a small publishing company. Divorced, he subsequently married Martha Karin Folsom on October 9, 1988. They moved to Dorset, Vermont, where they own a game and puzzle shop. Richard also holds the rank of Lieutenant in the Air Force Reserves and works in various locations across Canada.

Sam Wasyl and Catherine Hanchar

Sam Hanchar, son of Wasyl and Anna (Rosinska) was born in Werbiwka, Galicia, Ukraine on May 17, 1895. He was the second in a family of ten. On April 3, 1911 at the age of 16, he left his homeland and sailed to Montreal and then by train to Winnipeg, where he was met by his brother, Kost.

His early years in Canada were spent mostly in Alberta and British Columbia, working in the construction of the railroad.

In 1915 he enrolled in a Barber Course in Edmonton. Two years later he finished his course and was employed on a part-time basis.

On May 8, 1922 he married Catherine, the eldest daughter of Nick and Titianna (Kozar) Ternowski of Garland. Catherine was born in



Sam and Catherine Hanchar, 25th Wedding Anniversary

Werbiwka, Galicia, Ukraine, on December 5, 1905. She came to Canada with her parents in 1906, when she was six months old. She was the second oldest in a family of six.

After a brief stay in Garland, Sam and Catherine moved to Edmonton. Then they moved to Rorketon.

For a few years, Sam still worked with the railway gang in Northern Manitoba and Saskatchewan. Then they started a small cafe and barber shop, which eventually turned into a general store.

Sam passed away on May 25, 1964 and Catherine on May 1, 1981.

Mike is the only child of Sam and Catherine Hanchar. Mike attended school at Rorketon, completing grade eight and taking grade nine and ten by Correspondence courses. He was very active in sports, especially baseball, hockey, free skating and pole-vaulting (clearing a height of 10 1/2 feet). He is a sports fan and enjoys watching them on T.V. He still is very active in running.

On July 17, 1948, he married Olga, daughter of Ted and Sophie Holod, of Stonewall. Mike continued helping his father operate the store and his wife taught school. He took over the management of the



Mrs. Hanchar & Mike

business when his father passed away in 1964. Presently, he and his wife still operate as "Hanchar's Lucky Dollar Store."

Mike and Olga have three children: Valerie Kay, Orest Michael and Diana Faye.

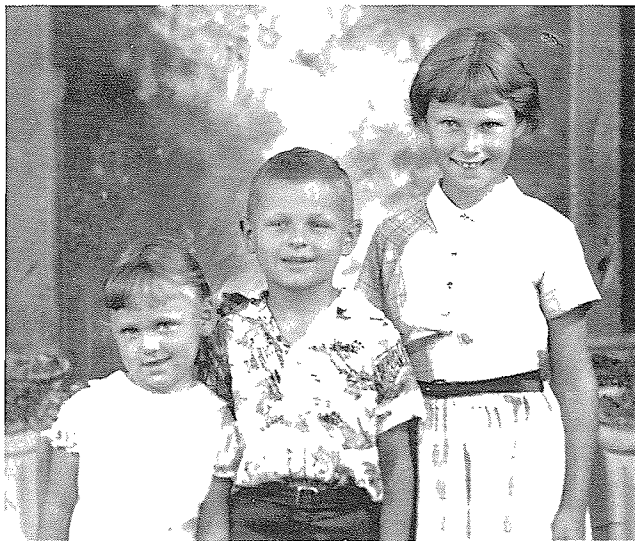
Valerie and her husband, Gary Earl Gunthorpe, have three children: Jason Gary, Marcella Jolene and Logan Samuel. Gary is the manager of Cool Grain Drying Systems Incorporated in the Production and Product Development Field. They reside in Calgary.

Orest Michael graduated from the University of Manitoba with a Bachelor of Science (Honor) degree. He is presently working with Mobile Data Solution Incorporated as a Senior Systems Analyst. He resides in Richmond, British Columbia.



Mike & Olga Hanchar

Diana Faye married Roy Edward Butters. They have two children, Ria Leanne and Vincent James. Roy is employed by Renaissance Energy Corporation as a Capitol Reporting Accountant. They live in Calgary.



Diane, Orest, & Valerie

Norman and Alix Harpelle submitted by Alix Harpelle

I was born in St. Malo, Manitoba on May 24, 1932. I was the second eldest of a family of nine. We moved around the southern part of the province and eventually settled in Richer, Manitoba.

Norman was born in Roseisle, Manitoba on March 6, 1921. He left the prairies when he was six

years old moving with his parents to Kingston, Ontario where he received his education. He joined the army, September, 1939 and was sent overseas for five years. In Europe, he was stationed in Sicily, Italy, Holland, Belgium and Germany. In 1945 he came back to Kingston and worked for the Department of Veterans Affairs for a year and a half. In 1947 he came to Carman to visit his sister and he never went back. Norman worked at odd jobs until 1948 when he heard that the Manitoba Power Commission was hiring men for construction. That was the start of his career with Manitoba Hydro. In 1950 he worked in Rorketon as foreman on a construction crew installing the first power lines from Ste. Rose to Rorketon.



Norman & Alix Harpelle

I met Norman in 1951 in St. Anne, Manitoba. A year later on August 30, 1952, we were married in the Catholic church at Richer. At the time Norman was working in Ochre River.

I had never been too far from home. On September 8, a beautiful fall morning, we started for Ochre River. It seemed like a long way, but we made it and settled in a little house by the river. A few weeks later we met the Wolff Family, and Grandma Emilia D'Aoust. We became part of the family.

Our first child, a little girl we called Jacqueline, was born June 5, 1953. The day she was born, a flash flood hit Ochre River and Ste. Rose. Norman had a ride with the jigger, came across the tracks and walked the rest of the way to see his daughter and me in Ste. Rose.

Shortly afterwards Rorketon was made into a district for the Manitoba Hydro. Norman bid on it and he got the job. He was just thrilled. Until then, Rorketon was part of the Ochre River district and he loved the place. Norman contributed to the



Jacqueline

Lawrence Municipality by being the first district man for the Manitoba Power Commission in Rorketon.

Our friend, Toni Wolff, Norman and I came in July, 1953 to look for a house. There were only two: one small one near Nick Werbiski's, and another that was a bit larger. It belonged to Les Wilson. We rented the bigger one. Afterwards we went for a cup of coffee at Shyiak's cafe. Norman introduced us to Mrs. Shyiak. He knew her because he stopped there occasionally. There were some children in the place. I was astonished that those young children could speak English. I could speak very little English and I was told it was a Ukrainian town and I thought Ukrainian would be the only language spoken.

In August, 1953 we moved to our new place. I followed the moving van, but I could not keep up to it. When I arrived in Rorketon there was a small elderly gentleman standing in the centre of the house telling the movers where to place the furniture. I had no idea who he was. That same night we moved everything around because I was a bit perturbed that someone else had arranged the furniture. A week later the furniture was put back where Mr. Stark had placed them in the first place.

Two weeks after the move, we left for our holidays. It had been raining for a few days and we could not get through at Dowhaniuk's corner. We had to be pulled with a tractor across the corduroy road, (logs laid side by side to cross that swampy place).

That fall, Norman wanted to bank the house with the best natural fertilizer available and I wanted no part of that. So the first winter in Rorketon, we only had an oil space heater in the living room. It was so cold in that house that the water would freeze in the basin over night. Our little daughter Jacqueline and I spent days on the couch trying to keep warm. The following fall Peter Korotash arrived with a big truckload. Norman was away at a

meeting and Pete asked if he could bank the house. My answer was "yes, Right up to the windows". Norman was sure surprised when he came back. I prayed for snow so it would be covered. We also installed a booker stove in the kitchen. What a difference!

Everyone we met was so friendly. In no time we were part of the community and the Kendzierski and Talpash families. How great it was. We loved it.

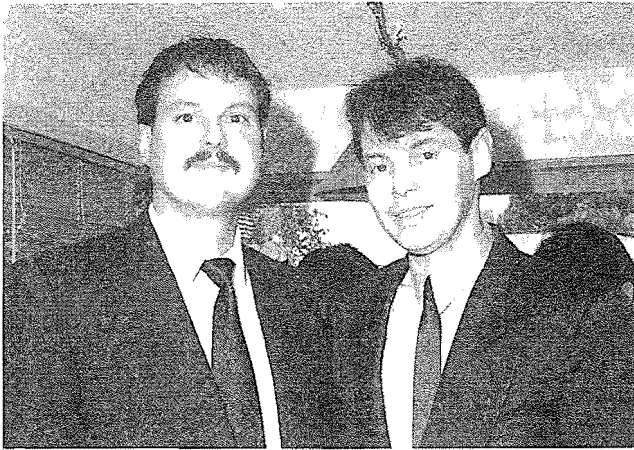
We were soon introduced to Ukrainian cooking. Norman, who happened to go into Pretula's store one morning to read the meter, was met by a few women who were all busy making something. When Norman asked what they were cooking the reply was "perogies". Mrs. Pretula told him to stop in before he went home for lunch. Norman arrived for lunch with a bowl full of perogies. That was our first taste of them. Norma Kendzierski was patient enough to teach me the art of making perogies and Mary Korotash taught me how to make cabbage rolls.

Our first Ukrainian Christmas January 6, 1954, Christmas Eve, was a night to remember. We visited Morris and Olive Pretula with Joy and Russell Begg and Alex Pulak. They told us how nice the mass was so we all decided to go. We went in to the church. It was full to capacity, with no place to sit. I was holding my little daughter. Father Zayac was getting ready to start the mass, happened to turn and saw me. He left the alter and came back to get me and made room in the front pew; he even spoke a few words in English. I'll always remember that kind gesture.

I was home alone, one day, when some one knocked at the door; I opened it and there was Father Zayac with two old gentlemen. Mr. Stark was one of them. Father Zayac asked if he could bless our home. "By all means," I replied. He proceeded to go into the living room, bedrooms and kitchen followed by the two gentlemen sprinkling holy water. After he was finished, they stood by the door for five minutes or so. They seemed to be waiting for something. I thanked them for coming. I did not know they expected a donation.

Our first son, Ronald, was born in Ste. Rose May 22, 1957. In 1960, we built the house that is now owned by Stanley Jastrebski. In February, 1961 Norman was transferred to St. Pierre, Manitoba. We left the community but our hearts stayed behind. In 1963 our youngest son, Brian, was born in St. Boniface Hospital.

We returned to Rorketon every chance we had. In 1981 Norman retired and we bought a trailer and spent our summers at Benyk's Point.



Brian & Ronald

Everyone will remember Norman for his jolliness and the kind man he was. He was always ready to help when he was needed; he was on many committees while he was in Rorketon. He also had a soft spot for the elderly. He knew they could not get out to the countryside, so he took them in turn with him when he went out on calls. He continued this ritual when we moved to St. Pierre. He made sure that the old timers, especially in the spring and fall, would see the beautiful fields.

After Norman passed away on July 29, 1991, it was not hard for me to make a choice between St. Pierre and Rorketon. I moved permanently to Benyk's Point, where I am surrounded by my dear friends.

Norman will always be part of the community he loved. He was laid to rest in the Rorketon cemetery.

Jacqueline is married to Frank MacHovec. They have one daughter named Allison and live in Winnipeg.

Ronald is married to Kelly Saxberg. They have three sons, Gabriel, and Emile, and Adrein. They live in Thunder Bay.

Brian is married to Marg Pataky and they have one son, Kurtis. They live in Calgary.

Heminger, John and Doreen

Doreen and John moved to Rorketon on April 16, 1994, from Regina, Saskatchewan, where they had lived for 20 years. John worked for Ipsco until he retired in 1988, then worked as a Commissionaire at the Parliament Buildings and the Regina Airport until they moved to Rorketon.

Doreen was born on February 6, 1928, in Midhurst, Sussex, England, to Kathleen and William Jackson. Her parents had 10 children: two boys and 8 girls. William worked as a foreman in a

sand quarry for many years, and Kathleen was a midwife.

Doreen's great grandmother Boxell, holds the record in England for having the most children, twenty-seven in all!

Doreen finished her schooling at the young age of 13 and worked as a secretary for a shipping firm until she was married.

John was born to Maggie and William Heminger in Kenora, Ontario, on February 4, 1925. They had only two children, John and William.

John joined the army and was wounded in WWII. He was hospitalized in Belgium then England, where he met Doreen Jackson, and were married on December 12, 1945, in Midhurst. Before their first son, Thomas William, was born, John returned to Canada in January of 1946. Eight months later in September of 1946, Doreen and Tommy sailed on the Queen Mary and docked in Halifax.

John met Doreen and baby in Montreal and they returned to Keewatin when both were feeling better. He worked in the flour mill with his father. They had four more children, and lived in Keewatin until 1963 when they pulled up stakes and moved to Thompson. John worked at INCO as an electrician for 11 years. From there they moved to Regina in 1974. It would be 19 years to the day before Doreen would return to England to see her family again. Tom, the eldest son, lives in Devon, Alberta, with his wife Terry and their only daughter Hilorie.

Alan, second oldest, lives in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, with his wife Judy. They have one daughter Moll Ann, who is married and has two children, a boy and girl. They live in B.C. Their son A. J. is married, has two boys, and lives in Kindersly, Saskatchewan.

Kathleen is the eldest of the girls. She is divorced, lives in Calgary, Alberta and has two sons. David has a daughter Kristie, and Darrin has a daughter, Alexandra.

Shirley is the baby of the family. She has remarried and lives in Sedley, Saskatchewan. She has two boys and one daughter from her previous marriage.

Linda is married to Curtis Honish and they live in Rorketon. Curtis was born in Ste. Rose in 1958 and lived in Rorketon until he was about 16 years old. Then he worked in Thompson where he was married, October 11, 1980. On May 17, 1982, they moved from Thompson to Rorketon. They have two daughters, Kerri Lynn and Kathleen. Curtis has been the Fire Chief in Rorketon for a number of years and a 4-H Leader for 7 years. Linda is presently the Chairman of the Lawrence Recreation Commission



Doreen & John Hemminger with children Thomas, Alan, Kathleen, Linda & Shirley

and has been a 4-H Leader for 6 years. They both own and operate Curtis Tire and Auto Repair on Main Street. They bought John Pulak's house in town on 1st Ave. South.

John and Doreen celebrated their 50th Anniversary on December 12, 1995. They belong to the Senior's Drop-in-Centre and attend the Senior's Meal Program. Doreen enjoys the Senior's Bingo every week and loves to knit. She enjoys feeding the many birds and squirrels that visit their big yard. Both John and her love to garden and grow flowers. John is an active member in the Royal Canadian Legion and loves to go fishing and camping with his family and friends. He likes to golf and has also become an artist, painting in oil.

Frank and Hilda Hill

Hilda Hill (Kussen) was born in Pori area of Finland. She came to the U.S.A. around 1912. Frank Hill was born in Merikarvia, Finland and came to the U.S.A. in 1912. He met Hilda and they were married in Beldon, North Dakota in January 1915, and started farming there. They had three children while living in the U.S. Sylvia was born October 10, 1915, Mamie in 1916, and Helen in 1918. Then in 1919, they moved to Rorketon. Three more children were born here, Ailie in 1920, Frank in 1922, and Fred in 1925. In 1925, they moved to NE 27-28-16 and began farming. The children all attended Cecil School. Since it was the only school around, the children could not go on to high school.

Sylvia married Hjalmer Komula in 1934. They had one son, Wilbert, born on December 16, 1935. They farmed NE 2-29-16.

Mamie married Anton Laakso in 1939. They had two girls, Lorna born in 1941 and Paula in 1945. Mamie divorced Anton and married Gus Mouru in 1954. They had a girl, Sheila, in 1955. They lived in the U.S.A.

Helen married Ivan McInnis in 1941. They had three children, Jimmy in 1945, one son in 1947, (passed away in infancy), and Sharon in 1957.

Ailie married Earl Gower in December 1944. They had four children; Richard in 1948, Elaine in 1949, Delphine in 1954, and Darryl in 1956.

Frank married Betty Paradis in 1947. They had four children; twins, Arlene and Alfred in 1948, Wayne in 1950, and Vivian in 1955.

Fred married Jacqueline Hilton in the 1950's.

John and Ellen Hill

submitted by Aune Gajerski and Mamie Grant

John and Ellen Hill were born in Finland. They came to Belden, North Dakota in 1914. They stayed there for about three years. Then they decided to move to Canada. They settled in the R.M. of Lawrence where they started farming. During the first few winters John worked in the lumber camps in Ontario. Later on he spent the winter months fishing on Lake Manitoba. During this time Ellen carried on with the regular chores.



John Hill



Ellen Hill

They raised a family of seven - five sons and two daughters.

John passed away in 1957 and Ellen in 1986.

Their family:

Vilho - born in Belden, N.D. 1915 deceased 1984

Aimo - born R.M. of Lawrence 1923 deceased 1992

Aune - born R.M. of Lawrence 1923

Aune married Frank Gajersko. They presently reside in Dauphin. They have a family of three daughters.

Elaine married John Lamblin. They have one daughter Devon. They live in Winnipeg.



Hill Children: Fred, Frank, Ailie, Helen, Mamie, Sylvia

Marilyn married Bill Ficzyz. They have three children - David, Allison and Matthew. Bill passed away in March, 1993. Marilyn and her children live in Winnipeg.

Shelley lives in Winnipeg.

Mamie born in R.M. of Lawrence in 1925. Mamie married Alex Grant of Elkhorn, Manitoba. They had a family of two.

Linda married Doug Braybrook. They live in Virden, Manitoba.

John - born 1958 - deceased 1975

Melvin born in R.M. of Lawrence 1928 - deceased 1966.

Melfort born in R.M. of Lawrence 1932. Melfort married Agnes Sanderson. They live at Rorketon. They have two sons and three daughters.

John married Darcy Taylor. They live in Rorketon. They have a daughter Kristan and a son Cody.

Son Larry, daughter Evelyn and her daughter Vanessa, Loretta and Brenda at Rorketon.

Roy born in R.M. of Lawrence 1935. Roy married Ann Sliworsky. They live at Rorketon. They have a son Bradley and a daughter Heather.

Flora Hill

The Hills had three children, Flora, Lydia and Irene. Flora started school in Hartney. She spent a couple of years in California with her grandparents, then attended Ovenden College in Barrie, Ontario, before entering Winnipeg General Hospital where she obtained her R.N. Soon after this, she became a Red Cross outpost nurse serving Manitoba stations at Fisher Branch, East Braintree and Rorketon. Her office was in the Red Cross cottage. There she diagnosed, prescribed, gave out medication, changed

dressings and pulled teeth (without any pain killers). She was on call day and night and travelled by truck, car, wagon, sleigh, jigger, train caboose and even on a horse-drawn toboggan. The nearest doctor was thirty miles distant. In cases of accidents (broken limbs), the patient was transported in the vehicle of the season and taken to the train and by it to the hospital. Her help was solicited for sick animals. She was also called upon to prepare the dead for burial. At times she had patients staying in the cottage waiting for the train. She dispensed clothing which had been sent to her by the Red Cross and Hartney friends. In the summer, she and her housekeeper canned wild fruit, vegetables, fowl and meat — cooking it on a small kitchen range fed with wood. In winter the cottage was heated by wood stoves which had to be tended during the night. She was a leader in the community holding offices in the Women's Institute and the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Legion and taking part in all local projects. In 1943 the Red Cross turned over the outposts to the Public Health department. Flora then nursed in the hospital in Ste. Rose du Lac until a heart condition forced her to retire. She returned to the family home in Hartney. When her health improved a little she worked for the local Red Cross, dispensing wool for knitting and packing the finished articles. She was an active member of the Women's Institute and a charter member of the C.W.A. of St. John's Church, of which she was president or secretary until her death. At home she looked after the welfare of her uncle and "little" sister, Irene. She died in 1972.



Miss Hill's Graduation

John and Magdalena Honish Family submitted by Jeneatt Latulippe

John was born March 29, 1899, in Manchester, Oklahoma. In 1905, he came to Canada with his parents along with six brothers and sisters, taking with them only the bare necessities. A covered wagon and a two wheeled cart became their home for five months. The voyage was long and dangerous with no roads or bridges. In one instance it was necessary to remove the weight from the wagon to cross the Saskatchewan River. The men rode the horses and the women and children held on to the wagon and floated across.

John's dad homesteaded near Bruno, Saskatchewan. With the help of his family they erected their first house. It turned out that this piece of land had the best clay for making bricks. After some thought he, along with a partner, opened a clay factory. These bricks can be found today. Although the factory was a success he wanted to farm. He sold the factory and along with his family he began farming.

Magdalena was born October 16, 1899 in Argentina, S.A. She was one of six children. Her

family farmed in Argentina. She loved to tell stories of how the children would go in the field and take the Ostrich egg, then the Ostrich would chase them. She also would reminiscence of the only time it snowed and how exciting it was for the children. The family moved to Europe for a short time, then in August 1914 came to Canada. However, because some of them wore glasses they were refused entry. With quick thinking they entered on the United States side. Her father and his son, Joe, made their way slowly to the West, taking whatever job they could to support themselves until they reached the Bruno area. Joe then went to the U.S.A to bring the remainder of the family to Canada. It was necessary for the girls to set out on their own and seek employment elsewhere. Magdalena was hired as a cook in the Kerabort Hotel. It was on one of her visits to her family that she met John. They married November 21, 1921. John continued farming the homestead. Their children were all born in Saskatchewan.

Their first child, Ralph, was born August 18, 1922. He left home at an early age to seek employment. He joined the army and served in the Korean War as a heavy equipment operator. After the war,



John & Magdalena Honish family; L-R, B: Magdalena, Wilfred, Harold, Norman, Clifford, Hilda, Rufus, Ralph, John holding Gerry. F: Jeneatt, Bernie, Syl, Vern, Dennis, Delphine.

Ralph spent a great deal of time in Sunny Brook Veterans Hospital. He passed on in 1977.

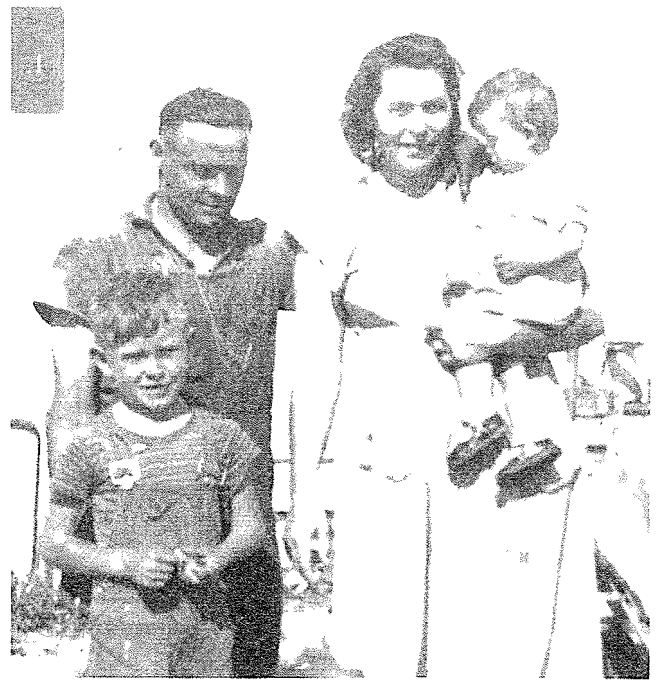
Wilfred, the second child, was born December 7, 1924. He contracted polio when he was very young.

Cars and music were his love. He excelled in both.

To obtain money, his parents gave him a sick pig to nurse back to health, which he did, he then sold the pig and used the money to purchase his first accordion. He would play the instrument any time he had the opportunity.

Wilfred worked as a mechanic throughout his life.

In 1947, he married Jean Paradis. They had six children. Marlene, their first child, born November 27, 1948, married Fred Hrushowy. They have three daughters, Candice, Tanya and Holly. They divorced and Marlene is now married to Al Brown. They reside in Alysford, Nova Scotia with their daughter Holly.



Wilfred, Jean, Louis & Marlene



Wilfred Honish Family: Agnes & Dane w/children, Calvin w/sons, Rod & Rosie Bage w/children, Marlene w/children, Curtis & Lynn w/children. Lower left: Blaine & Joyce, Alice & Wilfred

Rosemary, born July 23, 1950 married Rod Bage. They have two children; Dawn and Michael. Dawn married Gerry Boyechko. They have two sons, Dustin and Dylan.

The third child, their first son, Blaine, was born January 12, 1954. He has one daughter, Susan, and she has a son. Blaine now lives in Drumheller, Alberta.

Kelvin was born December 3, 1955. He has two sons, Darrell and Kelvin Jr.

Curtis, the third son, was born on October 3, 1958. He met Linda Heminger when in Thompson working for the Department of Highways. They married and have two daughters, Kerri and Kathleen. They moved to Rorketon and began operating a garage - Curtis Tire and Auto Repair. The garage is still in operation.

Agnes, the youngest child, was born July 3, 1962. She married David Wagner. They have two children, Paul and Stephanie. They family reside in Calgary.

The children were born, raised and obtained their education in Rorketon. The three boys all worked on their Uncle Syl's farm. Wilfred's wife, Jean, passed away in 1962. In 1963, Wilfred married Alice Winthrop. Together they raised the family.

Wilfred passed on in February, 1996. Alice resides in her home in Rorketon.

Hilda, the first daughter was born March 29, 1926.(see Farrell Murray)

The next child was Rufus, born May 26, 1927. Rufus helped on the family farm for several years, then went to Snow Lake where he obtained employment in the mines. Within a couple years, Rufus



Rufus & Thelma

returned to R.M. of Lawrence area, purchased some farm land and continued farming. Rufus married Thelma Lundstrom June 30, 1959. They lived on the Brunen farm which Rufus had obtained earlier. Thelma, Fifi, as everyone lovingly called her, passed on in 1991. Rufus still farms and lives on their home place.



Clifford & Isabel (missing are Wayne & Linda)

Clifford, their fifth child was born October 21, 1928. He left home at an early age. He procured employment with INCO. Steel in Hamilton Ontario. Clifford married Esabel from Hamilton. They have two children. Their daughter, Linda, has two children; Laura and Paul, and are presently residing in Calgary. Wayne, their son, is living in Hamilton. Clifford passed away and his wife have passed on.



Harold



Ralph

Harold was born January 25, 1930. He was always the quiet one of the family. Mother would tell us how, when Harold was a child and the neighbours would drop in for a visit, he would run away and hide in the bush. After a few years of employment in the mines in Snow Lake, Manitoba, he returned home to work the family farm. In 1968 he married Judy Bass and continued working the farm. The marriage ended, and Harold sold the farm and moved to the village of Rorketon, across the street from his parents. Harold was laid to rest in 1994.

Cletus, seventh child, sixth son, was born September 26, 1931. He was employed at several places. Cletus bought Tony Pulak's garage and operated it for a few years. He also operated the municipal grader for a time. On July 29, 1953 he married Pearl Helash of Fork River. Their first child, Carol, was born in 1954. She married Keith Evans. They have two girls, Crystal and Angela, and one boy Jason. They presently reside at Sherwood Park.

Their second child Connie was born in 1958, but passed away two weeks later.

On December 29, 1959, Colleen was born and now lives in Edmonton.



Norm & Pearl w/son Darrell, daughter Carol(missing are Randy & Colleen)

Their first son Randy was born November 10, 1961. He married Sandra Ochartt of Edmonton and they have two children, Lisa and Justin. They make their home in Sherwood Park.

Cletus's and Pearl's second son, Darrell, was born October 12, 1962. He married Brenda Latoureau of Westlock, Alberta. They also have two children. They now reside in Okotoks, Alberta.

Cletus and Pearl call Sherwood Park home. They are retired and spend their free time with their grandchildren and golfing. They make their annual winter golfing trip to California.

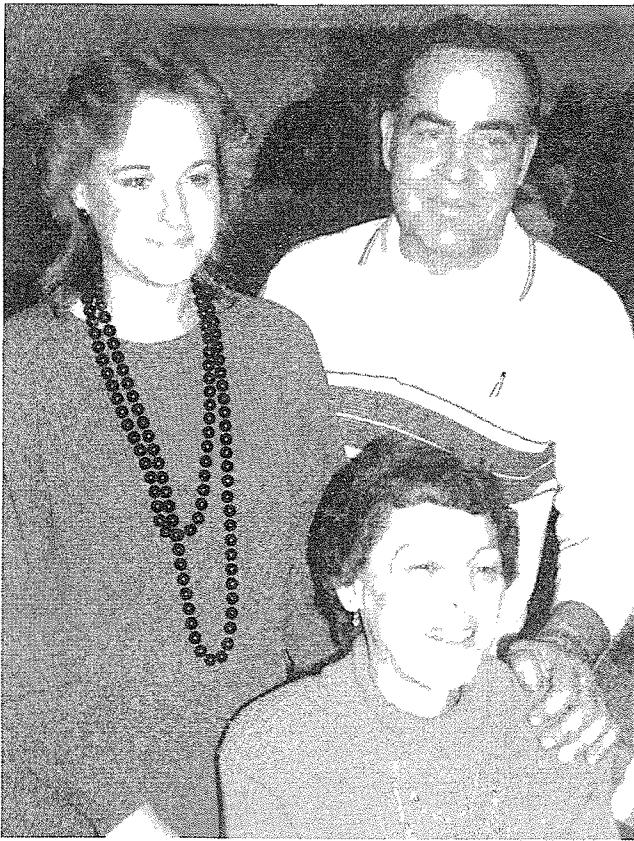


Del & Jack (missing are Bob & Rick)

John and Magdalena's second daughter Delphine was born March 18, 1932. She also left home to seek employment. She married Jack Goodwin who was a pilot in the R.C.A.F. Jack retired from the service and moved to Montreal where he obtained a position as a professor at the Concordia University. Delphine was also employed in Montreal. They have two sons, Bob who lives in British Columbia and is with the Coast Guard, and Rick who is married and has two sons, Russ and Jack. Rick and family are now living in Portland, Oregon.

Del and Jack retired and moved to Sydney. They spend their time golfing and a visit from their families is always welcomed. They, too, make an annual golfing trip to California and South Carolina.

Dennis, ninth child, was born April 24, 1934. He loved music, and still spends a lot of his free time playing instruments. He started playing the organ when he was very young. He had to stand so his feet would reach the peddles. He never did like playing for an audience, so when someone would come to hear his playing, he would stop. That has somewhat changed, for he now enjoys "the jam sessions" with his brothers and friends. His only problem is he has difficulty deciding on which instrument to play. He has mastered the organ, guitar, violin, accordion and just about anything he sets his mind to play. When Dennis was at home, he loved hunting and many times he would take some summer sausage and go off by himself for the day. Dennis married Tennie Helash September 10, 1960. They have one daughter, Terrie, born in 1962. They all make their home in Sherwood Park, Alberta.



Dennis & Jean w/daughter, Teri

Vernon, the tenth child, was born April 16, 1936. In 1956 he joined the Royal Canadian Navy. While stationed in Halifax, he met Dorothy and they were married in 1960. Their only child, a daughter, Francis was born May 7, 1963. Vernon was stationed in Halifax for twelve years, then stationed in



Vern & Dorothy w/daughter Francis

Victoria for twelve years. In 1980 he retired from the navy. He obtained employment in Fort Saskatchewan. Their daughter, Francis, married Pat and they have one son, Christopher and one daughter, Amanda. Vern, Dorothy and family all presently make their home in Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta.



Syl & Chris w/family. B: L-R: Debbie & Dalton, Pam, Barry & Dale, Shelly & Dwayne w/Mark, MR: Syl w/Michelle, Chris w/Amber. F: Crystal & Candice

Syl, the eleventh child, was born October 7, 1938. Syl left home at an early age and went to work in Prince Rupert then to Estevan, Saskatchewan. It was while working there he met Chris. They were married November 23, 1959. After moving from Estaven they lived in various places.

Their first son, Barry, was born in Banff October 1962. He worked on the family farm, and in 1991 Barry married Pam Sloboda of Moose Bay. They now have two children, Michelle, born October 24, 1993, and son, Dale, born December 7, 1995. They are presently living on the family farm.

Next was a daughter Debbie, born January 10, 1965. She attended Rorketon School as did the rest of the family. Her first child, Candice, was born December 21, 1983. Her second daughter, Crystal, was born January 30, 1987. Debbie, Candice, Crystal and Dalton presently reside in Edmonton.

The third child, the second daughter, Shelly, was born August 31, 1968. On May 28, 1988 she married Dwayne Moffatt from Magnet. They have one daughter, Amber, who was born May 28, 1992 and one son, Mark, born February 15, 1995. Shelly is presently working for the Agriculture Dept. in Ste. Rose du Lac. Shelly, Dwayne and family make their home on Dwayne's parents' farm.

Syl and Chris spend their free time with family and friends and always enjoy their grandchildren.

Bernie the twelfth child, and tenth son, was born July 5, 1940. While working in Estevan with his brother Syl, he met Joan who was a life long friend of Chris, Syl's wife to be.

Bernie and Joan were married in 1960. Their first daughter, Laurie, who was born in 1960, and with her son Dustin, make their home in Edmonton, Alberta.



Bernie & Joan Honish w/family. Jamie, Holly's husband Kenny, Holly & Lori. Bernie & Joan in front

Jamie, the only son, was born in 1964. He married Bessie Vavarotsos of Canmore, Alberta where they presently reside.

Holly, the youngest child was born in 1966. She married Kenny Altrogge of St. Benedict, Saskatchewan. They have one daughter, Jenna. They live in Hinton, Alberta.

Bernie and Joan spent several years in Pilger, Saskatchewan, where their children were born and growing up. They then moved to Morinville, Alberta, where they presently reside. Their time is filled with family and especially the grandchildren.

Then came to John and Magdalene their thirteenth child, third daughter, Jeneatt. She attended Magnet and Rorketon schools, then joined the R.C.A.F in 1960. While she was stationed at Senneterre, Quebec, she met Claude Latulippe. They were married August 11, 1962. The only child, Claudine, was born May 11, 1963. After several years and many stations later, Claude retired from the R.C.A.F in 1976, and they moved to Rorketon. Claude has since been working for National Typewriter. Claudine attended school in various places. She completed high school in Rorketon, then went on to Brandon University where she obtained her degree in Environmental Science.



Jeneatt & Claude w/daughter Claudine



Gerry, Mary, Kyle & Adrian

Gerald was the last child born to John and Magdalene December 3, 1940. He attended Magnet and Rorketon schools. He is employed with the TD Bank. In July 1973, Gerry married Mary Atamanchuk from Fork River. They have two sons. Kyle was born June 20, 1976. He is presently attending the University of Manitoba. Adrian, was born February 20, 1979. He is now attending high school in Winnipeg and is very sports oriented. Gerry, Mary and family are residing in Winnipeg.

In 1946 John and Magdalene decided to make the move to Manitoba. They purchased land from Closterman. Harold and Rufus came in early sum-

mer of 1946, to put up the hay. The rest of the family followed after the fall harvest. The move was made by train. There was one car load of machinery and one carload of livestock. The first winter was spent in cramped quarters. However, the following summer, 1947, three granaries, one for the girls, another for the boys, and one for a cook shack were pulled into the yard. That summer construction began on the house that still stands in the yard.

The family was very musical with many of the family members playing instruments, and everyone would sing along. The house was always filled with music, especially on Sundays after Church. The amplifiers were set up with the speaker in the upstairs window and could be heard from miles around. John and Magdalena always seemed to enjoy the music. Only one time did Magdalena take a cushion and put it under Joe Smigelski's foot, because he was stamping his foot to the beat of the music and she was below trying to sleep.

John and Magdalene continued to farm until 1967 when they retired and moved to the town of Rorketon.

Our dear father, John, was laid to rest in 1987. His wife Magdalene, our loving mother, joined him in 1993.

Hooper, Gary and Marilyn **submitted by Marilyn Hooper**

Gary and Marilyn and their three small daughters came to Rorketon in the summer of 1977. They purchased a parcel of land from William. Robbins Sr. and set up a hobby farm on the north side of



Gary & Marilyn Hooper, Donald, Carla, Wendy & Michelle

town. Gary taught Senior English here from 1977 to 1983, and then took a similar position at Ste. Rose. He commuted for the next three years until the family moved there in the summer of 1986. While they were here, Marilyn gave piano and organ lessons in their home and ran a small bedding plant business. The Hoopers were also active members of St. Anthony's Church.

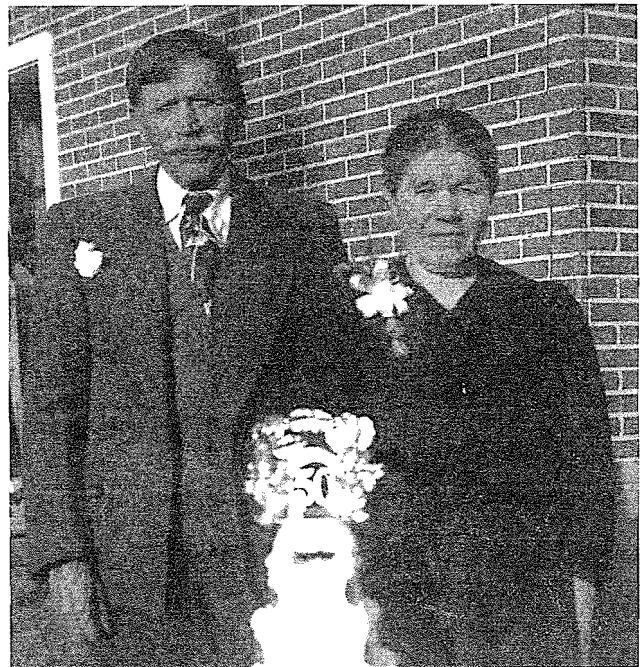
Their eldest daughter, Michelle, a graduate of Rorketon Collegiate, is, at the time of publication, a chartered accountant, living and working in Thompson, Man. The second daughter, Wendy, is a doctor enrolled in the Obstetrics and Gynaecology Residency Program of the University of Vancouver. The third daughter, Carla, is enrolled at the University of Winnipeg, and hopes to enter the field of research. Their son, Donald, who was born while they resided in this community, is completing his high school education in Ste. Rose.

The Hoopers enjoyed their sojourn in Rorketon and still remain in contact with several members of the community.

Nicola and Melania (Pich) Huculak **submitted by Annie (Huculak) Rehaluk**

Nick Huculak was born on May 17, 1876, in Mychawka, Borshchiw, Western Ukraine. He came to Canada in 1900 and worked at a brick-manufacturing factory in Renfrew, Ontario, for two years. In 1902 he came to Moose Bay, and purchased a home-stead farm.

In 1906 Nick married Melania Pich, daughter of



Mr. & Mrs. Huculak

Peter and Palania Pich. Nick and Melania farmed at Moose Bay for 26 years. In 1926 they moved to Rorketon where they built and operated a general store until 1938, son Peter, took over the operation of the store.

Nick and Melania raised a family of fourteen children Mike, Fred, John, Peter, Annie, Harry, Vera, Tony, Mary, Alice, Margaret, Sophie, Dorothy and Maurice.



Pete Huculak

Mike Huculak (October 5, 1906-1982)

Mike resided in the Cassiar Region. During the construction of Watson Lake Airport and the Alaska Highway they had to freight supplies from Dease Lake to Watson Lake via the Dease River. He also prospected on his own.

Fred Huculak (September 12, 1907-1952)

Fred married Daisy Hruska and they had three children, Bill, Irene and Lucille. Bill married Carol and they have two children, Daniel and Laura. Bill has an engineering degree and worked for the Motorola Company in Toronto and is residing in Uxbridge, Ontario. Irene married Cecil Little and they are residing in Welland, Ontario. They have three children. Lucille married Frank Panetta. They have two children and are residing in Welland.

John Huculak (August 20, 1908-1988)

John married Annie Biley. He was a barber by profession and she a hair-dresser.

Peter Huculak (October 8, 1911)

Peter married Anna Sloboda and they are residing in Dauphin. They have one son, Elmer. Elmer and his wife, Linda, have five children; Tonia, Laura, Daniel, Cynthia and Cathleen and they reside in Calgary. Elmer is an accountant by profession.

Annie Huculak Rehaluk (December 25, 1912)

Annie married Dan Rehaluk and they have one son, Larry. Larry is an electrical engineer. He is married to Dr. Kathleen Pickard and they have three children; Tanya (December 18, 1982) Mark (April 30, 1984) and Timothy (June 15, 1990). They all live in Winnipeg.

Harry Huculak (December 1, 1914-1921) passed away when he was seven years old.

Vera Huculak Dutchak (July 5, 1917)

Vera married Alex Dutchak and they are residing in Chilliwack. They have two children, Evelyn and Morrie. Evelyn profession, nurse married Jack Tallon and they reside in Edmonton. Morrie profession, constable married Carol and they have two children, Brent and Kelly. Morrie and his wife live in Chilliwack.

Tony Huculak (January 24, 1919)

Tony married Natalie Holowachuk and they reside in Chilliwack. They have one daughter, Shirley and she is married to Norman Chartrand.

Mary Huculak (Sept. 4, 1920)

Mary is retired and is residing in Toronto.

Alice Huculak LaBar (July 25, 1922)

Alice married Francis LaBar and they are residing in Okotoks. They have two children, Brian and Lois.

Margaret Huculak Wallberg (August 17, 1924)

Margaret married Allan Wallberg and they reside in Victoria.

Sophie Huculak Walker (February 13, 1928)

Sophie married Douglas Walker and they are residing in Winnipeg. They have four children; Dorothy, Kirk, Brad and Keith. Dorothy is married to Terry Bird. They have two children and are residing in Winnipeg.

Dorothy Huculak Longmuir (July 16, 1929)

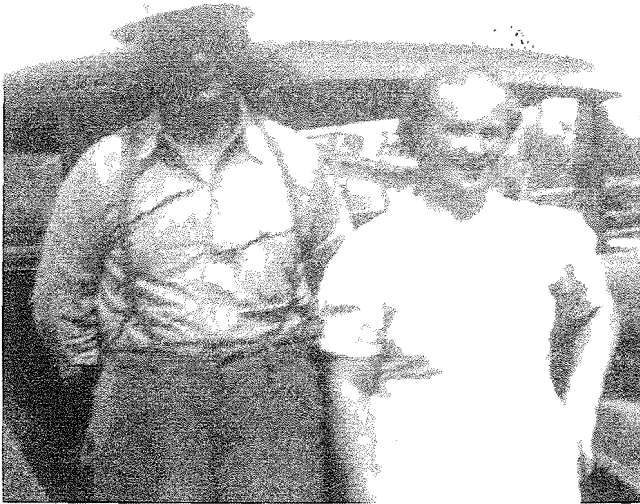
Dorothy married Cecil Longmuir and they reside in Grandview. They have three children; Miles, Cindy and Wade. Miles married Judy Skwara and they reside in Winnipeg. They have three children; Judy 20 years, Trisha 18 years, and Faith 15 years: Cindy married Barry Bremer and they call Regina, home. They have two children, Dawn 10 years and Kelly 6 years. Wade married Joan. They have a one year old child and live in Edmonton.

Maurice Huculak (May 12, 1933)

Maurice is retired and living in Edmonton.

Sulo and Jennie Huhtala

Sulo immigrated to Canada from Vesilahti, Finland in 1914. He landed in Montreal, went to Ontario by train, then on to British Columbia, Revelstoke and Salmon Arm. Sulo worked in bush camps from about 1915 until 1924. At that time, he



Jennie & Sulo Huhtala

lost the sight in one eye accidentally and could no longer work there.

He then moved to Saskatchewan to the Outlook area, where he went into partnership with a steam threshing outfit. He did this until he moved to Manitoba in 1926.

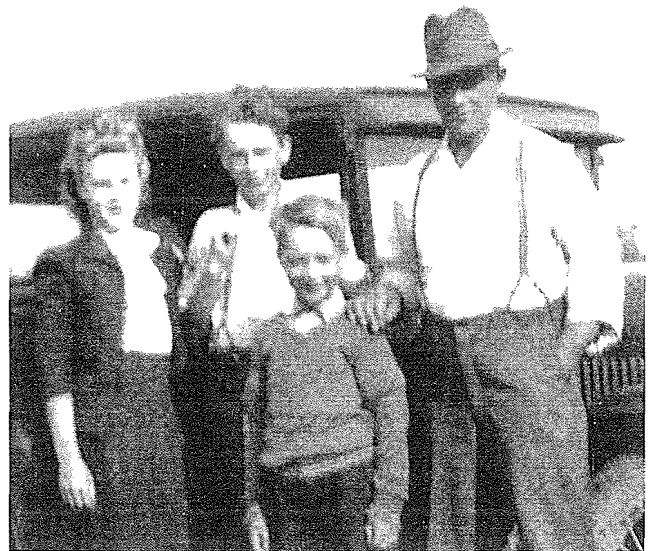
In Manitoba, he got a job with a commercial fisherman on Lake Dauphin. In 1927, he obtained a homestead on SE 34-28-16. At that time, he married Jennie Mackie. Then in 1931, they moved their house to NE 26-28-16 where it still stands today. During that time they raised their three children, Elsie, Edwin, and Vernie.

One of the first buildings on the farm was a sauna (steam bath). The sauna was also used as a smoke house to cure meats.

Sulo became a commercial fisherman. When he first started, he used skis made in Finland and a

hand sleigh. Later he used horses and a caboose and then the 1928 Model A, which was purchased in 1941 for \$175.00. The car was used till he dropped it through the ice. Luckily it was recovered. In 1951, Sulo retired from fishing and his sons, Edwin and Vernie, took over. Vernie only fished two winters, but Edwin kept on and is still fishing commercially with his wife.

The children attended the Cecil School which was about three miles across the Hudson Bay Swamp from their home. The eldest child, Elsie, would use her dad's skis to travel to school and back in the winter. When the second child, Edwin, went to school, he had to stand behind Elsie on the skis and hang on to her to get a ride.



Elsie, Edwin, Sulo & Vernie Huhtala

Jennie was very talented at sewing and knitting. Jennie also did a lot of sewing and knitting for her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Sulo and Jennie retired from farming in the fall of 1954. At this time Edwin and Vernie took over the family farm. Jennie and Sulo moved to Thunder Bay where they lived until Sulo died in 1964. At that time Jennie sold their house and moved into an apartment. She took on different jobs like babysitting and cleaning. She was an active member of a Finnish Choir that travelled across Canada to perform.

In 1981, her family persuaded her to return to Manitoba to be closer to them. She stayed with Edwin and Elaine until she was able to get an apartment in the Trois Villa in Ste. Rose. She made many new friends there and had her family close by. She resided there until the time of her death in June 1995.



Walter & Dora Sockovie, Stan & Jean Masiowski, Edwin & Elaine Huhtala, Alex & Eleanor Biletski

Elsie, the eldest, was born on December 5, 1927. Elsie left home after completing high school to further her education to become a teacher. She then married Mac Jackson in 1950 and lived on a farm in Basswood. They then moved to Minnedosa where Mac worked for the Federal Government and then to Brandon. Mac died in 1989 from cancer. Elsie is retired from teaching and keeps very active. She belongs to a clogging group that performs in different towns. They have two sons. Barry and his wife, Joan, live in Calgary and have two daughters, Alana and Angela. Donald and his wife, Wanda, who live in Brandon, have a daughter Kelsi, and son Aaron.

Edwin was born February 11, 1931 and married Elaine Sklar on August 4, 1956. At that time they took over the family farm and fished commercially. They raised five children, the youngest, twin girls. Fishing got really poor, so Edwin went to work for the Department of Highways, planning to work for two years and ended up working for 23 years. He took early retirement at 55. While Edwin worked off the farm, everyone had to share the work.

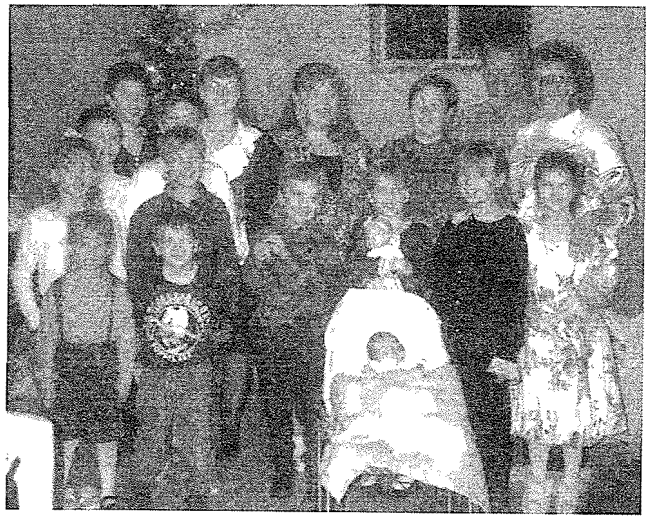
Elaine went to work at the Rorketon District Credit Union in 1976, and worked there for 14 years.

In 1987, Edwin and Elaine moved to Sherridon where Edwin worked as foreman for the town till the mine closed in the fall of 1988. Elaine worked at the Post Office there.

When they moved back home, Edwin and Elaine started commercial fishing again at Berg Island where they spend their winters. In the summer, they helped their children wherever needed. Edwin and Elaine are still keeping the sauna tradition going by having one at their fish camp and one at home.



Edwin Huhtala family: B: Brenda, Edwin, Elaine Gary F: Tim, Wendy, Wanda



Edwin & Elaine Huhtala and grandchildren

Gary, the eldest of Edwin and Elaine's, was born on May 24, 1957. After attending school in Rorketon, Gary worked out for a few years before starting to farm with his dad in 1976. At this time, he bought Aho's farm which was across the road from their farm. In November of 1977, he married Sandra Alarie. They live on the home quarter with their four daughters, Jennifer, Constance, Erica, and Kristie. Gary and his family ran a cream operation for about 12 years till the creamery shut down in 1995. Gary also ranches with his brother Tim. Gary commercial fishes on Lake Manitoba, making him the third generation of commercial fisherman in the Huhtala family. Sandra is employed at the Rorketon School.

Brenda was born on November 9, 1958. She married Maurice Theoret (eldest son of Ronald and Rosalie) on November 4, 1978. They operate a mixed farming operation in the Methley area and live on NE 35-25-15W. They have two girls and two boys, Allison, Robert, Amie, and Ryan. They attend school in Ste. Rose.

Tim was born on December 22, 1960. Tim married Gale Sraybash on December 9, 1983. They operate the family farm. They have three sons, Justin, Tyler, and Cory.

Wanda was born December 9, 1965. She married Claude Theoret on September 21, 1985. They live in Ste. Rose and have one daughter, Charmaine.

Wendy was born December 9, 1965. Wendy has two boys and one girl, Christopher Jette, Tosha Jette, and Randy Altenburg. Wendy, her fiancé Mark Altenburg, and children live in Dauphin.

Vernie was born September 7, 1934. After leaving the family farm, he went to work in Ontario on construction. There he married Ruth Heights of Dorion, Ontario. They returned to the family farm in

Rorketon. They spent a short time there before moving to Waterhen where they are still ranching. They have five children.

Lorne and his wife Brenda live in Mallard. They have a son and daughter, Albert and Jessica.

Glen and his wife Ernestine live in Waterhen. They have three daughters, twins Crystal and Chrissy, and youngest, Laura.

Dale lives and works in Thompson.

Donna lives and works in Brandon.

Karen attends school in Dauphin.

Alex Iwanchysko

Alex was born in 1896, one of seven children. He came to Canada in 1913 from Austria. His older sister Frozina (Ann) married to Nick Pawluk came to Brandon in 1911 and sent money back for him to come over. He worked on the railroad for a while in Brandon and then in 1915 followed his sister to Moose Bay. He settled on the NW 15-28-17 quarter and farmed there until 1937. He married Effie Schurko and they had three children John, Victoria, and Tony. Besides farming Alex, Nick Werbiski and Walter Talpash would go to Alberta and buy a few car loads of horses and ship a car each to Sifton, Rorketon and Fork River and sell them. They got them cheap because they were starting with tractors there already, but horses were in big demand here.

Alex and Effie separated and in 1934 Anne Schurko came to the farm to look after the children and help on the farm. They had two children Olga and Dan.

Alex and Anne left the farm in 1936 when they bought the Feed and Livery Stable in Rorketon from Nick Werbiski, in partnership with Ernie Wilson. Ernie lived in a little house by the barn and was a WWI Veteran. A couple of years later Ernie had a stroke and retired.

Alex was nicknamed Big Alex as he was a big man. During the winter he was hired by the RCMP to take them to remote areas with a team and caboose. He also drove the Health Nurse to the farms and as far as Crane River and Meadow Portage whenever anyone was sick. Also if people came in or went out on the train he would pick them up. In 1946 he sold the stable to Nick Chuipka.

Alex had Paul Pich build a house across the tracks and continued buying cattle. He owned all the land across the tracks and slowly sold the lots to people as the town grew larger. He would buy a carload or more of cattle and ship them by train to Winnipeg. He went with them to feed water and then sell them, hopefully but not always, at a profit. Then he came home on the bus to Ste. Rose and

someone would pick him up. Due to age and poor health he gradually retired and Dan took over the farm. He enjoyed visits from his many old friends and would reminisce with them for hours. He also enjoyed his grandchildren. He belonged to the Ukrainian Greek Orthodox Church and was one of the founding members. He donated much time and financial aid. In 1975 Alex died at the age of 79 and is buried in the Moose Bay Cemetery.

Anton and Theodosia Schurko

Anton was born in 1862 in Poland. Theodosia Lytwyn was born in 1868. They married and came to Canada in 1907, settling first in Sifton. In 1921 they came to Moose Bay and settled on the SW 34-27-17 fraction. They opened 20 acres of land by hand and farmed and fished. Three of their five children came with them. Anton died in 1932. In 1944 Theodosia moved to Rorketon and lived with her daughter Anne until she died in 1958. Anton and Theodosia are both buried in the Moose Bay Cemetery. Mike and Effie were born twins in 1901. Mike never came to Moose Bay. Effie had a daughter Mary and married Alex Iwanchysko. They had three children John, Victoria, and Tony. Effie separated from Alex. She moved to Sioux Look Out and worked. She died in 1973 and is buried in the Moose Bay Cemetery. Anne was born in 1909. She went to school in Sifton, Moose Bay and finished in Dauphin completing her grade 12. She went to Chicago where her brother Mike was and worked. In 1934, she came to Alex Iwanchysko's to help with the children and farm. They had two children Dan and Olga.

She can remember how they would go across the lake to Sifton with a team of horses to take 20 bags of wheat to Fred Farion's mill. They would bring back the same weight but 8-10 bags would be flour and the rest bran and middlings (wheat that wasn't ground fine enough). They fed the bran and middlings to the cattle. They could make it in one day across the Dauphin lake but in the summer it took two days to go around.

When they moved to Rorketon in 1937 their home was used as a board and rooming house. Some babies were born there. Anne did a lot of cooking and it was hard work.

She belonged to the Rorketon Womens Institute. They did a lot of knitting which they gave to the Red Cross to send to the Canadian Soldiers in Europe, during the war. In 1946 when Alex and Anne moved across the track to their new home. They always kept chickens and turkeys and a lot of ducks. She made quilts and pillows with the duck feathers and

down. She milked cows and sold milk and eggs to the town people. They belonged to the Ukrainian Greek Orthodox Church and hall. They helped with the fund raising and the building. She was secretary for the hall for many years. The Priest would come to Rorketon from Dauphin by train and would stay at their place. They had to stay two to three days as the train only came three times a week.

She moved to Dauphin in 1979 to the Parkview Lodge, better known as the High Rise. She was one of the first tenants. There her many talents were well used as she helped the more disabled seniors with their sewing, shopping and cooking. She has helped a lot of people in her lifetime and still does not allow anyone to leave her place hungry. Presently she serves as Treasurer for the Lodge's tenants and is a very avid and lucky bingo player.

Victoria Iwanchysko (Oryniak)

Victoria, daughter of Effie and Alex was born in 1920 in Moose Bay. She worked in various places and in Sioux Lookout, Ont. she met and married Bill Oryniak. They settled in Thunder Bay, Ont. where she still resides. They had one daughter Adeline and two sons Lawrence and Bill. Bill was a barber by trade and Victoria worked as a cook.

Tony Iwanchysko

Tony, son of Effie and Alex was born in 1923 in Moose Bay. He went to school in Moose Bay and helped on the farm. In 1937 he moved to Rorketon and lived with Alex and Anne.

He moved out and built a house beside Tony Biletski in 1945. He traded the house to Eric Mackie for his farm and moved the house from that farm to Rorketon and sold it to Pete Korotash. He built a house for himself beside it and had a small barn for his horses.

He moved to Hamilton, where he worked for the CNR until he retired. He died in 1992 and is buried in the Moose Bay Cemetery.

Olga Iwanchysko (Sorby)

Olga, daughter of Anne and Alex Iwanchysko was born in 1935 in Moose Bay. She went to school in Rorketon and was a member of the 4-H Sewing Club. She skated in the Ice Carnivals and was once chosen Queen. She was in the first grade 11 class to graduate in 1952. She went to Winnipeg and took a Secretarial Course, then worked for Crown Life Insurance. She married Ron Sorby in 1955 and they had two daughters. Sharon and husband Dave Rubel live in Winnipeg and have two sons, Jordan and Jessie. Sandra also lives in Winnipeg and works with special needs children in an elementary school.

Dan Iwanchysko

Dan, son of Anne and Alex Iwanchysko was born in 1937 in Moose Bay. He went to school in Rorketon until grade 8 when he quit to help at home as his Dad was crippled up, and has been farming since. Dan played hockey with the Rorketon Hockey Team From 1948-70. In 1956 they won the cup at Dauphin. He was a member of the Trail Rangers from 1948-50. They set up a booth outside the Lakson Theatre every Friday night and sold drinks and hot dogs at 15 cents each to raise money. He drove the grader and worked for the R.M. for a while. In 1959 when the small schools closed down he drove school bus from Million to Rorketon until 1961. He drove cattle truck for many years - picking up his Dad's cattle when he bought them, then delivering them to the stock yards where the train would ship them to Winnipeg. Later he picked up cattle for the transfer and drove from Rorketon to Winnipeg. He married Lorraine Weaver in 1963 and they had one daughter and one son. He owned his own truck and picked up grain from farmers and delivered it to the elevators, and delivered coal when it came in on the train. Dan has been a member of the Rorketon Fire Dept. For twenty years and served as assistant fire Chief for a number of years. He has received many Fireman of the Year awards. He has served as town councillor for nine years from 1986-1995.



Gary, Judy, Dan & Lori Iwanchysko

Lorraine Weaver (Iwanchysko)

Lorraine, daughter of Lynn and Olive Weaver was born in 1945 in Ste. Rose. She went to school in Million until grade 8. Audrey Pich was the teacher from 1951 to 1959 and organized dances for us every Friday night through the fall and winter, so we all learned how to dance at an early age. We walked half a mile to school every day. In 1959 when the small schools were closed down she went to Rorketon School until grade 11. Then she worked in Kenora and Winnipeg. In 1963 she married Dan

Iwanchysko. Lori worked at Hanchar's Store for a while and on and off at the post office over the years. Presently she is the part-time Assistant. She curled and was a member of the Rorketon Community Club for a while. She looked after the hot dog booth for the Hockey Club for two years. Lori was on the Recreation Board that started the Drop In Centre and later helped start the Seniors Congregate Meal Program. She was the first cook and held the job for one year. Presently she represents the R.M. of Lawrence on the Ste. Rose and District Resource Council for Seniors Board as well as the Handi-Van Board.

Judi, daughter of Lori and Dan Iwanchysko, was born in 1968 in Dauphin. She went to school in Rorketon and graduated in 1985. She was an active member of the 4-H club and received many awards. She took up to grade seven in Piano. She curled in the Junior Womens Christmas Spiel in Winnipegosis. In 1985 she was one of the co-presidents of the International Year of the Youth Club. When she graduated from grade twelve she received the Governor Generals Award and two entrance scholarships to University. In her first year she received two more scholarships. She worked at Revenue Canada for three summers. In 1990 she graduated with her Bachelor Honor's Degree in Commerce. That summer she toured and worked in Europe for three months. In September 1990 she started her articling with Price Water House for two years and then wrote and passed her UFE exam to become a Chartered Accountant. She Completed her articling in 1993 and accepted a job with the U.S. Branch of Price Water House, in Togliatti, Russia. She applied for a job with the Cameco Mining Co. of Saskatoon. To work in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan where they were developing a gold mine. She is presently Senior Accountant.

Gary, son of Lori and Dan Iwanchysko, was born in 1972 in Ste. Rose. He went to school in Rorketon until 1990 when he graduated out of grade 12. He attended Herzing College in Winnipeg for Computer Technology and graduated with high marks in 1991. In 1992 he started a four year apprenticeship with Manitoba Hydro in Electrical Maintenance and has travelled all over Manitoba with his work. He will receive his ticket in 1996.

Paul and Nina (Knewtila) Johnson

Paul and Nina moved to this district from Belden, North Dakota in 1918 with their two boys Tranus and Melvin.

They lived with the John Still family while Paul built their house on their farm SW 25-28-16W. She

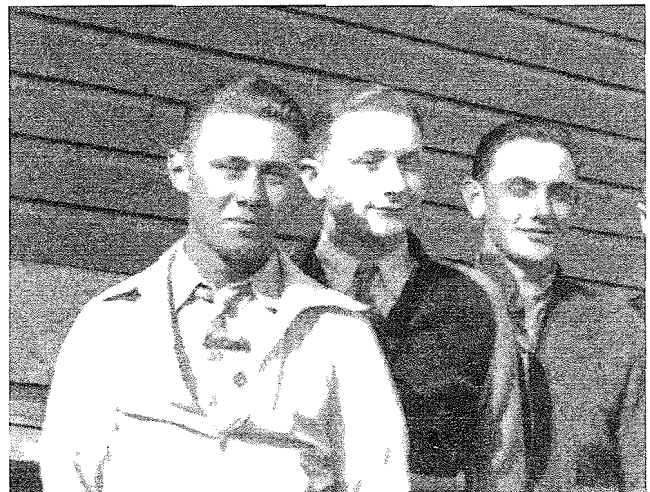


Mr. & Mrs. Johnson

hailed the lumber and other building supplies from Makinak with the horses and wagon. They moved into their house in 1919 where their third son Aroo was born. Paul was a carpenter and often went away from home to work on construction jobs.

They farmed until 1949 when they retired and moved the house to the village of Rorketon. Paul was interested in the community and served on the school board. Paul passed away in 1957 and Nina in 1961.

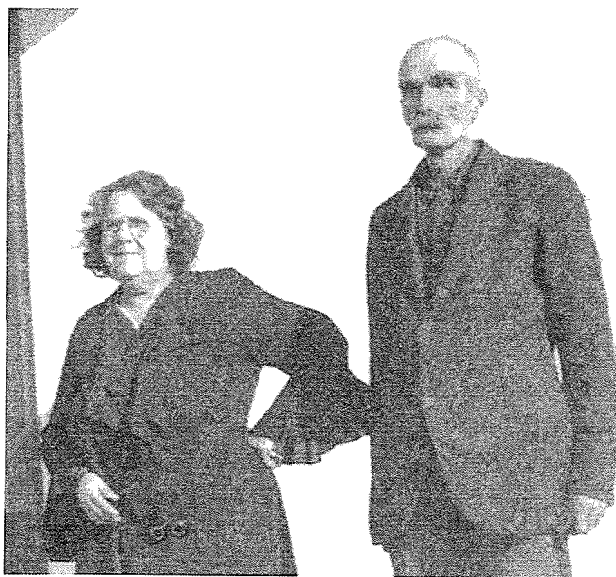
Melvin married Elsa Woulkonea and they farmed on SW 30-28- 15. They had two children Muriel and Robert. Muriel married Donald Stammen and they had two children Dale and Kimberly. Donald died in a car accident in 1963. Muriel resides in Winnipeg. Robert married Claudea Rendeel and they have two children Grant and Sandra. Robert resides in Brandon, Manitoba. Melvin died in a car accident in 1963. Tranis married Elsa Johnson in 1965. He passed away in 1992.



Johnson Boys - Avro, Francis & Melvin

Johnston, David and Alice submitted by Clara A. Johnston

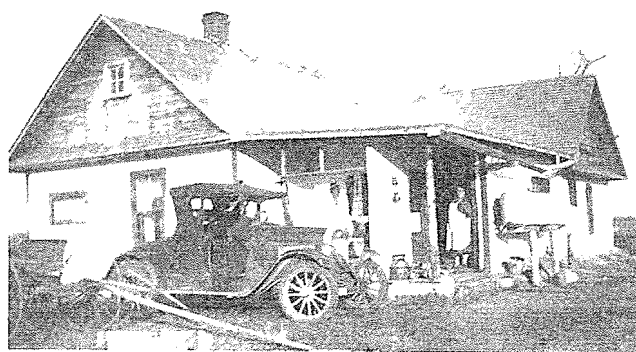
David William and Alice Victoria Johnston and son Norman left Boissevain, Manitoba in 1919 and moved to the Edillen District, about three miles east of the village of Rorketon, the end of steel on a CNR branchline.



Mr. & Mrs. Dave Johnston



Ready to cut firewood, Alice, the dog & Norman Johnson.
(Note the "foot warmer" Alice has in her left hand.)



The Johnston house about 1929, with the "run-about" and the buggy Alice in door way, and soft-water tank against west wall.



Clara & Norman Johnston

Dave, an engineer whose health was beginning to fail, had been advised by his doctor to seek outdoor work. Although they referred to the farm as "the homestead", they had actually purchased the property (including a dog that understood no English) from Mike Mikaluska, who had returned to Poland, discouraged by trying to make the marginal land produce. Norman, ready for St. John's College in Winnipeg, was 17.

They arrived with a large Studebaker touring car which was so frequently mired in the gumbo that they traded it to a school inspector for his buggy and team of light driving horses. One mare was named

"Stude" and the other "Baker". They provided transportation for the families.

Johnston hospitality was a legend. The Johnstons were widely read; the Manitoba Wheat Pool Library in Winnipeg supplied material free by mail and Alice, Dave and Norman read everything from Karl Marx to scientific papers on Astronomy. As well as literature, the Johnstons were noted for their love of, and ability to train dogs. From 1929 to 1939 Canada was economically depressed, but in spite of the hardship, the R.M. Lawrence was a good place to live.

Edmund Antoni Kaminski

Born in Poland May 29, 1876, he apprenticed to an iron molder at eleven for six years. "Three years was the ordinary course. The blueprint work, the big work, took twice as long."

Then he was conscripted into the Russian army. Then, as now, Poland chafed under the Russian yoke. The spirited young man soon deserted, and until he was twenty-one, travelled over a good part of Europe, staying only long enough to earn some money at his trade, afraid he might be sent back to Russia and possibly Siberia.

First he found himself in Austria, and from there he went to Hungary, city of Prague, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, France, Spain and England, picking up some of the language of each country as he went.

He had made up his mind to emigrate to South Africa, but in Dublin he changed his mind when associates said, "Go to Canada. You can get 160 acres of land free."

A dealer in scrapiron put him in line for an iron molder's job in a Brandon factory making threshing engine parts. Expert at his trade, he was soon established. He married a Polish girl in 1903.

Besides his good job, he was in demand as court interpreter on account of his familiarity with so many languages.

But the war clouds were over Europe. Canada, now his country, was at war in 1914. He knew what he had to do.

He joined the 19th Winnipeg Rifles, leaving his comfortable income and his wife and seven children for a time.

In the spring of 1918 he went to Rorketon to farm, under the Soldiers' Settlement, and was there until 1929, when he asked to be transferred because drainage ditches constructed to clear other parts had flooded a part of his land.

Rorketon - arrived in the spring of 1920 - Edmund and sons Zygmund and Stan. They came

before the rest of the family. Land was allotted to Edmund from the Veterans Affairs. They gave him land that was very swampy and was full of stones and the land was very poor for farming. Edmund, his son-in-law Andy Kubas, sons Zygmund and Stan scrubbed the land in order to build a house before the rest of the family arrived in the fall of 1920. Because the land was very poor farming land and he had lost eighteen head of cattle from Blackleg (caused from the swampy slough on the farm) and could see no way of getting ahead in farming and because he wanted more income he built a livery and feed stable in the town of Rorketon.

He had ten children: Helen Mary born March 5, 1904, Brunislawa Emilie born January 1, 1906 Zygmund Peter born October 10, 1907, Stanley Francis born October 23, 1908, Sophia born March 9, 1910, Feliks Edmund born October 26, 1911, Francis Anastasius born October 4, 1913, Joseph Casimir born February 17, 1916, Mary Elizabeth born December 19, 1918, and Antony Edward born May 7, 1922.

Roman and Anne Karp

submitted by Mary Lorette (Karp)

Roman was born on November 25, 1900 in the Ukraine. He immigrated to Canada, landing in Montreal on June 10, 1927. On June 12, he arrived in Winnipeg and from there was sent to Sifton where he worked for a farmer. Later he went to work in Dauphin with a friend to run a shoe repair shop for a short period of time. He then returned to Sifton where he opened a shoe shop until 1935.

He used to travel to Rorketon with the Greek Orthodox priest. He assisted in serving mass which was held in Iwanchysko's house as there was no church building at that time.

In 1935, Roman moved to Rorketon and started his own shoe shop in a building he rented from George Bretecher. In 1936, he built his own house and bought a building which he moved onto his own land for the shoe shop.

Roman met Anne, daughter of Nicholas and Maria Matychuk of Toutes Aides. On February 4, 1937, they were married in Winnipeg and returned to Rorketon to start their life together. Times were very hard so Roman kept bees and sold the honey. They also kept three cows and sold milk and cream.

When business was slow, he left for work in Northern Ontario in a bush camp. He also worked on the railroad when the railway to Lynn Lake was being built. He worked as a carpenter, building the theatre and the new school.



Roman & Ann Karp

In the evenings, he worked in his shoe shop. He taught his wife how to sew soles and harnesses which she did while he was out working. He received 25 cents for putting on new leather soles.

On June 1, 1938, their daughter Mary was born with the help of Nurse Hill.

In 1939, they added three rooms to their house. A few girls who worked at Pulak's store as clerks stayed there.

When Hydro came to Rorketon, Anne washed and ironed clothes for thirty five Hydro men.

Roman used to put on Ukrainian plays which he directed, to raise money to send packages made up by the Women's Institute, overseas to the soldiers. He enjoyed singing and was asked on many occasions to be Master of Ceremonies (Starosta) at weddings. He also assisted priests during funerals.

In 1955, Roman and Anne moved to Winnipeg where Roman worked for the city at Brookside Cemetery until his retirement in 1967. Anne worked at the Honeysuckle Bakery.

After his retirement, he joined a Senior Citizens' Club of which he became president.

In October 1972, they moved to Regina where Roman joined another Seniors' Club. In 1976, he had surgery to remove a brain tumor. He enjoyed fairly good health until his death on August 12, 1995.

Anne was born on July 20, 1917. She started her schooling in Toutes Aides. She had one sister Lena, who was four and a half years older.

At the age of thirteen, Anne had to leave school to work on the farm. When she reached the age of eighteen, she married and moved to Rorketon. She

used to walk nine miles to help her father on the farm.

Anne is now retired and living in Regina.

Mary Karp (Lorette) was born in Rorketon and received her education there. She worked in Hanchar's store on train nights, on Saturdays and, one year, full days during summer holidays. In 1955, she moved to Winnipeg where she worked for Eaton's. In April 1956, she entered the school of Psychiatric Nursing in Selkirk and graduated in 1958.

She married Bert Lorette in Winnipeg on August 30, 1958. Mary worked at the Children's Hospital and the Manitoba Clinic. Bert worked for Federal Grain until 1972, when the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool bought them out. Bert was offered a job with the Pool so he and Mary moved to Regina. Mary worked at the Medical Arts Clinic until 1993, when both she and Bert retired.

They enjoy golfing, hunting and take yearly trips to Northern Manitoba to fish.

They have one daughter, Leslie, who lives in Toronto and is self-employed.

They often sit and talk about the good times they enjoyed while living in Rorketon.

Katchur and Deminchuk

submitted by grandchildren, Gail and Wayne

Our grandfather, John Deminchuk was born in Boian, Bucovina, Austria May 20, 1876, and came to Canada in 1908. He arrived in Halifax and came West as far as Regina.

In 1910 John took up residence in the Stonehenge, Saskatchewan district.

Pearl Covalciuk was born August 15, 1884. In 1914 she married John Deminchuk and had thirteen children. My mother, Katheren, is one of the thirteen.

John died October 18, 1967, at the age of 91 in Moose Jaw Hospital. He was buried in Mount Hope cemetery in Assiniboia, Saskatchewan. His wife died August 22, 1970, at the age of 86 in the Assiniboia Hospital and was buried in the same cemetery as John.

Andrew and Katherine (Talpush) Katchur **submitted by Betty Wheatley (Katchur)**

In 1904, Andrew Katchur first visited Canada. In 1912, he returned to Austria, then in 1922, once more came to Canada to the area now known as Rorketon. He purchased Nick Bennick's farm NW 32-28-15. He married Katherine Talpush in Moose Bay in February of 1922.

Katherine Talpush was born in Shamokin,



Andrew & Katherine Katchur

Pennsylvania, on September 10, 1896. She was the third daughter of Benedict and Pearl Talpash. At the age of three, she travelled with her mother and two sisters to join Benedict, her father, on a homestead that he had purchased near Dauphin. After several years, the family moved to Moose Bay and later settled on a farm one and a half miles from Rorketon. Katherine was fortunate that she and her brothers and sisters were able to attend school near Dauphin.

Andrew and Katherine spent over thirty years on this farm. In 1953, they retired in Rorketon.

Their farm was of the mixed farming variety which led to much hard work and little extra conveniences.

Andrew and Katherine had five children: one son, Joseph, and four daughters, Pearl, Betty (Elizabeth), Olive, and Jean. Pearl died at the age of nine on September 3, 1934, of meningitis or Polio.

Katherine was keenly interested to see that her children obtained the best education possible. There was no school within walking distance so as soon as the children turned six they were driven to Grandpa and Grandma Talpash's place to be closer to a school.

Joe, Pearl and Betty attended Rorketon School and came home for weekends. In 1936, the old Totes Aides Ukrainian Catholic Church was moved to the quarter next to our farm. The church was converted to a school, called Vedenia School. Now the children could stay home and attend school. We received our Grade nine and ten through correspondence courses.

During the hot summer of 1935, Andrew spent many hours helping with the construction of the Totes Aides Ukrainian Church.

Betty completed her Grade twelve and attended Dauphin Business College. Later she worked in business offices in Winnipeg. She went west and



Roger & Betty (Katchur) Wheatley's Wedding

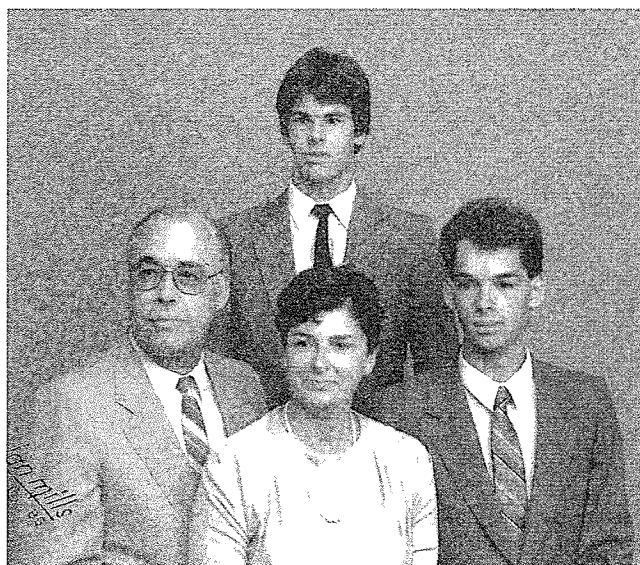
obtained a job with Calgary Power where she met her husband, Roger Wheatley. Roger was a surveyor with Calgary Power. They have three children, Dean, Sharon and Jo-Ann. Betty and Roger spend their winters in Phoenix, Arizona.

Olive attended Teacher's College in Winnipeg and became a teacher. She married Peter Luba in 1950, a school principal, and later a Mathematics consultant with the Department of Education for the Province of Manitoba. They have three children, Robert, Barry and Katherine. Robert resides in Toronto and Barry and Katherine live in Burlington, Ontario. Katherine Luba married Myles Myres and



Olive Luba, Logan Myers, Michael luba, Andrea Myers, & Andrew Luba

they have two children, Logan and Andrea. When the children were in High School, Olive went back to teach. She obtained her B.Ed. degree from the University of Manitoba and taught in Fort Garry for twenty-five years until her retirement in 1992.



Winston, Jean, Gerald, & Darren White

Jean attended the University of Manitoba and became a teacher. She enjoyed challenges and taught in some very remote areas like Haynes Junction, north of Whitehorse. She met Winston White and they were married in 1963. They have two sons, Darren and Gerald.

Andrew and Katherine enjoyed their retirement years in Rorketon. Andrew died on July 27, 1966 and Katherine on December 11, 1980.

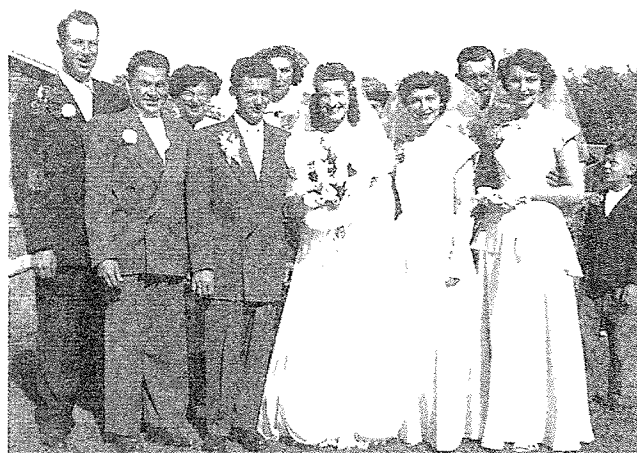
Joseph Andy Katchur and Katherine Deminchuk

Joseph, son of Andrew and Katherine Katchur. Katherine Deminchuk, daughter of John Deminchuk and Parasciva (Pearl) Covalciuk was born in Stonehenge, Saskatchewan, on September 15, 1926.

They were married in 1950 in the Greek Catholic church in Toutes Aides. They lived in Ste. Rose Du Lac for two years. Joseph had a three ton truck, worked shovelling gravel and hauling it to build highways, then hauling grain for the farmers to the elevators. To improve himself, Joe started work in the oil fields with Tri City Drilling of Edmonton.

He bought his dads farm, NW 32-28-15.

In 1964 he bought Melvin Johnson's farm, situated in Rorketon. In 1972 Joe became Rorketon's postmaster. A position he held for fifteen years. He



Joseph & Katherine (Deminchuk) Katchur Wedding B: Jean Katchur, Zonia Talpash, Katherine Katchur, Walter Tuer, Victor Talpash, F: Cliff Hophner, Bob Oversby, Joseph, Katherine, Betty Katchur, Elsie Talpash

also was "school trustee" for the Duck Mountain School Division, as well as "Secretary of the Advisory Committee" on water control in Rorketon for six years.

Joseph is a past "President" of the Royal Canadian Legion and is treasurer of Rorketon hall. His wife, Katherine, went to school in Stonehenge, Saskatchewan, then high school in Assiniboia, Saskatchewan. She worked in Calgary and Banff Hospital setting "Diet Trays".

Katherine took on L.P.N. Nurses' training in St. Boniface and Ste. Rose General Hospital. She graduated in 1948 and won the Efficiency Award in her class, bedside nursing, presented by Dr. Gendreau M.D.

In 1969 she worked in Winnipegosis General Hospital for twenty-two years until she retired in September, 1991. Kay was a "Leader" in clothing for 4-H club under Lorraine Adams.

We have two children Joanne Gail Katchur born in Ste. Rose du Lac on January 6, 1951. Wayne Katchur born in Ste. Rose du Lac on May 3, 1958. Gail started school in Rorketon. At age seven she went to Stonehenge, Saskatchewan for one year. She returned to Rorketon where she finished her grade twelve. She was also in the Rorketon 4-H club in clothing.

She attended college in Brandon and graduated as stenographer. Then she went on to Calgary to upgrade herself in night classes and worked for Natural Resources and Forestry.

Gail has two children from a previous marriage, Trevor Nathan born January 1, 1979 in Calgary and Carrie Lee Ann born March 25, 1982 in Calgary. She remarried on December 4, 1993, to Jim McQuaker in Canasticus, Alberta who also has two

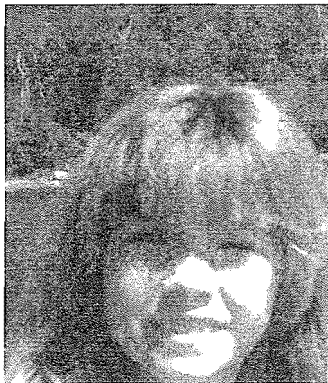


Jim & Gail (Katchur) McQuaker. Inserts: Carrie & Trevor

children, Brian and Annette. Jim born March 16, 1951 in Kamloops, British Columbia and an "Electrial Consultant".

Wayne Katchur went to school in Rorketon.

Wayne took grade nine and ten in St. Vladimir's College 1973-1974 in Roblin, Manitoba. He played hockey for Fox Warren also for Roblin, Manitoba team. Then took Grade twelve in Rorketon and farther to Brandon College graduated in the field of "Plumbing" and worked in Neepawa. He worked with T & R Construction, the contractor responsible for the cement pillars for the addition to the Rorketon School. He helped with the building of the large grain elevators in Dauphin, Rorketon Credit



Wayne & Nicolette (Farnworth) Katchur w/children Soleil & Louisa

Union, the Majestic Motors Garage and many other projects out of town.

Wayne wrote a poetry book, "Journey Into Our World" published several copies and a copy is held in Ottawa.

Wayne married Nicolette Farnworth in Hawaii, U.S.A. on August 21, 1994 with two children Louisa and Soleil. Nicolette was born November 23, 1954 in Nevada, U.S.A. Louisa was born August 5, 1986, Soleil December 15, 1988. Both live in Hawaii, U.S.A.



Andrew Kachur



Gail Katchur and deer – a hug.

Steve and Nellie Kindzerski Family

Steve and Nellie Kindzerski lived in the old country (Ukraine). They married on November 25, 1911 and moved to Horyn in May of 1921. They moved to East Bay in 1935.



Steve and Nellie Kindzerski

Their children were as follows;

Pearl was born in 1922 and died as a baby.

Daughter Ann was born August 20, 1923. She met Andrew Antosko at church in Fishing River in 1942. They married July 12, 1942 and lived on the farm in East Bay for six months. Andrew left for the war on January 13, 1943. He returned March 16, 1946. Their son Steve was born April 7, 1943. He married Delores Preston who was born June 1969. They had three daughters.



Andrew & Ann Antosko & family

Andrew and Ann bought Jack Papuga's farm in the spring of 1944. They ran a mixed farm operation and owned and operated a custom threshing outfit. They lived there until 1971, when they moved to Dauphin.

John, the only son of Steve and Nellie, was born on February 5, 1925. He married Olive Duma on November 4 1950, in the Rorketon Ukrainian Catholic Church. That same year, they moved to a farm in East Bay which they purchased from Steve and Nellie Kindzerski.

They did custom haying for ranchers and operated a grain and cattle farm. In 1966 they bought a house at Magnet. John then went to work in Pine Falls, cutting pulp for one winter. His brother-in-law, Danny Dumas kept the cattle for that winter. John returned to the East Bay farm in May of 1967. They resided at East Bay until November, 1995 when they purchased a home in Ste. Rose Du Lac. They are still active in farming.



John Kindzerski family. Back: John, Jeneatte, Adrainne, Pat. Middle: Tony, Steve, Danny, Pete. Front: John & Olive

John and Olive's children are as follows:

John was born September 22, 1951 and remains single. Steve was born December 16, 1952. He married Anita Vendenbosch on May 19, 1979. They had three girls, Erin, Jamie and Janelle. Janelle passed away December 21, 1991 from an aneurysm.

Patricia was born March 17, 1953. She married Alan Gowen. They have three girls and one boy, Jodi, Lari, Trisha and Thomas. They reside in Meath Park, Saskatchewan.

Peter was born July 5, 1955. He remains single and lives in Dauphin.

Michael was born August 13, 1957 and is single.

Adrienne was born September 14, 1958. She has two girls and lives in Prince Albert.

Richard was born June 2, 1960 and passed away.



Steve & Anita Kendzierski Family. L-R: B: Steve & Anita. M: Erin & Jamie. In front is Janelle

Tony was born April 3, 1961 He married Sandy March 19, 1983. They have a boy, Clayton and a girl Tora. They live in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan.

Jennette was born September 20, 1963. On September 3, 1994 she married Richard Boyko. They live in Saskatoon.

Danny was born July 5, 1966. He is single and lives in Prince Albert.

John and Olive are still active in farming with sons, John D. and Michael.

Peter and Mary (Poley) Kendzierski

Peter Kendzierski was born in Volkuvtski Borschew Husyatyn in the western Ukraine on July 15, 1890. He received his education in the Ukraine. Peter was sponsored by Harry Burtiak to come to Canada. In 1910 he arrived in Montreal by ship and then travelled to Winnipeg by train where he worked at various jobs.

Mary Poley was born June 15, 1895 in the Ukraine. Mary arrived in Winnipeg in 1911. She was employed in an ice cream cone factory and a soda cracker factory.

Peter's father, Dmytro, came to Canada in 1911 but after nine years returned to the Ukraine to be with his family. Peter kept in touch with his family in the Ukraine until his death.

Peter and Mary were married November 18, 1913. They remained in Winnipeg working at vari-



Peter & Mary Kendzierski

ous jobs until 1921. In 1921 they and their first three children, Ann, Rose and Steve travelled by train to Ochre River. They then travelled by horse drawn wagon to the farm owned by Prokop Dutchuk. Mary and the children spent a year at the Dutchuk farm while Peter returned to Winnipeg to work. The following year they spent at Bill Dutchak's. They then bought their own farm a half mile east of Rorketon on the NW 7- 27-15W.

Mary was left to run the farm while Peter worked for the C.N.R. as a track foreman, going as far as Churchill. After several years of working out Peter took up farming full time raising cattle and growing grain. Mary always provided for her family by growing a large garden and raising chickens and ducks. She milked cows for extra money and to produce her own butter and cheese.

By this time their family had grown with the births of seven more children. They now had seven boys and three girls. The children left home at early ages to find work.

Ann married Mike Tkach and had five children, Nataalka, Peter, John, Albert and Sonia.

Rose married Romon Solomon and had four children, Elsie, Betty and twins, Peter and Mary.

Steve married Alice Dubriel. They live in Sarnia, Ontario and have four daughters, Pat, Marlene, Stephanie and Diane.

Metro married Mary Flett. They lived in Toronto until Matt's death in 1964 of cancer. They had one son, Gordon.

Mike married Norma Talpash and had three children, Leonard, Karen and Deborah.

John died in Holland while on active duty on January 18, 1945.

Bill married Olive Marler. They live in Toronto and have one son, Jim.

Nick married Linda Folts and lives in Toronto. They have two children, John and Cheryl.

Olga died in 1931 at the age of six months.

Walter married Lucy Puklyk. They divide their time between Toronto and Pheonix, Arizona.

During the war years they had three of their sons in the service, Metro, Mike and John. This was a very difficult time for both Peter and Mary.

In 1951 Peter and Mary retired and built a house in Rorketon. During his retirement years Peter enjoyed playing cards and checkers with Metro Budzey.

Both Peter and Mary were active members of the Ukrainian Greek Orthodox Church.

After Mary's death in 1970 at the age of 74, Peter lived alone for a short time. In 1974 he decided he could no longer stay alone so he would spend his winter in Toronto with Bill and Olive and his summers in Rorketon with Mike and Norma. He continued to do this until he found it too difficult to travel.

Peter died on February 12, 1980 at the age of 91.



Pete Kendzierski Family. B: Walter, Nick, Steve, Rose, Bill & Mike. Front: Ann & Matt

Mike and Norma Kendzierski submitted by Norma Kendzierski

Mike Kendzierski was born September 20, 1922 to Peter and Mary Kendzierski on the family farm three-quarters of a mile east of Rorketon. He received his education at Rorketon School and then went to Dauphin to attend Agricultural School for several months. After his schooling, he worked at a variety of jobs from logging in bush camps to underground mining in Flin Flon.

On July 3, 1944 he joined the navy and was

trained as a wireless operator and assigned to H.M.C.S. Leaside. For a prairie boy this must have been quite an experience. He was discharged on March 21, 1946. From there he returned to Rorketon and began farming.

On October 7, 1950 Mike married Norma Talpash, daughter of Mike and Mary Talpash of Oak Brae. Apparently the story goes that while riding his bicycle he splashed her with muddy water which started a conversation.

Mike was doing odd jobs to supplement the farm. He hauled freight for the CN to the local merchants, Toutes Aides and Crane River. For several summers he worked for Manitoba Hydro with Norman Harpelle who was the District Operator at that time.



Mike & Norma Kendzierski Family B: Len & Debbie F: Karen, Mike & Norma

On May 3, 1953 our first child, Leonard, was born. Leonard attended school in Rorketon and graduated from Rorketon Collegiate Institute in 1972. As a child Len enjoyed helping on his grandpa Talpash's farm. It also gave him an opportunity to hunt and trap. In 1973 Len joined Manitoba Hydro as a Lineman trainee.

In 1976 Len married Shirley Shewchuk, daughter of Paul and Caroline Shewchuk. After their marriage Len's job with Manitoba Hydro provided him with opportunities to live in Dauphin, Rorketon, Thompson, Winnipeg and presently in Ste. Rose. Their oldest daughter Danna was born in 1979 in Dauphin followed by son Michael born in 1982 in Thompson and the youngest daughter Leah born in 1984 in Winnipeg.

Currently Len's family live a very active life in Ste. Rose. Len and Shirley are employed full time. Their children are progressing very well in school and participating in a variety of activities including



Back L-R: Dana, Shirley. Front: Lennie & Michael.

acting in a school musicals, hockey, Ukrainian dancing, school sports, music, art, curling and baseball.

On September 7, 1955 our second child, Karen, was born and then 18 months (see Barry Paradis). On March 5, 1957 our family was completed with the birth of our second daughter, Debbie (see Norman Murray).

In 1967 Mike started working for the Highways Department in Rorketon. Eian Barnett was the Foreman then. I began working as a telephone operator out of Joe Panagapka's home. Joe was the MTS agent. The telephone switchboard was then moved to the building that housed the Credit Union office. I then became a bookkeeper for the Credit Union.

Being that we only lived three-quarters of a mile from town the children were able to walk to school. Later on they were on a bus route.

Our years of participating in curling and baseball gradually became years of watching our children participate in these sports plus volleyball and learn how to water ski, a sport I tried but failed to master.

In 1972 I began to work part time at the Rorketon Post Office as Assistant to the Postmaster. Joe Katchur was the Postmaster. In 1987 I became the Postmistress upon Joe's retirement, a position I held until my retirement in 1996.

We now spend our summers and part of our win-

ters at Benyk's Point on Lake Manitoba. Mike enjoys doing carpentry projects and each family has a beautiful patio and household furniture that he has built. I am enjoying the time to devote my full attention to my flower gardens at the cabin and at home, to travel and to enjoy retirement to the fullest with our family and friends.

Times were not always easy, but with good friends and family, it has been and still is a good and wonderful place to live and raise a family.

Antii and Anna Kivari

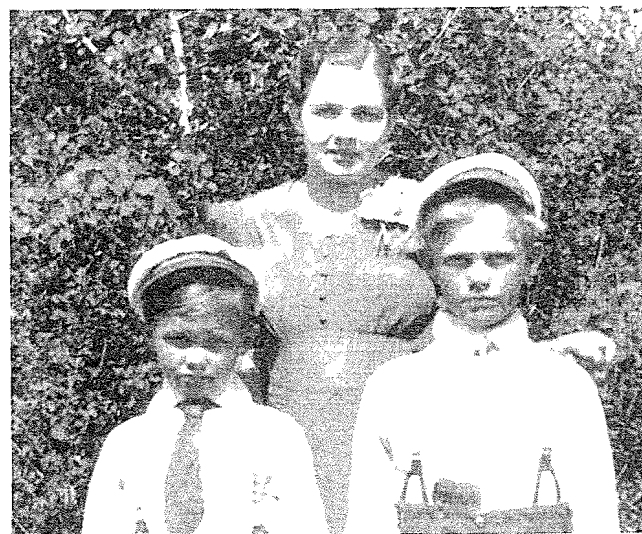
In 1930 moved from Turtle Lake, SK to Rorketon, MB with their sons Andy (Holger) and Peter, Mary being 12 years older stayed behind. She joined them later that year.

Dad and Mom bought a small farm. The boys went to Cecil and Rorketon schools.

Dad drove the horse driven school bus for a few years.



Antii & Anna Kivari



The Kivari Kids, Peter, Mary and Andy

In 1948 they moved to Dunster, BC where Dad worked on the railroad until Mom's passing in 1953 at 52 years of age. Dad moved to McBride, BC. He died eighteen years later.

Andy married Wanda Rosin. They have seven children. They now live in Barriere, BC.

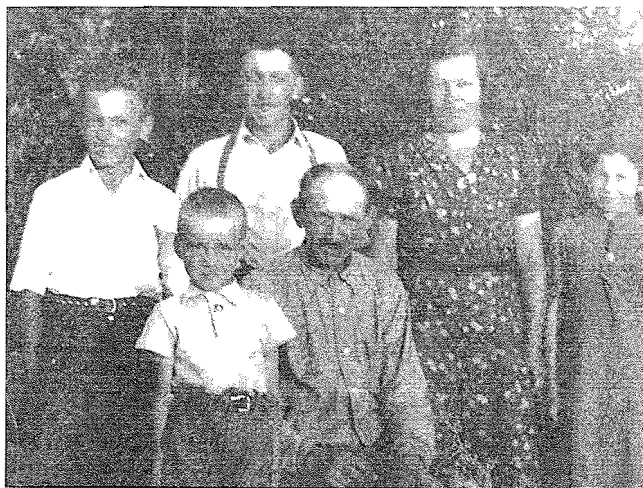
Pete was married. They had three children. His wife died in 1989 and Pete died in 1994.

Mary married Ervin Mackie in 1939. We have two sons. Ervin passed away in 1985. I live alone in Margo, SK.

Kubas History

Anthony Kubas was born in Poland in 1883 and came to Canada in early 1900's.

Helen Kaminski was born in Brandon. In 1904 she moved to Rorketon area in 1918 with her family, and married Anthony November 1919. They lived with her parents until 1920, when they moved to Chater, Manitoba. Anthony worked as section hand.



Kubas Family, Joe, Felix, Millie, Ed & Charlie behind Father's knee

They had their first child there, Mary born July 1921. They moved to the Rorketon area in late 1921, where Mary died November of 1921.

They had five more children, Joe born 1923, Felix born 1927, Emily born 1929, Edward born 1932 and Charles born 1934.

Anthony and Helen farmed until 1947 when Anthony passed away.

Helen stayed on the farm until 1951. She then sold the farm and moved to Dauphin, and lived there until 1984 when she passed away.

Joe Kubas farmed until his late teens, then worked in Ontario bush camps, heavy equipment operator in British Columbia and then back to farm. He stayed until 1951, then he moved to Dauphin



Mr. Kubas & Horses, 1931

area, worked as cat operator until he retired in 1980. Joe passed away in January, 1993.

Felix Kubas farmed until his late teens. He worked at the egg grading station. He went fishing up north one winter, then began working for the Co-op in many areas, the last was Dauphin. He married Evelyn Anderson. They had two children, Tanis and Kyla. Felix passed away in August 1984. Eve and children still live in Dauphin.

Emily Kubas stayed on farm until 1949. She taught school in 1947-1948. She married Jake Klassen in 1949. They had four children; Gail, Brian, Donna and Tony.

Jake worked as drag line operator around Manitoba for a few years then they moved to Vancouver Island, and lived there until Emily passed away in October 1983. Jake passed away in 1985. All the children live in British Columbia.

Edward Kubas farmed until March 1951, then he moved to Hamilton and married Pearl Spear. She moved to Hamilton in 1950 from Halifax with her family.

Pearl and Ed had two children, Debra born 1956 and Shawn born in 1962.

Ed worked as a press operator and then supervisor for an oil seal company for over 16 years. Then

he went on to work at Baycoat, a steel coil coating company for twenty-six years, as a mill wright for four years, and then as a preventive maintenance coordinator for twenty-two years, retiring January 1995. Debra married Erminio D'Olimpio 1977. They had two children, Derek and Justine. Erminio works at Baycoat as a lead hand. Debra is a housewife.

Shawn married Barb Martin in 1984. They had two children, Jason and Lyndsay. Shawn worked as an auto mechanic for several years in a garage. Then he moved on to Hamilton Police Department as mechanic and is still working there. Barb operates her own business.

Charles Kubas farmed until 1951 when he sold the farm and moved to Dauphin, where he worked as trucker until 1956. He moved to Hamilton and worked for an oil seal company as inspector until he passed away.

Charles married Beth Smith in the sixties. They then had a daughter, Kim. Charles passed away November 1983.

Wilbert Komula

Wilbert Komula was born on December 16, 1935, to Sylvia and Hjalmar Komula. He attended school in Rorketon. When he was in grade three, he had to walk three and a half miles through the bush to attend Horyn School. He worked a few months in Calgary when he was 21 years old. In 1957, he came back to farming on NE 2-29-16. He was a school bus driver for Duck Mountain (Rorketon) from 1963 until 1973. On October 22, 1966, he married Lucille Corbel in Ste. Amelie. They had three children:



Wilbert & Lucille Komula, Darren, Jeffrey, Kevin

Darren was born October 9, 1967. He is presently farming on the homestead.

Kevin was born December 19, 1968. He married Pat Boyechko March 3, 1990. They have two sons, Jesse born September 12, 1991, and Corey born November 3, 1995. They live in Winnipeg.

Jeffrey was born October 12, 1973. He is presently working in Stettler.

The Kujanpaa Family

Father, Eino Kujanpaa, came from Finland to Cleveland, Ohio, in 1920. He worked in the mine in Cleveland.

Mother, Hilda Kosola, came to Marquette, Michigan, in 1921. She had a cousin, John Lummi, who was the Finish consulate at Marquette. He was able to assist her in getting a passport to the U.S.A.



Hilda & Eino Kujanpaa

In Marquette, Hilda worked at a boarding house. First, she was a cook's helper, and later, she became head cook for the fifty men that boarded there.

Through an aunt, Eino learned that a childhood friend, Hilda Kosola was also living in Marquette. He contacted her and renewed their friendship. During a visit to Rorketon, where Eino had relatives; John Hill, his wife Mary, and a son, Sulo, Eino began seriously thinking about marriage, a home, and a livelihood. Hilda and Eino were married in 1923.

Shortly after they were married, Eino and Hilda moved to Rorketon and homesteaded on SW 23-28-16. A wedding social for them was organized by the community. Two children, Benhardt and Lila, were born to them. Eino died when he was quite young, but Hilda bravely maintained the farm, with hired help, until Ben was able to do the farm work. However, she was never alone; she had the help of caring neighbours and friends.

Ben stayed to carry on farming and ranching on the home place where he still lives. He spent a couple of summers working at the creamery in Ste Rose du Lac before he got into serious farming.

In 1953, Ben and his mother spent the winter at Prince George, Vanderhoof, and New Hazelton in British Columbia. At the time, their intentions were to sell the farm and move to British Columbia. By spring, however, they were glad to come back to Rorketon to stay.

In 1957, Ben married Jean Zaplitny, a teacher at the Rorketon school. Three sons, Rae (1961), Robert (1965), and Marc (1971), were born to them. These were busy years of working, raising children, and taking part in church, community, school, and 4-H activities. It was in this period that we welcomed electricity, the telephone, television, and Jean's personal favourite, the automatic washing machine.

In 1984, Rae married Brenda Deverill of Stonewall. They lived in Brandon until 1990 when they moved back to Rorketon and are living on SW 23-28-16, the original homestead. They are gradually phasing into the ranching operation. Rae and Brenda have two children, Jennifer and Dale.

Robert married Renee Bouchard in 1988 and they make their home in Winnipeg, where both work in the computer world with different companies. Bob and Renee have one son, Kaden.

Marc married Teresa Graham in 1995 and they live in Cowan. They are both teachers. Marc is the Phys. Ed. teacher at Pine Creek and Teresa hopes to get a permanent position soon.

Lila completed her high school education in Dauphin and spent one year teaching at Granville school, south of Ochre River. From there, she went on to Winnipeg and Success Business College where she took a secretarial course. After graduation, she worked at the Legislative Building for the Department of Education.

In 1953, Lila married Bill Lewis of Winnipeg, a chartered accountant. They moved to Toronto where Lila worked for the Department of National Defense and where Bill was employed in his field. After working for the Federal Government for over twenty-

five years, Bill started his own accountancy practice in 1988; Lila helps with the office work and Robert does the computer work.

They now live in Ottawa. Bill and Lila had two children, Robert (1957) and Diane (1962).

In 1982, Robert married the former Linda Poirier of Chalk River, Ontario. They live in Ottawa and are both employed in geriatric health care. They have two children, Scott and Amy.

Diane married Jonathan Fischer of Ottawa in 1985. They live in Toronto and also work with computers for their respective companies. They have one son, Michael.

Cecil School held a reunion in 1987, the year that Hilda Kujanpaa passed away.

George A. Laycock **submitted by Doris Dustan**

George A. Laycock, his wife and two young daughters, Doris and Eileen, arrived in the Moose Bay district in the fall of 1930. Mr. Laycock taught in the school there for the following seven years. His janitorial duties at the school included lighting and tending the wood-burning stove. He and his family lived in a small cottage ("teacherage") on the school grounds.

Once settled Mrs. Laycock started a small store stocked with grocery staples and her customers were the surrounding farmers. Her little outlet saved many of them the ten-mile trek to Rorketon.

Every year during the summer holidays we all left Moose Bay and headed for Winnipeg, the home of dad's parents. My dad worked as a used car salesman at Breen's Motors. This helped augment our meager income for teachers' salaries in the 1930's were very low.

In 1934 the eldest son, Jim, was born at the teacherage with Nurse Hill in attendance.

At the end of summer in Winnipeg in 1936, my mother and dad arranged for a box car of used furniture to be shipped to Rorketon. My mother then started a second-hand furniture store and Eileen and Jimmie stayed with her in town. My dad was still teaching at Moose Bay and would walk to Rorketon every Friday night after school and back again for Monday classes.

My dad built a snowmobile to enable him to chauffeur nurse Hill to calls during the winter months. Because he was so mechanically inclined he then started a garage. He got a car dealership, a gas pump and equipment for repairing tires. The sign then went up: Laycock's Garage.

In 1938 brother Raymond arrived and two years later the youngest of the family, Roy. When Roy

arrived the nurse was late getting there so my Dad delivered him.

In May, 1942, my dad enlisted in the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals and served overseas until December, 1945. His dad, our grandfather (better remembered as "Charlie") stayed with our family and helped run the business until the end of the war.

Mom and dad spent many happy retirement winters at Lake Chapala, Mexico and in Mission, Texas. After my dad's death in Texas in 1969 mom continued to spend her summers in Rorketon and her winters in Texas where she had many friends. She spent her last years at Parkview Lodge in Dauphin and passed away in 1987. The family all married and raised families of their own and all now have grandchildren to boast about. A very enjoyable Laycock family reunion was held at Lake Manitoba in the summer of 1994.

Keith and Muriel Leaver

Keith and Muriel Leaver with infant son Curtis, moved to Rorketon June 1971, where Keith was employed with Manitoba Hydro. Keith worked out of the Rorketon Hydro Office until approximately 1980 when it was amalgamated with Ste. Rose, Manitoba.

July 10, 1972 Michelle Daion joined the Leaver family. Both Curtis and Michelle took their schooling in Rorketon until ages of thirteen and fifteen years. Curtis and Michelle joined the Rorketon 4-H club from age seven for the mini group until later years. Keith and Muriel were 4-H leaders for three



Keith & Muriel Leaver, Curtis & Michelle

years and were very active in the curling club for fourteen years.

The Leaver family enjoyed snow mobiling in the winter and water sports at Lake Manitoba in the summer, including boating, fishing, swimming and water-skiing.

Muriel babysat for six years and then worked for Ste. Rose Lumber and Supply in Ste. Rose for three years.

The family enjoyed many good times at socials, weddings, bonspiels and 4-H parties. All good times were enjoyed with many good friends.

In May, 1985, Keith transferred to Grandview with Manitoba Hydro.

Litwinowich Family

Marion and Dora Litwinowich came to Rorketon, in 1929 from the Ukraine with their daughter Anne, who was five years old. They wanted a safe place to live and raise their four children.

Anne Davidson (deceased) - daughter Pauline and son Ernie.

Ben, wife Gloria - daughters Darlene, Diana, Sandra and sons Darryle and Mike.

Olga Inkster, husband John - sons Brian, Jerry, Lonnie, Dean (deceased), daughter Judy Tymchuk.

Stephenny Muzyko, husband Nick - sons Mark and Grant (deceased)

Marion worked as a blacksmith by trade. Times were hard and there was no money to be made. He got paid with meat, eggs and what ever one could afford to give. He was always grateful and liked to help anyone who asked for help.

He loved to work with iron creating crosses for the churches and graveyards in Rorketon. His work is still to be seen in the area.



Maryon & Dora Litwinowich



Stella, Olga, Ben, & Ann

Dora kept busy raising her family, gardening, cooking, canning all foods in jars for the winter.

They moved to McCreary thinking business would be better there. It was the same hard work and no pay.

In 1941 Marion enlisted in the army. Dora moved back to Rorketon with the children. Times were even harder, until she received an allotment of \$100 a month. Marion was overseas for five years, stationed in Scotland and sent to many other places. He came home as Sargent Major decorated with medals, in 1945.

There was a new house and land that Dora purchased with her allotment money while waiting for him.

They both passed away in 1970 five days apart. Dora was seventy and Marion was seventy-four.

Mary and Lawrence Lula

Mary and Lawrence Lula arrived in Rorketon with daughters Jean, seven, Nellie, four, and son Stan, two years of age, in the summer of 1929. Their first farm was near Abottshall where another son, Jack, was born. Later, they moved to a farm three miles outside of Rorketon on the way to Ste. Rose.



Mary & Lawrence Lula family

The children attended Edileen School and helped their parents with work on the farm.

Jean Lula went to work on a farm near Ochre River the summer before she married. At the age of 16 she married Mike Maksymchuk (24) on November of 1938 in Toutes Aides church. Father Kriwutsky officiated. Mike and Jean went to live on the farm where Mike was brought up. Mike's father, Jurko Maksymchuk, lived with them there.

While on the farm, Mike and Jean had three children, Stella, Nellie and Michael and they had a fourth child, Cheryl, when they permanently moved to Winnipeg.

Daughter Stella married Mike Galay from Weiden. They presently live near Edmonton, where their grown sons Alan and Wayne reside.

Daughter Nellie married Larry Marchenski and had two children, Terry and Trevor. Larry passed away from cancer in 1977.

Son Michael married Val Schultz and they presently live in Winnipeg.

Mike Maksymchuk passed away in September of 1977. Jean Maksymchuk (Lula) still resides in Winnipeg.

Nellie Lula went to work at the Royal York Hotel in Toronto, in the winter of 1942. Nellie stayed at her Uncle Fred and Aunt Josie Wawriw. Her friend Helen Zapotochny had also come to Toronto. It was at the Royal York that Nellie met her husband to be, Steve Masiak, from Chatfield, Manitoba. They married July 31, 1943. They have one son Larry who married Cathy of British Columbia. Larry and Cathy have two children, Andrew and Jennifer, and live in Brampton, Ontario.

Stan Lula also went to Toronto to work and he met his wife Laura there. They married in 1954. They were blessed with five children; Brian and Kathy (twins), Jean, Paul and Jack. Brian and his wife Linda have three girls (Jenny, Amy and Carrie and live in the U.S.) Kathy (divorced) has a son Matthew.

Jean is married to Paul Quinn. They have a son Ryan and live in Calgary.

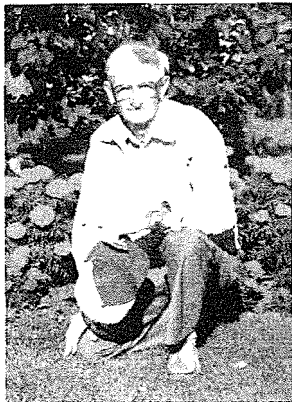
Paul and his wife Susan live in Pickering, Ontario with their children, Mark, David and Scott.

Jack and wife Melinda live in Hamilton, Ontario.

Mary and Lawrence Lula's son Jack passed away at the age of 21. Mary and Lawrence Lula lived in Toronto for a few years, but moved to live in the town of Rorketon. Lawrence passed away in 1969 and Mary in 1980, while living with her daughter, Jean, in Winnipeg.

Steve Lytwyn

Steve Lytwyn was born on December 27, 1906 in a log cabin just south of Winnipegosis in an area known as Bruber. Steve spent his formative years with his family in the Winnipegosis area, until 1935, when he started his own cattle ranch at Meadow Portage. In 1936, Steve and Gertie were married in Winnipegosis. They had 2 children, daughter Sylvia in 1938 and son Richard in 1945. The family lived at the Meadow Portage ranch until around 1946, when they moved to Toutes Aides.



Steve Lytwyn in his front yard

In Toutes Aides, Steve bought and ran a general store, restaurant, and post office. They operated the joint venture as a family business. It was a focal point for the small community. Visitors to the area frequented the restaurant and used the store for selling furs.

Seven years later, after suffering from bouts of poor health, Steve and his family left Toutes Aides and moved to Rorketon where he purchased a home in 1952. It still stands as the first house at the eastern entrance to Rorketon. After arriving in Rorketon, Steve worked for many years at Frank Papuga's "Red and White Store".

In 1966, Steve's wife Gertie passed away. Steve remained in Rorketon and lived there through his retirement. A few years later, he purchased a mobile home trailer and placed it on the front of his Rorketon property. Steve moved into the trailer and lived there for his remaining years in Rorketon while renting out the house to various tenants.

Steve remained a very active member of the Rorketon community and made valuable contributions. He was involved in the creation and establishment of the Rorketon's Seniors' Drop-In Centre and was President of it for a number of years. He called bingo at the centre and often aided in fixing and upgrading the building. Steve was also an active curler. He served as the iceman and caretaker at the Rorketon Curling Club for nearly a decade. During

election years, Steve acted as a scrutineer and volunteer canvasser in Rorketon.

Steve was an expert fisherman. His fishing exploits were near legendary. He was commonly referred to as "The Fisherman". In addition, Steve was an avid hunter. He had honed his skills in his youth, at a time when every shot counted.

Some of the best years of Steve's life were spent living in Rorketon. By having his own home in the area, he was able to have his family visit and stay with him on a regular basis. Many summers were spent with his grandchildren boating and enjoying time on the beach at Manipogo. When his eyesight became poor, he adapted to listening to cassette tapes.

In the fall of 1990, Steve sold his Rorketon property and moved to Ste. Rose du Lac. He lived there until he passed away in March 1992. Steve's funeral mass was held next door to where he lived for so many years - the Rorketon Saints Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church. Steve will certainly be remembered as a long-standing member of the Rorketon community and was an integral part of its history.

Sylvia (Lytwyn) Wullum was born on September 11, 1938, the first child of Steve and Gertie Lytwyn. Sylvia spent her formative years at her parents' ranch in Meadow Portage and later in Toutes Aides. She then attended Rorketon High School for grades 9 until graduation. She began attending school in Rorketon even before the rest of her family had moved from Toutes Aides. During the week she would board with the Budzey family in Rorketon and then return home to Toutes Aides for the weekends. In 1955, Sylvia left Rorketon and moved to Winnipeg to attend United College. While in Winnipeg she met Carl Wullum, her future husband. They were married in 1960 and have since resided in Winnipeg. Currently, Sylvia works for the City of Winnipeg and Carl has been employed with Westinghouse for over 40 years. They have two sons, Curtis and Christopher.

Curtis Wullum was born on September 1, 1964 in Winnipeg. He graduated from John Taylor Collegiate in Winnipeg and then attended Lethbridge Community College in Alberta, studying Environmental Conservation. Currently, he resides in the mountains of British Columbia near Yahk. He operates his own company in the forestry conservation industry.

Christopher Wullum, born March 30, 1973, also graduated from John Taylor Collegiate in Winnipeg. He then attended the University of Manitoba and

graduated from the Faculty of Law. He currently works for a law firm in Winnipeg.

Richard Lytwyn, born on September 2, 1945, is the second child of Steve and Gertie Lytwyn. Rick spent his initial years living in Toutes Aides with his family. Later, when the family moved to Rorketon, he attended Rorketon High School from which he graduated. Rick then lived with his sister, Sylvia, in Winnipeg for a short period of time while he attended Teacher's College in Winnipeg. Rick then became a teacher for a number of years in the Rorketon area. He taught at many different schools including ones in Toutes Aides, Micawber, Spence Lake, and Rorketon. While living in Rorketon, he married Sally Biletski and they had a daughter, Trisha, and a son, Trevor.

Richard Lytwyn later remarried to Heather Goodman in 1975, and moved to Flin Flon where they currently reside. Rick now works for the Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Co. and Heather is a high school teacher. They have two sons and a daughter, Steve, James and Cara.

Trisha Lytwyn was born on November 27, 1970. She grew up in Rorketon and graduated from Rorketon High School. Trisha then attended the University of Brandon where she graduated with a degree in Education. She is currently employed in Brandon and is working on securing a full-time teaching position.

Trevor Lytwyn was born on January 4, 1973. He also grew up in Rorketon and graduated from Rorketon High School in 1991. He has since graduated from the University of Brandon with a Science degree and is currently working in Flin Flon.

Steve Lytwyn was born on May 20, 1980. He is attending Hapnot Collegiate in Flin Flon.

Cara Lytwyn was born next on May 9, 1984 and is attending McIsaac Elementary School in Flin Flon.

James Lytwyn was born on April 10, 1990 and is attending Kindergarten in Flin Flon.

Aino and Eric Mackie

submitted by Granddaughter Elsie Jackson

After several consecutive years of drought and crop failures, many North Dakota farmers were forced to leave their homes for "greener pastures." Such was the lot of my grandparents, Aino and Eric Mackie of Belden.

Eric, a native of Nokio, Finland, left on November 19, 1919, along with many other families, by settlement car for Manitoba. He took with him four cows, two horses, some household furniture and the family dog named Bill.



Aino & Eric Mackie

A month later, Aino, a native of North Dakota, of Finnish descent, left by train with her seven children and all her worldly possessions tucked inside the family Bible. It is said that she had fifty dollars which had to suffice the family's needs until spring. She was met by Eric at Makinak.

That winter was spent living with the Frank Hills. The two horses died of swamp fever due to lack of feed.

In the spring, they moved to their homestead. The two older boys, Robert and Hugo, built a log house in which they lived for about four years. Later, a house was built of lumber hauled from Riding Mountain by Grandpa, and constructed entirely by volunteer help from family and neighbors. The log house was used as a sauna.

Grandpa Eric, being a frail small man, endured great hardships working in the bush camps in Ontario during the winter to augment the family income. The boys were mechanically minded. They had their own blacksmith shop which was used by many in the district. The women were talented homemakers with limited resources.

The family all attended Cecil School, but the education was only secondary to making a living.

Robert went to Ninette, Manitoba, and then on to Minot, North Dakota. There he married and had three children. He worked for the Northern States Power Co. He died of a heart attack at the age of 29. His wife Margaret, son Robert and daughters Mary Ann and Donna Jean, are still living in the United States.

Hugo settled in Neepawa where he became well

known for his wrought iron railings. He was a welder for Whitmores for many years, but eventually had his own blacksmith shop. He and his wife Helen had two children. Son Norman, died in 1984, the same year as his father did. Daughter Laura and husband Norman Chapman reside in Neepawa. Helen passed away in March, 1995.

Jennie and her husband, Sulo Huhtala, remained in the Rorketon district where they farmed until their retirement. They moved to Thunder Bay in 1954, and Sulo died in 1964. Later Jennie moved to Ste. Rose where she lived until her death in June, 1995. Their oldest son, Edwin and wife Elaine live on the family farm. Son Vernie and wife Ruth live in Waterhen. Daughter Elsie Jackson lives in Brandon. (See Huhtala History)

John settled on his cotton farm near Searcy, Arkansas, after serving in the U.S. Army. He passed away in 1984. His wife Louise still lives there.

Carl spent most of his life in Invermay, Saskatchewan where he and his wife Esther had their own dance orchestra. Carl was also the local barber. He died in 1973. Esther is still very involved in the community, playing her accordion at Seniors' Homes etc. Their two sons, Marvin and Robert live in Archiwall and Flin Flon respectively.

Ervin and his wife, Mary, farmed in the Rorketon District for many years. Later they moved to Margo, Saskatchewan where they also farmed until their retirement. Ervin died in 1985 and is remembered for his involvement in the community and politics. Mary continues to be active in the community also. Their son Ronald and family live in Regina. Dennis lives in Vancouver.

Wilma who was only two and the youngest when she arrived from Beldon, left her first love which was school to also make a living. She went to Winnipeg where she married Leo Jones. They have one son Allan. They have lived in Thunder Bay for many years and have spent many retirement winters in Florida. They, along with son Allan, Shirley, and family reside in Thunder Bay all year round now.



Harvey Mackie

Roy was born in Rorketon. He died in 1925, at the age of one year, of pneumonia.

Harvey, the youngest member of the Mackie family, was also born in Rorketon. He chose Flin Flon to call home and worked as a mechanic there. He and Norma have three living children, Keith is in Victoria, Brian in Flin Flon, and Arlene and family live in Winnipeg. A son, Scott, was tragically killed in a car accident. Harvey is now retired and spends his winters in Victoria.

Aino and Eric retired from farming in the late forties and moved to Rorketon. Eric died in 1958 and is buried in the Ridgeway Cemetery. Several years later, due to poor health, Aino moved to Thunder Bay, to be closer to her daughters Jennie and Wilma. She died in 1967 and is buried in the Riverside Cemetery there.

Arthur Mackie

Arthur came to Rorketon at the age of nine years from Stanley, North Dakota was born in 1907 in Elba, Minnesota. As the years passed and his family left to seek their fortune else where, Arthur was left behind to care for his parents.

In 1943, he married Anna Ukrina of the Weiden district. In the thirty's, when life was hard and the depression years set in, he, along with others would "hop" the trains to find work. When there was no work, he would return home. Later he became a fisherman on Lake Manitoba.

As his Dad aged, he had to handle more and more of the farm duties. He gave up fishing in the fifties, as his health was beginning to fail.

There, they raised their daughter, Agnes, who later settled in the town itself.

After the passing of her husband, Anna moved to Winnipeg and passed away in August of 1994.

Henry and Anna Mackie

Henry and his wife Anna were born in Finland. They came with their children Sadie, Arthur, twins, Raino and Leo and Elvera to the Rorketon district in 1916, where they homesteaded on what is now the Turko farm.

In the early years in the United States, Henry was a miner but since times were hard in this new land, he worked in the Ontario bush camps for a time until the farm was able to support his family.

An outbreak of sleeping sickness would one day take their eldest son, Arthur, who suffered from Parkinson's Disease, which one specialist in Winnipeg attributed to this outbreak.

Sadie taught at Cecil School and later moved away and married Mike Hatt of Saskatchewan. She

later divorced him and took her two children, Elmer and Florence, to Detroit.

Arthur married Anna Ukrina and had one step daughter, Agnes.

Leo married and divorced in Vancouver. He had one son.

Raino moved to Detroit where he married and had two sons, David and Charles. He now resides in a home for the elderly in Reno.

Elvera (Vera) married Buddy Cunningham and had two children, Barry and Darlene. Buddy passed away many years ago. They still reside in Winnipeg.

Leo passed away a few years ago.

Henry passed on in 1967, Anna in 1947, and Arthur in 1970.

Arthur remained on the family farm until his passing.

Maksymchuk

George and Anastasia (Chymishyn) were married at Bilchia Zlota, Ukraine. There were millions of people living in Ukraine and most of them wanted to be independent, feeling they had to make a change to a new way of life, in a new world.

Emigration was very strongly advertised. People were leaving their homeland, in hopes of finding freedom and land they could call their own. They experienced many hardships, not knowing what to expect. Most travelled in groups.

In 1900 George, Anastasia and their first born child, Sam, reached the shores of Nova Scotia, along with other fellow immigrants. They made their way west, settling for a few years at Stuartburn, Manitoba. There a daughter, Anne, and sons, John and Nick, were born to this family. Circumstances changed, and they moved further north into Manitoba. Along with friends and relatives they settled in the Lawrence Municipality area on land described as SE 36-28-16. Communication and co-operation was a blessing to the early pioneers. They managed to help each other get started. While they were in the Rorketon area, their family was enriched by two daughters, Effie and Irene, and two sons, Joe and Mike.

While the family was growing up, Grandpa George went out during the summers looking for work on grain farms. He set out on foot with water and a loaf of bread in a pack-sack. If he was lucky, he would manage to get a few dollars to buy food, the bare necessities for the winter. There was a flour mill at Sifton. Each family made a trip or two, each winter across Lake Dauphin, with a team of horses and sleigh to mill their wheat into flour, and Grandpa was one of them.

Health complications took Grandma's life at an early age. Money was scarce, doctors were out of reach for most people. Grandma lived from 1879-1936. Grandpa lived from 1870-1951. Both are buried at Toutes Aides Ukrainian Cemetery.

Nick Maksymchuk

submitted by Mary Werbiski

Dad, Nick Maksymchuk, was born in 1905 at Stuartburn, Manitoba to George and Anastasia. As a young child he came with his parents to the Rorketon area. As he was growing up, survival was very hard, coming from a family of eight children. The boys had to leave home at an early age to help support the family. Dad did not attend a public school, but managed to learn to read and write in Ukrainian, with the help of his parents.

I recall Dad saying how he went to dig wells, cut fire wood, and at harvest time went to Ochre River and as far as Neepawa to stook and do farm chores.

In 1930 he bought a quarter of land for \$10.00, planning to share whatever it took to clear land, until he could afford his own. He built a small house and in February of 1932 he and Anne Remniak, daughter of Anton and Mary (Zamrykut) Remniak of Horyn district were married at Toutes Aides.

Together they farmed and raised a family of one daughter, Mary, and three sons, Bill, Tony and Nick.

I remember, in the 1940's, Dad made hay in the Abbotshall area. When winter set in, he made a trip every day with horses and sleigh to bring that hay home. Rabbit fur was in demand and rabbits were plentiful. He used to bring twenty to thirty rabbits and after chores, we spent evenings skinning them and stretching the pelts. It was extra money along with the cream cheques.

Dad was a great hunter. We survived on wild meat and pork. At his ripe age, he is still very active.

In 1973 the farm was sold and they moved to the village of Rorketon. They enjoyed their retirement. Mother's health began to fail. She spent fifteen months in hospital and was laid to rest in May of 1993. Dad is living at his home as of the present time and is still very capable.

Nick and Anne's family:

I am Mary, the eldest, and I received my education at Vedenia, Cecil and Rorketon schools. I taught school on a permit for one year and in October of 1953 married Ed Werbiski. We spent nine years at Sudbury, Ontario, where Ed was employed with INCO mines.

Our first daughter was born in 1958 and our son in 1961. Ed, who grew up on a farm, always had a



Nick Maksymchuk Family

desire to be a farmer. This resulted in his quitting INCO and moving back home in 1962.

In 1964, we built a home in the village of Rorketon. Ed started to drive the school bus and farmed a bit, which has been a way of life until the present time.

In 1973, Ed and I bought my parents' farm when they decided to retire. In 1975, we were gifted with another daughter.

Our eldest daughter, Janice, married Bernie Maluga in 1988. They reside in Dauphin. Brian is a great farm hand, and Joanne our youngest, is still at home and attending school at Rorketon.

Bill attended school at Rorketon. He worked on the family farm, then at INCO mines in Sudbury. He also worked at various places, pouring basements, and numerous carpentry projects. He married Doreen Tipping in 1964 and they were blessed with a family of one daughter and two sons. All are living in Winnipeg.

Tony received his education at Rorketon School. He later worked for the nickel mines in Ontario. After three years, he decided he had to make a change. He took a course in upholstery, which has been a way of life until the present time. Tony met Dorothy Bass and they were married in 1965. They have two daughters who are employed in the city of Winnipeg. Tony has special talents in music.

Nick attended school at Rorketon. He loved to work on the farm and loved horses in his younger days. Soon he was off to the city to join his brother and ended up working for an upholstery company. In 1972, Nick married Sylvia Poworoznik. They have one daughter and all reside in Winnipeg. Nick is also a lover of music.

Nick and Rose Marchenski

On September 30, 1937, Nick Marchenski married Rose Papuga, daughter of George and Anna Papuga. After they were married, they went to Wade Point where Nick resumed work at his father's sawmill. He had worked there since he was fourteen years old. Rose also worked at Wade Point, cooking for the men. After two years, Nick did some commercial fishing off Bob's Island and then they bought a General Store in 1940 in the Walmsley building. They bought the contents from Walter and Kate Talpash.

On June 7, 1940 their daughter Eunice was born. In 1941, the family moved to Rorketon where they bought Mr. Yaschyshen's building. They sold that property and bought Grandma Robbins' property and home. They owned and operated a Marshall well and a lumber yard. He also owned and managed a garage.

Their daughter Janice was born on November 24, 1942. She died on October 9, 1943. On August 9, 1946 their son Ronald was born.

In 1953 Rose took Eunice and Ron to live in Winnipeg while Nick hauled fish to Winnipeg with his own trucks. The same year he bought his farms which he cleared and then rented out. The family moved back to Rorketon in 1955. After several years of fish and frogs, Nick decided to go farming full time. He was a grain farmer for nineteen years after which he sold the farm and moved to Dauphin. For 25 years, Nick and Rose spent their winters in Weslaco, Texas and their summers in Dauphin. Upon his retirement from farming, Nick and Rose both took up the art of Reflexology. Rose spent much of her time painting. Both were very active in the community and belonged to several organizations.

Eunice married John Pelechaty and they have two daughters, Cindy and Candace. They lost their infant son Joseph in 1963. John works for Hostess/Frito-Lay and he and Eunice own a business in Dauphin. Cindy is a photographer for the business. Candace married Larry Webber and they have two children, Ashleigh and Jonathan.

Ron married Phyllis Sedor and they have two daughters, Pamela and Priscilla and one son, Steven. Ron and his family reside in Winnipeg. Pamela married Rob Hill and they have a daughter, Genelle. Priscilla married Marc Baril and they have a son, Brady.

The George Maze Story

William Renfrew Maze married Anna Thompson in Belfast, Ireland, in 1905 and came to

Canada, settling in Birtle, then to Guynemere and Cayer. They had three children.

Thompson was born in 1906 and passed away at the age of seven from rheumatic fever. George was born in 1907 and Alice, the only daughter, was born March, 1915.

In 1936, George decided to go on his own and rented a place in Magnet. He was a bachelor until he married Agnes Paradis.

The Paradis family moved to the Cayer district in 1929 from Ituna, Saskatchewan. They were a large family of eight girls and four boys. Agnes was the oldest. They only stayed at Cayer about two years, then they bought a farm at Magnet. Agnes and George farmed around Magnet and Rorketon until 1956 when they sold the farm and moved to Saskatchewan. In 1973 they retired in Dauphin. George and Agnes are now both deceased.

Alice (Maze) Winthrop Honish

After leaving the convent I went to Reston, Manitoba and took my grade nine, working for room and board. Then I went housekeeping in Ste. Rose, Magnet and Ochre areas.

On November 2, 1942, I married Arthur Joyce (Pat) Winthrop of Kelwood. We built a new house. Pat had his own sawmill west of Kelwood. Our two daughters were born in Ste. Rose, Dr. Geadreau presiding at each event.

Joyce, on August 7, 1943

Fern, on February 7, 1945

As each girl turned three years old, my brother George and his wife Agnes would come to Kelwood and pick them up every holiday for visits to their farm in Rorketon, one mile north of Fred Scutt's, until 1956 they left the farm for the hotel business.

My husband, Pat passed away December, 1961. Joyce was working in Winnipeg at the Grain Exchange and Fern was married to Wilfred Jackson in Neepawa.

On February 22, 1963, I married Wilfred Honish in Rorketon. In twenty minutes I had seven stepchildren; Louis, Marleen, Rosemarie, Blaine, Kelain, Curtis and Agnes. (See Wilfred Honish)

Joyce has one son Devon in Montreal.

Fern had two sons Cameron and Conrad, and one daughter Carmelle living in Campbell River, British Columbia.

Fern passed away September 30, 1984.

Joyce and husband Barry Baxter are retired and living in Rorketon.

The Maziers

The Mazier history began when Harry Mazier and his son Steve decided to immigrate to Canada. Steve was fourteen years old and he and his dad worked in and around Brandon for the first few years. At age twenty Steve met and married Katherine Wolos who also migrated to Canada from Poland. She knew of the Maziers back in her country since they were neighbors. When they decided to marry they had very little to start with other than their love for one another. They led a very tough life with wages at fifty cents a day to one dollar later on when things began to improve.



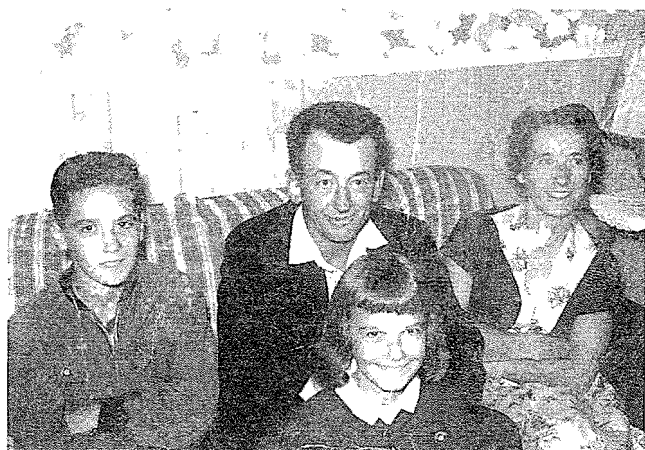
Steve & Katherine Mazier

Steve worked with a pick and shovel while Katherine worked in a green house and seed factory. The company was called Patmore Seed House. She learned all about growing flowers and she became an expert in her gardening techniques.

After a few years in Brandon they scraped up enough money to move to the Rorketon district to homestead where they remained until they were burnt out in the forties. They then bought a farm in Rorketon and they and their three sons farmed for the next few years. They had three sons namely, Walter, Dmetro and Nickolas. Steve being a good fiddler taught the boys how to play and they often accompanied him playing for weddings throughout the area. By the way, the musicians were paid \$1.00 for the music which lasted into the wee hours of the morning.

As the years passed, Walter, the eldest son, decided to leave home to seek work elsewhere. He started in Ontario and moved to Detroit until their deaths in 1989 and 1991.

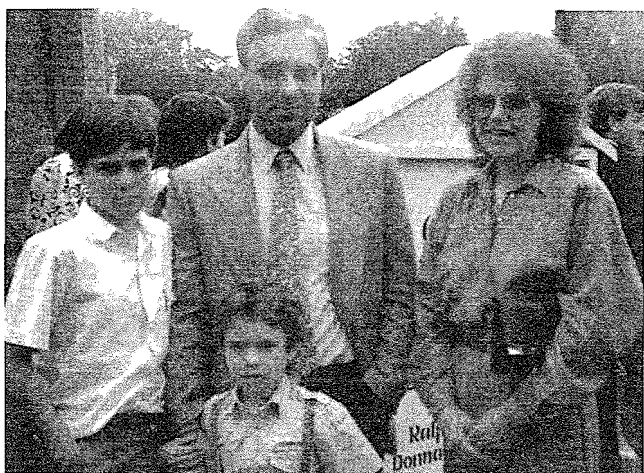
Dmetro, the second son, enlisted in the navy in 1941 where he served in active service for the duration of World War II. During those war years he met



Victor, Matt, Carol, & Marguerite Mazier

and married Marguerite Comeau from Digby, Nova Scotia. They moved to Rorketon after the war and took up farming in the Rorketon district. They have two children.

Victor Mazier, oldest of the two Mazier children, was born in Digby, Nova Scotia in 1945. He moved with his parents to Manitoba and lived on the farm during his school years. He got his education at the Rorketon elementary and high school. He graduated with honours in 1962. He had one year of training at the University of Winnipeg and received his teacher's certificate. He taught school for eight years, his last school being Winnipegosis where he met and married his wife Margaret Dyck, who was also a teacher at the Winnipegosis school. They both continued teaching, Margaret gave up teaching for a few years while the children were growing up. Victor also quit teaching and opened a furniture shop first in Winnipegosis then in Dauphin. From Dauphin he was asked to manage a furniture factory in the N.W.T. He accepted and is managing a furniture store at Hay River.



Victor, Margaret, Mark, & Michael Mazier

Margaret returned to teaching for a few years but due to illness she was forced to retire. Their two sons Mark and Michael are still at home. Mark has a job in the wood working factory, managed by his father. Michael is only fourteen and still in school. Both boys have a disability and have been struggling along as best they can. We are happy to see how well both boys are coping.

Carol, their daughter, married Roy Laycock. They live in the town of Rorketon where they are both employed. They have two children. Darryl and wife Kim of Sanford, Manitoba. They are both employed in Winnipeg, Darryl as an accountant and Kim is a practising lawyer. Their daughter Brenda married Tony Blair from New Zealand and they live in the Rorketon district. Brenda works in the Rorketon Credit Union while Tony operates a cow-calf farm in the area. They have a daughter, Jasmine, the delight of both grandparents and great grandparents.

Dmetro and Marguerite farmed in the Rorketon district for over fifty years and are now semi-retired and living in town. Dmetro was Reeve of the R. M. of Lawrence for thirteen years. He was active in the community since his return from the war of 1939. He has served on the School Board, Community Club, Curling Club, Credit Union, Chamber of Commerce, Legion Branch 87 and had an orchestra for many years.

His brother Nick married Kathleen McCreery from Waterhen, Manitoba in 1953. He farmed on the homestead until 1995 when due to ill health he rented the land out, but still lives on the farm. They have two sons, Douglas who works in Hinton, Alberta and Donald and wife Corriene of Hazleton, British Columbia. Douglas is single and Donald and Corriene have two children, Jay Dee and Alisha.

The Maziers have been hard working people and had many hardships from the beginning. Steve Mazier was the mailman for many years and travelled with horses over muddy roads in summer and snow drifts in winter, almost impossible to endure. In their later years Steve (Grampa Mazier) and Katherine (Baba Mazier) moved to British Columbia, bought a home in White Rock and they lived there until Steve passed away in 1968 at the age of 79. Katherine then moved back to Rorketon and lived near her boys Dmetro and Nickolas for several years. At the age of 86 she moved to the Ste. Rose General Care Home where she remained until she passed away in 1988 at the age of 97. Her two sons and their families remain in Rorketon and are considered two of the oldest residents.

The McMillan Family

Maxwell McMillan was born in Scotland, coming to Canada with his parents when he was seven. They settled in Russell about 1892.

Margaret Brown came west with her father from Scarboro, Ontario and settled in Hoodoo, Saskatchewan where her brother lived. She met Maxwell when he went to Saskatchewan in 1910, and they were married in 1911, at Howell.

Marjorie, Mary and Annie were born there. In 1918, they moved to the Cecil district. Jean was born in the Cecil District. In August of 1928, Marjorie died in the Dauphin Hospital and she is buried in the Riverside Cemetery there.

Mary and Annie both moved to Ontario in 1939, and still live there. Jean moved around more, but settled in British Columbia.

The Jim and Kitty Mitchell Family

In 1902, Kitty came to Canada from Manchester, England, at the age of eight, with her mother, father, and eight brothers and sisters.

Jim came to Canada from Hastings, Sussex, England, at the age of 23. He worked with the Royal Crown Soap Company for several years. As there was no air conditioning, his health broke down from the fumes of the factory. Because doctors advised him to try a new life style in good clean air, he moved to the Abbotshall district, March 17, 1919. His wife Kitty, small daughter Jean, and Kitty's parents, John and Jane Holden, came with him.



Kitty Mitchell's Parents

Life on the homestead was very difficult and supplies were often too far away, so everyone had to make do with what they had. There was an abundance of wild fruit, and with gardens and a small herd of cattle, they eked out a meagre living.

The Hamelin ditch ran along the west side of the farm and each spring thousands of fish came up from Lake Manitoba. There were many once a year visitors, as friends from far and near came to take home a load of fish to cure and can. It was a very enjoyable season, and we girls went fishing with a copper snare on the end of a pole.

Because Jim didn't have any farming experience, he found life very difficult on the farm. In 1936, the family moved to Rorketon, into the railway station house. Jim worked in the Municipal Office. During office hours, Kitty looked after the station house and the incoming and outgoing freight. Two daughters, Anne and Jean, worked at any job that came along, at the boarding house, post office, nursing station, or store and even drove the Red Cross nurse on calls with the team brought from the farm.

The Mitchell family took an active part in all events. Jim played the piano for concerts, church, house parties, weddings and funerals. Jim and Jean often sang. Once in a while Kitty was persuaded to sing. Anne, the entertainer, took part in plays and dances. Kitty was always there to help feed the crowd.

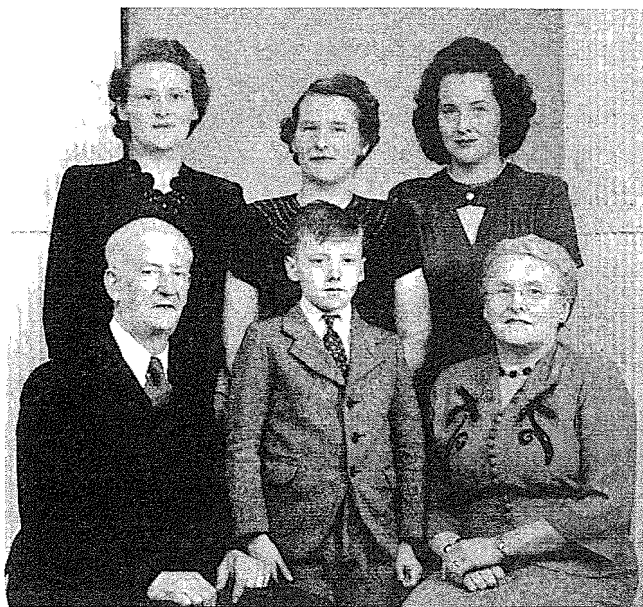
Jim and Kitty had four children.

Jean married George Pollock in 1943. They farmed at Neepawa. They raised a son and two daughters who are all married and each has a family of two. George passed away in 1992.

Anne, the second daughter, was born July 1919. In 1939, she married Jim Sinclair of Neepawa. They raised a family of three girls. They have four grandchildren and four great grandsons. Anne and Jim still live in Neepawa.

In 1928, Dorothy was born. She enjoyed school and community life in Rorketon. She took an active part in district affairs. After she finished school, she worked in the Municipal Office with her dad. Dorothy married Charlie Koski. They lived at Terrace Bay, Ontario. They raised two sons and have two grandsons. They retired in Kelowna. Charlie died in 1988. In 1992, Dorothy married Gordon Pollock. They now live in Abbotsford, British Columbia.

Shortly after Jim and Kitty moved to Rorketon, Ross was born. While attending school, he would stop at the Municipal Office to do homework at the big table or the desk. On a recent trip to Rorketon,



Mitchell Family

he bought both the table and the desk that were stored in a shed. He has refinished them and uses them in his picture framing business. As Ross lost his dad at the age of fifteen, the desk and table meant a lot to him. Ross worked at Terrace Bay and married Ruth Prisk. They had a son and two daughters and have one grandson and one granddaughter. They now live at Marathon, Ontario.

Jim and Kitty bought a small house in which they lived their last years in Rorketon. Jim passed away in 1950. At the time of his death, he was Administrator of the Municipality of Lawrence, head of the Red Cross Nursing Station Board, a member of Rorketon School Board and Justice of the Peace.

Mrs. Mitchell and her son, Ross, lived at Rorketon for two more years. Then they spent the winter with Dorothy and Charlie at Terrace Bay and the summers at Neepawa.

Mrs. Mitchell passed away in 1971.

Farrell, Hilda Murray and family submitted by Hilda Murray

Farrell is the second son of Len Murray and Edna Ayers.

Farrell served in the Air Force from 1943 to 1946. After his discharge he came back home in Magnet where he met Hilda Honish, third child born to John Honish and Magdalina Roth.

Farrell and Hilda were married in January of 1948. Then they moved to Calgary where Farrell got a job with the C.P.R. and Hilda worked as a waitress in a coffee shop.

In June 1949 they moved back to Magnet and



Farrell & Hilda(Honish) Murray

bought a farm and a few cattle. This is where we had our family. Elaine was born November 23, 1949, Gordon was born May 10, 1951, Harold was born July 1, 1953, Norman was born August 26, 1955 and Melvin was born January 28, 1960.

In 1965 Farrell got a job with the Department of Highways. We continued farming until 1967. We then sold the farm and moved to Rorketon. In 1975 Eian Barnett retired from the highways and Farrell took over his position as foreman and in 1985 Farrell retired.

Hilda worked at the Rorketon Hotel from August 1970 to April 1995. Now she is retired. We have a cabin at Lake Manitoba where we spend a lot of time enjoying the company of our family and eleven grandchildren.

John and Elaine Shewchuk

John was born July 7, 1945. Elaine married John Shewchuk on July 5, 1969. John is ranching in the



B:Elaine, Kyla & John F:Neil Bass, Tara & Travis

Meadowland area, he is also an insulator. Elaine has been teaching at the Rorketon School since 1971. They have three children. Tara born August 14, 1973. Kyla born September 25, 1975. Tara and Kyla are both taking the Bachelor of Nursing Program at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg. Travis was born May 21, 1978. He is completing his Grade 12 in Rorketon and plans on going to college in Winnipeg.

Gordon and Linda Murray

Linda was born December 4, 1950. Gordo married Linda Weisensel May 19, 1973. They have two girls; Colette born August 7, 1976 and Sheila born February 1, 1978. Linda and the girls live in Ste. Rose. Linda is working at Stedman's store. Colette is looking for work and Sheila completed a Health Aid course and is doing very well in Grade 12. Gordon lives in Winnipeg doing different kinds of work, including insulation.



Sheila, Gordon, Linda, & Colette Murray

Harold and Marlene Murray

Harold married Marlene Poulin of Calgary in March of 1974. Harold and Marlene have two



Marlene, Sheryl, Tricia, & Harold Murray

daughters, Sheryl born June 8, 1974 and Tricia born September 5, 1980. Sheryl lives in Winnipeg and at present is working at the University of Manitoba. Tricia attends Rorketon Collegiate and is active in sports and Ukrainian dancing. Harold and Marlene have been ranching in the Rorketon area since the fall of 1975. Marlene is an R.N. and has worked at Ste. Rose Hospital since January of 1975.

Melvin and Debbie Murray

Debbie was born December 4, 1964. Melvin married Debbie Walker of Brandon on November 26, 1982. They have two children, Shawn born December 28, 1982 and Shannon born July 27, 1986. They live in Brandon. Melvin started work with Thermal Design in 1988. He now is a Low Temperature Specialist. He works in different places.

Debbie started working in 1988 as a dietary aid at Hillcrest Place in Brandon. They are both still at their same jobs.



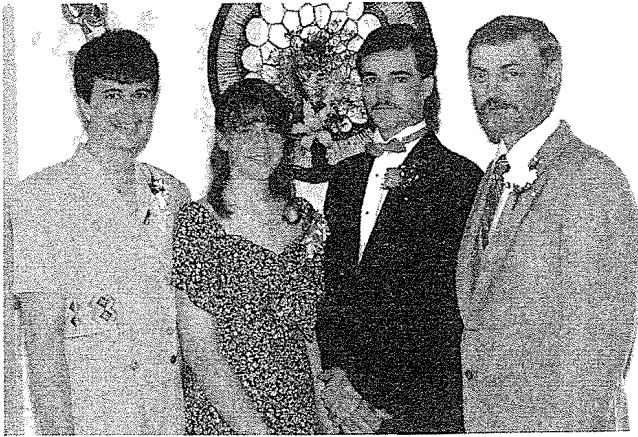
Shawn, Melvin, Debbie & Shannon Murray

Norman and Debra Murray

Norman Murray, fourth child of Farrell and Hilda Murray, married Debra Kindzierski, youngest child of Mike and Norma Kindzierski, on April 12, 1975.

From 1975 to 1976, Norm was employed by Fred Werbeski. In 1976, Norm was hired by the Rorketon Freight Lines as a truck driver. He worked at this job for twelve years. In the fall of 1988, Norm bought Murray's Septic Service, which he operates. Besides running the Septic Service, he does a lot of carpentry work during the spring and summer months.

Debbie was employed by the Rorketon and District Credit Union from 1975 to 1976. In the fall of 1976, she attended the Ste. Boniface School of Nursing. After graduating from the L.P.N. program, she was hired by the Ste. Rose General Hospital in



Debbie, Krista, Derrick & Norman Murray

October of 1977, and has been working there ever since.

Norman and Debbie have two children, Derrick born July 10, 1975 and Krista born June 2, 1980.

After Derrick graduated from the Rorketon Collegiate in 1993, he was employed with Thermo Design Insulation Ltd., and worked for this company for one and a half years. Since the spring of 1995, he has been working for Sedco Drilling of Alberta.

Krista is presently attending the Rorketon Collegiate, and is in Grade 10. She is very active in 4-H, and the Rorketon Rusalka Ukrainian Dancers. Besides dancing and 4-H, she is very involved in sports, excelling in curling and volleyball.

Joe Panagapka

Joe was born in the Weiden district in 1908, where he lived with his father and young brother, Steve, until 1928. In 1935 he married Margaret Sliworsky. They lived in Oak Brae until 1941, at which time they moved to Rorketon. Joe had the telephone switchboard in his home and started the first Credit Union from his home. He also owned and operated a blacksmith shop. Joe and Margaret have two sons, Lawrence and Melvin.

Lawrence is married and resides in Winnipeg. Melvin is married.

George and Anna Papuga

George Papuga and his wife Anna (Lenartowich) came to Canada from Krakow, Poland. When they arrived in Winnipeg, George went to the Immigration Office to seek employment. He found work with a Polish farmer in North Dakota in the Warsaw area. Anna stayed in Winnipeg to work for a family until George's employer made arrangements for them to have their own house on one of his sections of land. It was in Warsaw, North Dakota that their eldest son Frank

was born on April 28, 1906. George's sister, Mrs. Rose Woroby wrote to them to let them know that they should come to Canada because land was selling for \$10.00 for 160 acres. George, Anna and Frank moved to Stuartburn, Manitoba. It was here that Jack (John) was born on March 17, 1907. They moved to Rorketon in 1909, settling in the Edillen district, where they built their log home. Later they built their home on the site now known as the Alarie farm. Their farm was a mixed grain and cattle operation. George also worked in Makinak harvesting in the fall. It was on the farm that their three daughters were born. Kate was born on September 25, 1911, Mary was born on October 28, 1914 and Rose was born on July 28, 1918. During their time on the farm a prairie trail led through the yard. It was the only trail between Rorketon and Makinak, so George spent many hours tending to travellers' needs, such as feeding and watering their horses. Anna loved to cook so she spent many hours feeding these people. George and Anna's children attended Edillen School. When George died at a young age, Jack took over the farm. Anna stayed with them until they moved to Winnipeg. She stayed with Kate part time and then with Rose until she moved to her own home in Rorketon.

Frank Papuga

Frank moved from the States with his parents and they settled on a homestead NW 33-27-15. Frank attended Edillen school. He married Winnie Saari and they farmed the homestead until mid 1930's. They moved in Rorketon and started a butcher shop and store. Frank and Winnie had one daughter Betty who has three children: Beverley, Brenda and David. With her husband, Bruce, they live in Regina. Lawrence and June have two sons: Robert and James. The family live in Winnipeg. Winnie passed away in 1991 and Frank in October 1996.

Frank and Winnie had many good long lasting fond memories of the people of the Rorketon area.

John (Jack) and Margaret (Prociuk) Papuga

Jack was born in Stuartburn, Manitoba, in March of 1907. He was the second son of George and Anna Papuga, who had emigrated from Krakow, Poland. In 1909 the family moved to Rorketon, settling in the Edillen district. He had one brother, Frank, and three sisters, Kate (Talpash), Mary (Moffatt), and Rose (Marchenski). They farmed there for many years. Jack attended the Edillen

School and then stayed home to farm. This is where he and Margaret started their married life.

Margaret was born in Sandilands, Manitoba, on July 23, 1915. She was the second youngest daughter of Steven and Nellie Prociuk. In 1916 they moved to Rorketon and also settled in the Edillen district and farmed. She had two brothers, William and Mike, and three sisters, Ann (Bonnett), Mary (Pick), and Eileen (Bradley). Her father also worked away from home on the railroad. Her mother died when Margaret was around 7 years old, but her dad remarried in the next few years. Their step-mother was also named Nellie, and brought up the children as her own.

On November 16, 1934, Jack and Margaret were married in Toutes Aides, in the Ukrainian Catholic Church. There was no church in Rorketon at that time.

They had a mixed farm. Their children were both born on the farm with the help of nurse Hill, the district nurse. On October 12, 1936, Albert John was born, and on March 30, 1941, Eileen Anne was born.

In 1943 they sold their farm and moved to Winnipeg, where Jack worked at Macdonald's Aircraft, and Margaret worked at Standard Knitting, and then the Winnipeg Cold Storage plant. In 1946 they moved to Port Arthur, Ontario. They lived there until 1951. Jack was employed at the Shell Plant there. He purchased a truck and was self-employed. He worked away from home hauling pulpwood in northern Ontario.

Jack was tired of being away from home and decided to move his family back to Rorketon. He had employment at the Marshall Wells store and lumber yard owned by Nick and Rose Marchenski. He worked at the garage for Nick until an opening came up at the Rorketon egg grading station, where he worked for a few years. He then started with the CNR on the B. & B. gang, and was away from home again.

Margaret always seemed to manage the home. She was an excellent cook (and still is). She boarded the Hydro crew that were installing the power to the rural areas and around Rorketon in the early 1950's. She also fed the telephone crew that were there around the same time. In 1955 they decided to build a pool hall with living quarters at the back. Margaret was also custodian for the Rorketon post office for a number of years.

In 1982 Jack retired from the railroad when they sold their pool hall to Matt and Margarite Mazier and moved to Ste. Rose, for a while, then to Winnipeg, to be closer to their grandchildren and



Jack & Margaret Papuga's 50th Wedding Anniversary. Eileen, Al, Jack & Margaret

other family members. On September 6, 1989, Jack passed away at the age of 83, and is buried in Winnipeg.

Margaret still lives in Winnipeg and keeps very busy.

Albert received his education at Edillen School, Port Arthur and Rorketon. After finishing high school he attended the Normal School that summer and, in the fall, he taught grades 1 to 8 at Coronation School, on a permit. That was not for him as he would sooner have been out hunting and fishing. The next year he went to Lynn Lake and worked in the mines as a book-keeper. He worked at various other jobs, then in 1962 he moved to Hamilton. There he married Ann Mills, who had four children from a previous marriage; Rudy, Ted, Diane and Donna. On November 4, 1963, Debbie was born. Albert worked at Defasco Steel Foundries until 1993. He then retired to Fenelon Falls, Ontario, where they owned a home. Debbie married James Granberg in 1986. They live in St. George, Ontario, and run an antique business from their home.

I (Eileen) received my education in Port Arthur and Rorketon. I then went to Winnipeg where I took a hairdressing course. I had a salon in Rorketon for a few years, then returned to Winnipeg to work at various beauty salons. I met my husband, Dave McLelland, from Scotland. We married in 1961. We have three children. Mysie, born January 27, 1962, lives in Abingdon, England. She married Wayne Hitchman on July 22, 1995. Keith, born June 1, 1963, lives in Winnipeg. He married Cathy Arnfinson, from Eriksdale. They have two daughters, Caileigh, born October 31, 1990, and Rebecca,

born September 21, 1992. Kevin, born June 16, 1964, lives in Stonewall. He married Heather Mitchell from Winnipeg. They have four children; twin girls, Amanda born June 13 and Tabitha born June 14, 1989, Mackenzie, April 11, 1991, and Amy, May 13, 1993. He also has a son, David McIntosh, born July 23, 1982, who lives in Eriksdale.

Dave and I lived in Winnipeg and Selkirk. Then in 1966 we moved to Eriksdale where we presently reside. Dave worked for Manitoba Telephone System from 1962 to 1995, when Dave retired on November 11. We are very busy with many involvements in the community and in our country home. Dave is the Reeve of the R.M. of Eriksdale, President of the Board of Directors of the Eriksdale Credit Union, and sits on many other boards and committees. I am on the Museum Board, and help out other organizations when asked. I am also very busy with the Eriksdale History Book, which we are preparing for 1996.

Azarie and Katherine Paradis

Azarie and Katherine married in 1908 and resided in Ituna, Saskatchewan and then moved to Jasmin, Saskatchewan. Then in the fall of 1929 about October 15, Azarie and Katherine and eleven children started out from Jasmin to journey out to Manitoba. Their children were: Agnes, (Lina, Leo) the twins, Joseph, Grace, Pauline, Blanche, Edward, Jean, Elizabeth and Paul. Their transportation was by horse and wagon, one wagon and box with one team of horses and one wagon and rack with four horses which had the family belongings. Altogether they had twenty horses and colts and three dogs. They had a barrel of water and salt pork and a Singer sewing machine which Agnes still has today. The trip took about nine and a half days, about 250 miles. The two brothers, Leon and Joseph were in charge. They slept in tents and the main diet was pork and beans and bread. The first night out they had about two feet of snow, covering all their harness, collars and tools. Some of this was never recovered. Then they couldn't judge the crossing, so they broke through the ice and snow. They had to put on more horse power, but only pulled out the front wheels then had to pull the back wheels and couple up again. They lost a whole day with this trouble, then they continued on. At times they were refused drinking water for the horses as the settlers were afraid the horses could have distemper. At one time they travelled two days before they found water - it was an old school well. After that they entered herd law, so at night all the horses were hobbled to keep them near the camp. One had a bell so

they were easier to find if they did stray away. The horses always had a tendency to turn back home. For feed for the horses, they let them graze and bought bran and shorts when it was available.

The rest of the family travelled by car in a 1926 Chevy. Every few days the father came to check on the movers, and then go back to Jasmin for more belongings and to bring more supplies for the boys on the way. Then they would continue on to Cayer where the family rented a house. The last night they camped at Elkdale. The next day they travelled back to Dauphin by car to file for a homestead, only to find out they closed two days before. They went back to the caravan and finished the trip to Cayer where they then rented a house from Mr. Dan Lee for two years. That's where the last child Rita, was born. The next spring they left Cayer and moved west to Magnet where they bought a farm and settled down. That was 1931, just when the depression hit.

That was the farm where Kenny and Doreen Stamen now live. They sold the farm in the 1940's and moved to the town of Rorketon where Dan Iwanchesko now lives. It is from there that Azarie did all the cattle buying and shipping and veterinary work in the district. From there they moved east of Rorketon on the Maruschuck farm where they lived until 1951 when they moved to Ste. Rose and lived there until Azarie died in 1954.

The family were all married as followed.

Agnes married George Maze - both deceased

Linda married Joseph Zastre - both deceased

Leo married Anna Brunen - Leo deceased

Joseph married Angelin Gelina - Joseph deceased

Grace married Geoff Burtonshaw - Grace deceased



Azarie & Katherine Paradis Family, Rita, Paul, Betty, Jean, Edward, Blanche, Pauline, Grace, Agnes, Joseph Sitting: Leon, Azarie, Katherine & Lina.

Pauline married George Shirreth - Pauline deceased
 Blanche married William Zastre - Blanche deceased
 Edward married Ada Ackerman - Edward deceased
 Jean married Wilfred Honish - Jean deceased
 Elizabeth married Frank Hill - Frank deceased
 - second marriage John Peterson
 Paul married Jean Dessler - Paul deceased
 Rita married Joseph Brunen - Joseph deceased

Barry and Karen (Kendzierski) Paradis

I, Karen, am the middle child of Mike and Norma (Talpash) Kendzierski. Born September 7, 1955 I was raised on the family farm, NW 7-28-15W, just a half a mile outside of Rorketon. I graduated from Rorketon Collegiate in 1973 and enrolled in the Secretarial Science course at Red River Community College in Winnipeg. In the fall of 1974 I got my first job as a secretary for the Agricultural Crown Lands Department in Dauphin. On September 1, 1979 I married Barry Paradis, the eldest son of Leon and Anna Paradis. We settled in Rorketon and commuted to Dauphin. At this time Barry was a journeyman for Manitoba Hydro and did not have a permanent district so was sent anywhere in the central portion of the province. In 1980 we moved to Thompson where Barry was now part of the Hot Line Tools crew for the northern part of the province, another job which required a great deal of travel - by now being tired of travel and being away from home. I was now working for the satellite office of the Keewatin Community College. We really enjoyed the fishing, camping and the beauty of the north but it was far from home. On



Barry & Karen Paradis family

October 14, 1982 our first son, Stephen Christopher, was born and two weeks later we moved to Winnipeg, Manitoba. Barry was now on district in St. Boniface... no more travelling, and I was working for the Deputy Minister of Municipal Affairs.

When a district position became available in Rorketon we decided to move home. On July 11, 1986 our family was completed with the birth of our second son, Chad Matthew.

Stephen and Chad are involved in sports and both dance with the Rorketon Rusalka Dance Group. We spend a great deal of time at the cabin at Benyk's Point with our families. Barry gets to indulge in his love of hunting, boating and ski-dooing with trips for moose hunting and ski-dooing which have turned into annual events with his brothers and friends.

We have been lucky to have had the opportunities we have had so far in life, to have the love and support of our families and to be able to raise our children in a small, close knit community.

Leo and Anna Paradis

In 1949, Leo Paradis married Anna Brunen. They first lived with his parents in Rorketon on the farm. The next year they moved to Magnet on the Walter Martin farm, across the road from Magnet school. Then due to ill health they sold and in 1951 moved to Ste. Rose where they operated a Boarding Home.

They have a family of nine children.

Marlinda married Ronald Delaurier - Laurier

Bernice married Gerald Pinette - Winnipeg

Sharon married Ronald Vandenbosch - Ste.

Rose

Barry married Karen Kendzierski - Rorketon

Emile married Cecile Saquet - Ste. Rose

Emilie married Gerald De Carby - Edmonton

Richard married Petra Kostuik - Angusville

Joan married Boris Zamrykut - Rorketon

Gildas - Dauphin

Leo and Anna have resided in Dauphin since 1975. In April, 1995, Leo passed away and Anna still resides in their home in Dauphin.

Frank and Katerina Pawloski

Frank emigrated from Warsaw, Poland in 1900 to Stuartburn, Manitoba. In 1924 he moved his family of five children out of nine - Mary, Frances, Bernard, Susan and Eugene. Tony was born in Rorketon in 1928.

Frank moved his tools, household and his precious steam engine, anvil, lathe, etc. with the CNR, to Rorketon. He then set up shop. He shoed horses,



Wedding of Katrina Lukow & Frank Pawloski in Warsaw, Poland



Frank Pawlowski, Clementine, Tony, Frances, Eugene

made the first large plough share for breaking land, invented the jigger - a device for commercial ice fishing on Lake Manitoba and Lake Dauphin; it moves the fish net from one ice hole to another. The farmers ice fished in winter for extra income. They had vehicles called the caboose - a canvas covered sleigh outfitted with a wood heater and all the necessities. They camped until their supplies ran out and the fish was all packed in ice and then brought in for shipment to places like Winnipeg and New York.

The Pawluk Family

by Nancy Shewchuk

Anne (Iwanchysko) and John Pawluk came from Ukraine with their son George to Brandon. They eventually settled nine and a half miles north of Rorketon where they raised their family of eight children. In 1946 John passed away and in 1948 Anne moved to the village of Rorketon. In 1964 she moved to Winnipegosis to reside with her son Mike and passed away in 1966.

George, the eldest son, married Pauline Roznowski. They had two children. George passed away in 1943. Pauline lived in Rorketon where she raised her children. The family grew to five grandchildren and now five great-grandchildren. Pauline passed away in 1990.

Minnie married Nick Burchuk and they farmed in the Weiden district. They raised nine children. In 1968 they retired to Dauphin. Nick passed away in 1987 and Minnie in 1994. They leave behind fourteen grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren.

Rose married P. Beyak and they farmed near Winnipegosis. She then married Mike Podwarny and they moved to Hamilton. Rose has three sons and three grandchildren and at last count two great-grandchildren. She still resides in Hamilton.

Teenie moved to Ontario where she met and married John Zayac. They settled in Hamilton where they raised four children. John passed away and Teenie continues to reside in Hamilton. Her family has grown to include six grandchildren.

Mike married Doris Boyko in 1949 and shortly thereafter they settled in Winnipegosis. They raised a family of eight and in 1980 retired to Dauphin. Doris passed away in 1990 and Mike still lives in Dauphin. They have ten grandchildren.

Ken married Sylvia Wawrow in 1947 and a few years later they moved to Toronto where they still reside. They raised a family of three daughters and have six grandchildren.

Mary moved to Ontario where she met and married Mike Krawec. They settled on a farm near



Mr. & Mrs. Ken Pawluk & Family

Waterford where Mary still lives. Mike passed on in 1961 and Mary raised her family of four children. She has eleven grandchildren.

Ann married Alex Zywinia and they farmed near Rorketon for many years, later retiring to Dauphin. They raised a family of five children and have four grandchildren. Ann passed away in 1986 and Alex continues to live in Dauphin.

George and Polly Pawluk

George Pawluk, son of Anne and Nick Pawluk, was born on May 19, 1914 and spent his early years



Nick & Frozina (Annie) Pawluk - in the early 1940's

in the Moose Bay area. On October 28, 1939, he married Pauline (Polly) Roznowsky, daughter of Andrew and Anastasia Roznowsky who farmed in the Meadowlands area. George worked as a fisherman on Lake Dauphin, in a logging camp, on a C.N. extra gang and as a construction worker in Edmonton when they were building the airport and where he was accidentally killed on December 5, 1943.

Polly continued to live in Rorketon, through hard times and good times, with her two children, Elizabeth who was two and Edward who was one at the time of their father's death. Bringing up two children on a meagre compensation pension was tough and she did odd housekeeping jobs to make ends meet. She had very good neighbours who often helped out, Dmetro and Helen Korotash on one side and on the other side were Paul and Lena Janowski who ran the local store.

In 1969, Polly bought a bigger house and had it moved on a lot a half a block away from the school and here she lived until her death on October 9, 1990. She loved gardening and spending time with her children and grandchildren. Her home was sold to Gary Didychuck in 1992.



Liz & Ernest Michalot, Mrs. Pawluk, Dan & Darlene Dumas

Elizabeth Pawluk attended Grades 1-12 in Rorketon and then attended Teacher's College in Winnipeg and in 1975 received her Bachelor of Special Education from Brandon University. She taught in Meadow Portage, Abbotshall and Rorketon and retired in 1981. On August 17, 1963, she married Ernest Michalot, son of Edmond and Alphonsine Michalot of Meadow Portage, who at that time operated the Lakson Theatre in Rorketon. She continued teaching while her husband ran the family store in Meadow Portage until 1986 when they sold out and moved back to Ernest's old home- stead to ranch. They are now in the Charolais business.

On August 27, 1964 Darlene Michalot was born. She attended Rorketon School and then attended the University of Manitoba where she acquired her Bachelor of Education and is presently teaching in Grandview. In 1987 she married Daniel Dumas of Waterhen and they make their home in Grandview.

Edward Pawluk attended school in Rorketon and then went to work for Manitoba Hydro in Lynn Lake, Laurie River, Gillan and is now at the Dorsey Converting Station, north of Winnipeg.



Ed Pawluk & Family, Mrs. Pawluk

In 1964 he married Joyce Height of Dorion, Ontario. They have four sons - Bob, Ken, Jim and Dan (three of them are also working for Hydro) and there are five grandchildren. Ed is strongly involved in horseracing and has a few horses at the track in Winnipeg.

Perepeluk Family

William (Wasly) Perepeluk was born in 1900 the fourth child in a family of eight, the son of John and Anna Perepeluk.

At the age of thirteen he left home and went to work. His first job was on a farm, grubbing at fifty cents a day for twelve hours, in the winter he cut and hauled cordwood. At the age of eighteen he bought a farm.

In August 1922 he married a neighbor, Effie Rolla, daughter of John and Mary Rolla from Sifton.

In 1935 the Perepeluk family moved to Rorketon and where they started a general store business. They lived in Rorketon for eleven years then moved to Flin Flon.

They have a family of three sons Walter John and Orest two daughters, Zonia and Nadia.

Farewell to the Perepeluk's

A. J. Juce, local school principal, presided over a program consisting of songs, speeches and musical selections.

The speakers paid tribute to the community spirit and active participation in various worthy causes which featured Mr. Perepeluk's contribution to Rorketon and district.

Mrs. Robbins spoke on behalf of the Rorketon Women's Institute of which Mrs. Perepeluk had been an active and valuable member.

The presentation was made by W. Tuer on behalf of the citizens of Rorketon and district.

Mr. and Mrs. Perepeluk have always been ready to lend a helping hand in any activity benefitting the community; and the boys, particularly Johnnie, were active in baseball and hockey and a general asset to the social life of the town.

The Pretula Family submitted by Morris Pretula

It was time for a business venture. In 1947 Klim and Kiroлка Pretula bought a general store in Rorketon. The family sold the farm at Venlaw, Manitoba, (R.M. of Ethelbert), and started the business on January 2, 1947.

During the first year of operation, the family was shocked by the untimely accidental death of Klin in Valley River in August of 1947.

Kiroлка lived with the family and her three sons, Mike, Adam and Morris, who took over the enterprise. The general store was run under the name of Pretula Brothers General Merchants. Mike was also employed at Rorketon Hotel as a beer waiter, and died in 1957. Adam managed the store until 1973, when ill health forced him to retire. He died in 1983.

Morris married Olive (Packowski) in 1953, and raised a family of five children; Marnie, Janet, Dale, Rodney and Robert, who are now all resident in Winnipeg. During 1947-1973, Morris operates a barber shop in the adjoining building. (Price of haircuts for adults was fifty cents and thirty-five cents for children.)

In 1974 he moved to northern Manitoba, where he was working a security guard for Metropolitan Investigation Security until retirement, and is now residing at Ochre River.

Kiroлка lived with the family, until her death in 1962. John was living in Victoria, he married during the second world war while in the service. He died in 1985. William resided in Victoria where he was employed by Shepherd's Dairy for a number of years. He died in 1992.

Beatrice during such time was employed by Eatons in Dauphin. In June 1961 she married William Marrs and lived on a farm, south of Ochre River. They presently make their home in Dauphin.

The two youngest boys Metro and Walter were

attending school at Rorketon for a few years, and Metro moved to Ontario in the early fifties. He now lives at Peterborough, Ontario.

Walter also moved to Ontario after finishing school, where he worked at General Electric until he retired in May of 1996.

The Pulaks



Mr. & Mrs. Pulak & son Alex



Twins John & JoAnne Pulak

Alex Pulak



Isaac and Margaret (McKay) Radcliffe

Isaac Radcliffe was born in Uththoff, Ontario, the third child of Robert and Ellen Radcliffe. Isaac grew up on the family farm near Orillia, Ontario.

Margaret McKay was born in Allensville, Ontario. She, also, was the third child of a family of six born to Allen and Margaret McKay. Margaret grew up on the family farm near Allensville.

Isaac and Margaret were married in Stephenson Township, Muskoka County, Ontario on February 1, 1905.

Isaac and Margaret Radcliffe followed Margaret's parents into Manitoba in the fall of 1912. They (Radcliffes and McKays) had been encouraged by Charlie Keetch, Margaret Radcliffe's brother-in-law, who spoke of the "beautiful country", to come to the Rorketon area. They had three children: Laura, Jack and Ethel. Isaac had been a school teacher and appears to have either been disenchanted with the profession or wanted to try his hand at farming.

When they arrived, they stayed with Margaret's sister, Annie, and her husband, Charlie Keetch, until Isaac was able to construct a house for the family. Isaac applied for a homestead on NW 28-28-16W, but abandoned it for the SW 21-28-16W. The family moved into their home in July of the following year. By this time Isaac had cleared and broken five acres of land and owned six head of cattle. The following year, 1916, Isaac "cropped" the five acres, cleared and broke another ten acres, and owned ten head of cattle and two horses.

Isaac and Margaret had two more children; Mary born in 1915 and Grace born in 1916.

The Radcliffe children all attended Cecil School. Isaac was the first secretary-treasurer, serving in this position until 1922.

Isaac eventually gave up farming and went out working in the lumber mills of Ontario around Red Lake. By 1938 only Margaret and her daughter, Mary, were left on the farm. Jack and Ethel were married, and Laura and Grace had left home to work elsewhere. Margaret and Mary moved into a granary

while Jack dismantled the house and built a new one in Rorketon. Mary lived in Rorketon with her mother until 1941 when she married Michael Storozinski. She earned her keep by sewing. She charged 25 cents each for children's clothes and 75 cents each for a ladies dress. If the dress was made out of silk, she charged \$1.00.

Isaac continued to work in the lumber mills of Red Lake, Ontario, retiring in the early 1950's. He died in 1954 at the age of 79.

Margaret lived in her home in Rorketon until 1960. She suffered a stroke and had to sell her home. She lived with her daughter, Ethel, in Lynn Lake, her daughter, Laura in Red Lake and with her grand-daughter in Nanaimo, British Columbia. She eventually moved into a nursing home in Kamloops, where she passed away in 1977 at the age of 95.

Laura (Radcliffe) McKay

Laura was born in Huntsville, Ontario and came to Manitoba with her parents. She was unable to attend school until she was ten years old, when Cecil school was built. Upon quitting school, she worked at domestic help in Rorketon, Birnie and Winnipeg before moving to McDougall Mills, where she cooked in a lumber camp. She married Jim McKay and they moved to Red Lake. They had one daughter, Gerry, who graduated in nursing at Fort William (Thunder Bay). Gerry later moved to Canim Lake, to Nanaimo and finally to Campbell River, British Columbia. Gerry still lives there with her four daughters; Karen, Cheryl, Laurie and Debra. Ken Saje, her husband, passed away in 1992 and Laura still lives in Red Lake.

Jack Radcliffe

Jack was born in Huntsville, Ontario and came to Manitoba with his parents. When he grew up, he fished on Lake Dauphin for a number of years. He married Polly Dutchak. They had two daughters, Mary and Charlotte. When they were old enough to attend school the family moved to the Freedale district and farmed, later moved to Prince George, and finally to Williams Lake, British Columbia. Jack built a number of cabins and ran a tourist camp at Quesnel Lake during the summer months and later sold it and retired in Williams Lake.

Their daughter, Mary, became a nurse and married Dave Pallot who worked for the Telephone Company. They lived in Nanaimo and later moved to Kamloops. They had five children: Paul, Linda, Denise, Wendy and John.

Their other daughter, Charlotte married Don Chamberlain. They had three children: Betty, Rose

Marie and Dale. She divorced him and married Bob Montgomery and they had a daughter, Florence.

Jack passed away in October, 1985, but Polly still lives in Williams Lake.

Ethel (Radcliffe) Didychuk

Ethel was born in Huntsville, Ontario in 1911 and moved to Manitoba with her parents in 1912. She attended Cecil School and continued living on her parents' farm until she married Bill Didychuk. They farmed in the Freedale district for 19 years, then moved to Lynn Lake in 1956, where Bill worked for Sherritt-Gordon Mines. Due to Bill's ill health they moved to Rorketon, living in their cabin at Manipogo Beach during the summer and eventually in Dauphin in the winter.

They had one daughter, Margaret, who took her education in Freedale and Rorketon. She moved to Lynn Lake with her parents where she met Fred Johnson, a native of Winnipegosis. They were married in Rorketon and continued to live in Lynn Lake until 1978, when they moved to Lethbridge, Alberta with their three children: Karen, Dean and Kelly. They still reside in Lethbridge.

Mary (Radcliffe) Storozinski

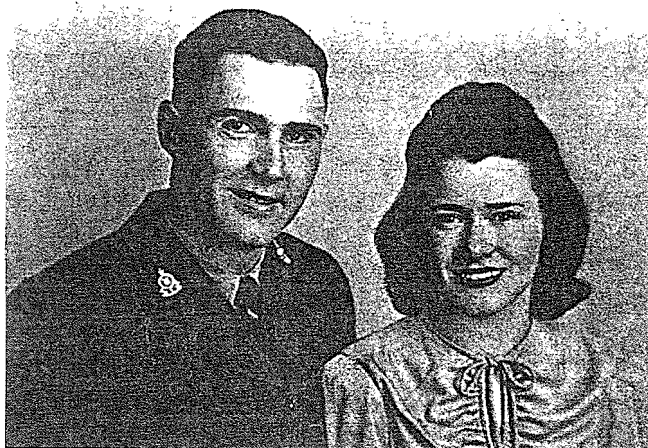
Mary was born in Dauphin. Her dad had to drive her mother across Lake Dauphin to the hospital, a repeat of what he did when Grace was born, except this time it was in March. Mary attended Cecil School and was the last one to leave home. She and her mother left the farm and moved to Rorketon in 1938 (see Storozinski Family).



Mike Storozinski & John Radcliff

Grace (Radcliffe) Boyle

Grace was born in Dauphin. Isaac took Margaret across Lake Dauphin in November with horses when it was time for Grace to be born and came for them the same way after she was born. Grace attended Cecil School until she passed into grade ten. She then took grade eleven in Dauphin and went to Winnipeg and took a secretarial course. She worked there for a number of years. There she met Bob Boyle who was an officer with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. Bob later joined the Armed Forces and was stationed at Amherst, Nova Scotia. Grace travelled there in 1943 and they were married. She worked as a secretary until Don was born and then went back to work when he started school. They lived in Truro, Sussex and Windsor, Nova Scotia. Bob was never sent overseas. Later they moved to Regina where Bob worked for Pontiac Motors. They also lived at Foam Lake, Nipawin and Edmonton before moving to Dawson Creek, British Columbia. Bob passed away in 1976. Grace continued working until she retired in 1981.



Bob and Grace

They had one son, Donald, who became a broadcast communications technical operator and worked up north on the "DEW" line for a number of years. On one of his holidays he went to Trinidad where he met Nazra Mohammed. He went back the next year and they were married. They live in Dawson Creek, where he is a carpenter. They have two children, Robbie and Lorraine.

The Storozinski Family

George and Nellie Storozinski emigrated from Kosiv, in the Chortkiv district of western Ukraine. They, however, considered themselves to be of Polish ethnic origin. George came to Canada in 1905-1907 with his friend, Podruski, who lived in

Germnakavka, a village only a few kilometres from Kosiv. They appear to have been avoiding conscription into the Polish army and may have used false passports to leave Poland, who had control of their homeland at that time. George found work in the C.N.R. shops in Rivers, Manitoba.

Nellie came to Canada in 1912 with her sons, Frank and Joseph, and daughter, Mary. The ocean voyage was quite memorable to Joseph as he did have recollections of playing on the ship's deck with his brother, Frank.

George and Nellie lived in or around Rivers until 1915. Two more sons were born. Michael's birth date was February 29, 1913. This peculiarity was good reason to celebrate his birthday in a special way each leap year. John was born in 1915.

Frank, Joe and Mary attended school in the Ukraine and were able to read and write Polish. They may have attended school while at Rivers as well. Mary attend Edillen School for a while as did Mike and John.

The Storozinski family then moved to the Rorketon area settling on NW 28-28-15W. A house, barn and other usual farm buildings were constructed and the family lived there until about 1943 when the land was lost to the municipality for tax arrears. The children all appeared to have left home by then and George and Nellie moved into a little log house with a lean-to kitchen on the NE 9-28-15W. They eventually moved into a frame house on the property. This house was a "back to the land" home bought by their son, John, but never lived in before. It was eventually moved into the village of Rorketon and they lived there until their death.

Nellie Storozinski appears to have had one sister who came to Canada as well. She had a daughter. To date Nellie's sister is a mystery. It is believed that she died when her daughter was an infant. George and Nellie took Mary to live with them. Since their niece was younger than their own daughter, Mary, she was referred to as "Little Mary" and their own daughter was referred to as "Big Mary". "Little Mary" attended school in Edillen with her cousins. Conditions were difficult and she left home at the age of sixteen to work and live on her own. Her cousins Joe and John did visit her in later life.

In an unusual twist of fate, Michael's son Raymond and his sister-in-law, Marion, had been researching the family history for a few years. In conversation with their aunt Mary (Frank's wife), it was revealed that "Little Mary" may not have been a cousin but a half sister to George and Nellie's family. Within the year an article was published in the Winnipeg Sun about a woman who was looking for

a family consisting of brothers Joe, Frank and John, who at one time lived in Rivers, Manitoba. Frank's son, Joe saw the article and shared it with his sister. Rose immediately corresponded with the woman and found that she, indeed was a daughter of "Little Mary".

A re-union was planned, for the following summer, between two of "Little Mary's" daughters and several of George's and Nellie's grandchildren living in Manitoba. One of "Little Mary's" daughters, Marianne Lewis, was to fly to Winnipeg from Victoria, and another daughter, Jacqueline, and her husband, Gordon McAllister, were to travel by motor home from Toronto.

Tragedy prevented this re-union from taking place that year. During their travel to Manitoba, Jackie and Gordon stopped to rest for the night at roadside park near Blind River, Ontario. They were awoken during the night by a gun-man intent on robbing them. They were shot. Jackie was killed and her husband, although wounded was able to escape. Another traveller who had stopped in the camp ground for the night was also shot. To date the killer has not been apprehended despite a reenactment of the murder broadcast on the television program "Unsolved Mysteries". Marianne and Gordon did go to Winnipeg the following year to meet her cousins and relatives at a family wedding.

Of the Storozinski family, Frank and Mike chose farming for their livelihood. Frank originally farmed the SW 16-28-15W and then moved to SE 16-28-15W where he farmed all his life and with his wife, Mary (Woroby), raised a family of one daughter, Rose, and two sons Carl and Joe. The children attended Edillen School. Today only Carl remains on the family farm. Rose and husband, Frank Rozdeba, are retired in Winnipeg. Joe is employed as tool grinder at Versatile Ford New Holland Canada Ltd. farm equipment plant in Winnipeg. Joe



Joe & Mary Storozinski's Wedding. Mrs Hancharyk(second from left) Rose Marchenski (fourth from left) Frank Papuga (third from right) Mary & Phillip Rehaluk (in front)

married Celina Fortin who currently works at the University of Manitoba, P.P.E.M.- senior caretaking division. Their daughter, JoAnne graduated from the Faculty of Nursing and is married to Dean Wiens.

Joseph (Joe), the second eldest son worked on the CNR railroads from 1928 to 1967. He married Mary Dutchak in 1929 and together they also operated a pool hall and taxi service in Rorketon. They raised five children, all of whom attended elementary and high school in Rorketon. Jack married Eileen Bergner. They moved to British Columbia where they operate their own trucking company. They raised four daughters, Heather, Kathy, Leanna and Cindy, and one son, Dale. Jean married Nick Uchacz and they make their home in San Mateo, California where they raised one daughter, Sharon. Bernice married Robert Wilson. They have made their home in Coquitlam, British Columbia. They raised three sons, Douglas, Gordon and Joseph (Todd). Kathy became a registered nurse and married Emmet Hophner. Kathy died shortly after the birth of their son, Gordon. Both her husband and son have died tragically. Stanley married Carol Moar and they make their home in San Mateo, California. Both Stan and Carol work for United Airlines. They have two sons, Curtis and Brian. Brian and his wife, Ludette, have three children, Brittany and twins, Shelby and Tyler.

"Big" Mary became a hair dresser, initially working in Winnipeg and then moving to Hamilton, where she owned her own shop. Mary never married.

Mike married Mary Radcliffe in 1941. He bought the SW 16-28- 15W from his brother, Frank. He built a log house and eventually replaced it with a wood frame house in 1956. They farmed there until ill health caused Mike to retire in 1975. They moved to Dauphin where Mike died in 1978. Mary currently lives at the Kinsmen Villa in Dauphin. They had two sons, Raymond and Dennis and one daughter, Ruth. All the children completed their high school in Rorketon. Ray is presently the town engineer for Dauphin. He married Gloria Galay, who is employed as a clerk at Walmart. Ray and Gloria have four sons: Curtis, Christopher, Calvin, Carey and one daughter, Melanie.

Dennis married Marion Fulkerson. Both entered the education profession. Marion is currently a librarian and Dennis is the school principal in Grandview. They have two sons, Jason and Evan and one daughter, Shannon.

Ruth worked for the Bank of Nova Scotia, commencing as a teller and progressing to the position of accountant. She married Tony Kozak and togeth-



Back: Stanley, Agnes, Leo and Raymond. Front: Metro & Mary Galay, Gloria & Sylvia

er they own and manage The Aboriginal Funeral Chapel in Winnipeg. They have two sons, Jeffrey and Christopher.

John, the youngest son, married Sophie Senkiw. They moved to Hamilton, where John worked in the International Harvester plant. They had a family of three sons: Edward, Eugene and Morris and one daughter, Marianne.

"Little" Mary eventually moved to Toronto where she married Wallace Ferguson. They had a family of three daughters, Jacqueline, Shirley, Marianne and four sons: Wallace, George, Daniel and Steven.

Michael and Meylka (Mydan) Rehaluk by W. L. (Bill) Rehaluk

Michael was born in the village of Hryhoriw in the Ukraine, on November 21, 1877, one of eight children, the youngest of five brothers. When he was 21 years of age, he entered military service in the Austrian army, where he served for three years. Army life wasn't too bad, the pay was poor but they had plenty to eat. An ordinary soldier received the equivalent of 30 cents every five days, but if he served in the cavalry, he got 50 cents every five days. Michael served with the cavalry and in the second year, he became corporal and his pay then was 75 cents every five days.

On February 10, 1902, after completing three years of service in the military, Michael returned home, where he married Meylka Mydan, daughter of Mykyta and Katerena Mydan.

The neighborhood was abuzz with the anticipation of immigrating to Canada. A few had left earlier and their letters indicated that Canada was a good country with lots of land for everyone.

In 1906, Michael decided to immigrate to Canada. By this time his father was deceased and he bid a tearful farewell to his mother. Michael, Meylka and their two-year old son William, along with 18 other families from their village, embarked on their journey to Canada on a ship called the

Montrose. The voyage across the Atlantic took 14 days before docking at Halifax, in April, 1906. The train ride to Yorkton, was quick and enjoyable by comparison. Their homestead was located in the Preeceville, Saskatchewan, area SE 18-34-6, where they built their first dwelling, a sod hut. Later with the help of neighbors, a log house was built, complete with a thatched straw roof. Farming commenced with the acquisition of one cow and a pair of oxen. By 1912, they were able to acquire their first team of horses.

Three successive years of killer frost in late June was more than those hardy pioneers were willing to put up with, so in 1919, the decision was made to move to East Bay. Three families, the Michael Rehaluks, the Steve Ploschaks and the Harasim Barans sold their Preeceville farms for a new start in East Bay.

By 1923, falling grain prices, plus the financial burden of the recently acquired half-section of land caused Michael to reassess his financial burden. He decided to sell and move to a smaller farm near Ethelbert. As time went on, they were able to acquire more land and improve their holdings. To quote this pioneer, "at first I farmed my land with oxen, then in 1912, I bought our first team of horses, that was better. When my sons began farming with me, they bought a tractor and better machinery, that was faster and better".

Michael and Meylka were blessed with six sons and five daughters:

Sons - William, Philip, Paul, Dan, Steve and Peter

Daughters - Stephanie, Kay, Mary, Eileen and Anne

Michael and Meylka retired from farming in 1947 and built their retirement home in the town of Ethelbert.

By 1960, they decided to move to Rorketon, where four of their sons (Bill, Philip, Dan and Steve) still lived. Dan, one of the younger sons bought a house for them and they remained there until 1969.

They next moved to St. Paul's Home in Dauphin, where they spent their remaining years.

Meylka passed away on January 15, 1971, at the age of 87, thus bringing to a close, a marriage that lasted 68 years.

Michael passed away on December 15, 1985, at the age of 108. He was blessed with good health, his memory was excellent right until the time of his death - my father (Bill) and I were visiting Grandfather, at St. Paul's Home during the Christmas holidays, the year before he died, and he



Photo by TODD KOROL

Rehaluk celebrates with — not tea — champagne, of course

He's 108

For 108 years now, Michael Rehaluk has been celebrating his birthday on November 21. Yes, 108!

Born in 1877 in the Ukraine, he immigrated to Canada in 1906. He settl-

ed in Preceville, SK., and later moved to Ethelbert, where he farmed.

In 1963, he moved to Rorketon where he stayed until his move in 1969 to the St. Paul's Home in Dauphin.

Still going strong at 108, he still reads, remembers all of his family, walks, goes shopping, has coffee at

Sticky's, and if he is not too busy, he has time to meet with the Queen, which he did when she was in Dauphin in 1984.

Although he is not as active as before, he is still well and intends to keep going for a while yet, said his son Pete.

told us the story of his last Christmas in the "Old Country". He and my grandmother and their friends (those who had decided to come to Canada), realizing this would be their last Christmas with old friends and relatives went to church that Christmas Eve and then visited with numerous families all through the night. He even remembered what they had for breakfast the next morning and how much it cost. This was a man who had lived through the times when his military service, as a young man, was in the cavalry and was very much alive when the Americans put the first man on the moon.

The church was always an important part of Michael's life and he seldom missed morning mass in the chapel while at St. Paul's. Whenever he was questioned about his longevity, he would always reply "it is God's blessing". His Bible and prayer-book were always close at hand and he read from them daily. He loved to read and the amazing fact was that at his age he was able to read without the assistance of eye glasses. He learned to do crafts at St. Paul's, making anything from decorative lamps to little rocking chairs out of wooden clothes pins. One of the most memorable times in his life was in 1984, when he had the honour of meeting Queen Elizabeth and presenting her with one of his crafts.

He felt lucky and proud to be a Canadian - "Canada is so good, you cannot compare it with other countries. Here a man can have his own land. We were very happy in Canada, even during the first years, when we had to work so very hard".

Bill and Eva (Ploschak) Rehaluk - Family by William L. (Billy) Rehaluk

Bill and Eva came, with their respective parents, to the Lawrence Municipality in 1918. Bill was born in what is now the Ukraine, in the village of Hryhoriw, on June 6, 1904. Eva was born in Preeceville, Saskatchewan, on October 17, 1906.

The Rehaluk and Ploschak families had previously farmed in the Preeceville, Saskatchewan, (Chechow district); however, three successive years of killing frost in late June, was enough hardship to encourage these pioneers to look for a new district to farm in. Both families bought two quarters of land each, from the land company, in the East Bay district. Neighbours once again it was only inevitable that Bill and Eva might one day become attracted to one another.

In 1921 at the age of 17, Bill started to work in Ste Rose du Lac, for the Canadian National Railway, an employer he would stay with until his retirement at age 65. (48 years of service). Bill was



Bill & Eva Rehaluk

part of the crew that built the railway line to Rorketon. Bill and his partner left Ste. Rose in the middle of winter on an open hand car; two men pumping it all the way dressed only in boots, wind-pants, shirts and heavy sweaters. They got to Rorketon by late afternoon, had dinner at the restaurant, started back, and got as far as Magnet when nightfall overtook them. A friendly merchant in Magnet let them stay over night in his store, where they slept on the floor by the wood burning heater. By about 4 A.M. both men woke up freezing as the fire had gone out in the heater. Working hard they warmed up a short distance out of Magnet and arrived in Ste. Rose in time for breakfast.

Eva on the other hand, stayed on the farm to help her father; for although the Ploschak family had two sons, neither survived childhood. Eva had a genuine love for horses. Eva had a fun loving side to her personality.

Bill and Eva got married on November 17, 1926 and moved into their new home in Rorketon. That

house still stands to this day on that same site. There they raised their four children — Michael, Mary, Jean and Billy. The Catholic priest would come by train from Sifton and stay over while attending the various churches in the area. Baptisms and marriages were often performed in their home, as the Ukrainian Catholic Church was not built in Rorketon till much later.

Bill and Eva were active in serving the community; they donated the land for the Rorketon sports and picnic grounds, where the curling rink is presently located. Eva served on the Red Cross executive during the war years and was also active in the Rorketon 4-H Club as a group leader for the young girls and boys. Eva was an accomplished seamstress and was always anxious to share this ability with anyone who was willing to learn. Bill and Eva both supported the Ukrainian Catholic Church, and when St. Peter and Paul's Church was built in Rorketon, both worked hard in the actual building and later served on the executive, or day to day maintenance. Bill's mechanical hobby served him well. In the late 1940's he took the body of an old car and used the frame and power train to build a little "Jeep" styled truck runabout.

Bill and Eva both enjoyed music and in younger years spent many hours accompanying each other, Bill on the violin and Eva on guitar.

When the weather was bad and the roads were impassable, Bill made many emergency runs by track motor car to the Ste Rose hospital to deliver our local nurse along with a very sick patient. Somehow, he always managed to get there and back even though it was often in the middle of the night with a terrible blizzard raging — he never refused a plea for help.

Bill and Eva had a very minimal formal education; however, they believed that a good education was of the utmost importance. They sent their two oldest children, Michael and Mary, to private schools in Yorkton, Saskatchewan to complete their high school; whereas, the two younger ones Jean and Billy went to Winnipeg — Rorketon in those days did not have a collegiate department.

Michael, the oldest child, became a school teacher and in 1953 married Rose Ratushny (Roblin, also a school teacher); together, they had two children Beverley and Robert. Michael and Rose are now retired and living in Toronto, Ontario. Their daughter, Beverley, a senior executive for an international advertising firm, is married to Glynne Jenkins and presently lives in Toronto. Robert, a recent graduate in Forensic Psychiatry is now practising psychiatry in Toronto.

Mary became a school teacher and in 1950 married Adam Juce (Angusville, a school teacher and Principal in Rorketon, at the time of their marriage); together they had two boys, Brian and David. Mary and Adam are now retired and living in Dauphin. Their oldest son Brian is a lawyer and has his own firm in Brandon. Brian married Debbie Curtis (Minnedosa) and made a home with her and her two children Bart and Kelly in Brandon. David followed in his parents footsteps and is a teacher in Dauphin (Specialty - Computer Science); he married Dr Karen Bergner (Brandon) and they have two children Michael and Marian.

Jean started her working career as a secretary in Winnipeg; however, shortly thereafter, switched to teaching and in 1952 married Harry Chornoboy (Fork River, a school teacher, who later returned as Principal of Rorketon School). Jean and Harry had two boys, Harold and Douglas. Harold is a senior executive with the Bank of Montreal, in Winnipeg. Harold married Joanne Unrau (Souris, Joanne is also in banking) and they have two children, Scott and Reagan. Douglas is a senior executive with the investment firm Wood Gungy Inc. presently in Toronto. Douglas married Katherine Unrau (Austin, Katherine is an information systems consultant) and they have two children Nicholas and Morgan.

The caboose, Billy, became an accountant and broke the chain of school teachers; however, in 1961 he married Gloria Pich (Moose Bay) and you guessed it, a school teacher. Bill and Gloria both took early retirement and are living in Winnipeg.

Bill retired from the railway in 1969, at the age of 65. He and Eva continued to live in Rorketon until 1971; then, because of Eva's failing health, decided to move to Dauphin, where they built themselves a new retirement home. They enjoyed their



Bill Rehanuk & Joe Wizniak

new neighbours; especially all those people who were past acquaintances and now retired and living in the same community. Bill took on new duties in the Dauphin Ukrainian Catholic Church and Eva especially enjoyed singing in the Ukrainian Catholic Church Choir. The Dauphin Ukrainian Festival was another enjoyable festivity and while they could, volunteered their services.

Eva passed away in November, 1987, and Bill in October, 1989. Although they are gone, we, their children, still love them and have fond memories of our Mom and Dad.

Family History Of Steve And Annie Rehaluk

Steve was born February 4, 1916, the sixth child of Michael and Amelia Rehaluk of Preeceville, Saskatchewan. In 1906, his parents immigrated to Canada and settled on a homestead. Slowly, the land was cleared. The fertile soil produced good crops. However, early frosts destroyed the grain year after year. Often there was nothing to harvest. So Steve's father walked to Manitoba where he worked for some well established farmers.

In 1918, land was purchased in Manitoba and the family moved to the East Bay area (R.M. of Lawrence) where Steve attended Blue Bell School. A few years later, grain prices fell and farmers were unable to pay their debts.

In 1923, the Rehaluk family moved to the Rhodes District (ten miles west of Ethelbert). At the age of sixteen, Steve went to work for the farmers during the harvest season. In 1934, he moved to The Pas where he delivered milk for different dairies.

Many of Steve's friends were moving to Ontario where jobs were more plentiful. So in 1937 Steve and a group of friends set out for Sudbury, Ontario. He was hired by International Nickel Company (INCO) and worked underground at Levack (situated thirty miles from Sudbury). He worked there for the next ten years.

Annie was born December 8, 1920, to Annie and Wes Coulson of Sandy Lake, Manitoba. She grew up on the family farm which was located near this community. In 1940, Annie moved to Sudbury, Ontario where she was employed as a waitress with Crawley McCracken Hotels.

Steve and Annie met in Sudbury in 1940. On September 25, 1941, they were married in the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Sudbury. They lived in Levack for the next few years. The most important thing is that they received their pay cheques every month. Both of their sons were born at St. Joseph's Hospital in Sudbury. David was born

January 5, 1945, and John was born September 8, 1946.

In 1947, Steve quit his job at the mine. Annie and Steve moved to Rorketon where they owned and operated a hardware store for the next twenty years. Their sons graduated from the Rorketon Collegiate. David attended Brandon University and the University of Manitoba.

In 1965, John moved to Prince Rupert, British Columbia. While employed with Columbia Cellulose Company, he completed his electrical apprenticeship and became a qualified journeyman electrician. He was employed with this company for fourteen years.

In 1967, David moved to Prince Rupert where he was employed with Columbia Cellulose. He was an active member of Local 4 of the Pulp, Paper, and Woodworkers of Canada. He was a member of the steering committee that established the Watson Island Hockey League. David also coached teams in minor hockey and minor baseball.

In 1967, Steve and Annie sold their store to Bill Parker. In March of the following year, they moved to Prince Rupert. A few months later, they purchased a home. On May 1, 1968, Steve commenced employment with the BC Liquor Control Board at the Prince Rupert liquor store. He worked there for the next thirteen years.

In 1975, David quit his job at Columbia Cellulose and moved to Manitoba. He attended Assiniboine Community College in Brandon, and in 1976 he graduated with a Certificate in Social Services. For the next four years, he was employed by Assiniboine Community College as an Adult Education Instructor in the following communities: Camperville, Roblin, McCreary and Swan River. In 1980, David moved to Dauphin and commenced employment as a counsellor and Life Skills Coach with Parkland Human Resources Opportunity Centre.

In 1979, John terminated his job with Columbia Cellulose and moved to Vancouver. He began working as an electrician for Pacific Vocational Institute until it merged with British Columbia Institute of Technology in 1985. He resides in Delta (south of Vancouver) and continues to work as an electrical foreperson with B.C.I.T. John has a strong interest in old cars and trucks. During Expo '86 in Vancouver, he had a customized car on display in the Land Plaza. In 1987, one of his cars appeared on a television commercial for Esso Protec oil. He has used his vehicles for promotional work with various companies.

In 1981, Steve retired and they moved to Delta,



Annie, Steve, & John Rehaluk

British Columbia. The year 1991 saw the celebration of two special events: David's marriage to Wladzia Zdulska in Dauphin on August 10 and Steve and Annie's 50th wedding anniversary on September 25. In 1995, Steve and Annie were blessed with a grandson, Paul Steven, who was born to David and Wladzia on March 2. Proud maternal



Wladzia, David, & Paul Rehaluk

grandparents are Bronislaw and Janina Zdulski of Jakubowo, Poland. Paul Steven was baptized in Delta on July 16. The godparents were John Rehaluk of Delta and Theresa Disney of Coquitlam, British Columbia.

David and Wladzia reside in Dauphin. He is employed by Brandon University as the First Year by Distance Education (FYDE) Coordinator for Inter-Universities North. Wladzia is self-employed as a caregiver.

Dan and Anne Rehaluk

Dan, son of Micheal and Amelia Rehaluk, was born May 5, 1912 at Preeceville, Saskatchewan. Dan's parents emigrated to Canada from western Ukraine, Selo Hryhoriw in 1906 and settled at Preeceville, Saskatchewan.

In 1919 the family moved to East Bay. Dan began his schooling at Blue Bell school.

In 1923 the family moved to Ethelbert. Dan continued his schooling at Rhodes school. During the years 1927 - 1935, Dan worked at different jobs, carpentry being his favourite and he also did some painting.

In 1936 he left for Ontario where he obtained a job. He was hired by International Nickel Company in Sudbury, Ontario.

In June 1936, he married Annie Huculak, daughter of Mick and Melenia Huculak of Rorketon.



Dan & Anne Rehaluk



Larry Rehaluk and family

In October 1937, Dan and Annie returned to Rorketon. On December 1, 1937, they opened up a general store. In 1981 they went strictly to dry goods, footwear, mens' and ladies' clothing, small wares, cosmetics, etc.

On October 9, 1981 Dan and Annie closed the store, which they operated for forty-four years.

A son was born to Dan and Annie on January 29, 1953. Larry attended Rorketon School until he graduated. In 1971 he attended University of Manitoba and graduated in 1975 with a degree in Science of Engineering. In 1975 he was hired by Manitoba Telephone System. On June 27, 1980 he married Kathleen Pickard. They have three children and reside in Winnipeg.

Dan was on Town council, on the fire brigade, municipal assessor during Maurice Chornoboy's administration, served on the Credit Union board and was a member of the Chamber of Commerce.

In 1949 Dan drew a plan for the R.C. church in Rorketon and was on the building committee. Dan and Anne still sing in the church since 1949. Dan liked carpentry and he made all his own fixtures for the store. He still continues to work with wood.

Charles and Eliza Richardson

Charles William Richardson was born in 1878 near Sheffield, England. In the late 1800's he came to South Central Manitoba, where he worked for a



Mr. & Mrs. Charles Richardson

farmer until he started his own farm north of Brandon.

Eliza Bernice Johnstone was born in 1885 and came to Canada from Aberdeenshire, Scotland in 1913. She was employed by a doctor and his wife in their home at Rapid City, Manitoba, until she met and married Charles Richardson in 1915.

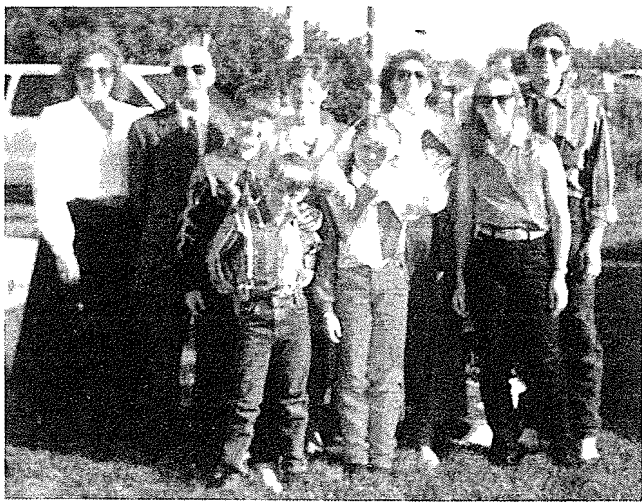
In 1925, a son Earle, was born.

In 1928, they moved to Rorketon and farmed there for 22 years. They retired in Rapid City where Eliza passed away in 1950. Charles then returned to Rorketon.

Earle Richardson married Shirley McKinnon in 1951 and moved to Sherridon. In 1953, Earle and



Earl & Mother Elizabeth Richardson



Richardson Family '94

his family moved to Lynn Lake where he was employed at Sherritt Gordon Mines.

In 1956, a son, Brian, was born.

In 1957, a daughter, Audrey, was born.

In 1959 the family moved to Dauphin, Man.

In 1962 Charles, (Grandpa) passed away at Rorketon.

In 1964, Earle and his family moved to Winnipeg, Man., where Earle was employed with the Winnipeg Hydro until he retired in 1989.

Donna, the oldest daughter, married Gordon Baldwin in 1981. They have a daughter, Kelsey, born in 1984.

Brian married Judy McMunn in 1980 in Winnipeg and they have two sons, Bradley, born in 1983, and Ryan, born in 1985.

Donna and Brian and their families still reside in Calgary, Alberta.

Audrey is living in Arrowwood, Alberta, a small farming community about 100 km south of Calgary.

After his retirement from Winnipeg Hydro, Earle and Shirley moved to Arrowwood, Alberta where they are currently residing, with their new puppy, Lady.

History of the Robbins Family

The Robbins family begins in Canada with Joshua, born 1797, and his wife Elizabeth Shaw, who was also born in Canada. William Henry, grandson of Joshua, was born March 26, 1857. His brothers Saul, Samuel, and Stuart were born around the Bancroft and district in Ontario. The only sister was Lucinda (half sister) who married Levi Wannamaker and lived near Sterling, Ontario. William Henry married Matilda Loney on December 20, 1881, daughter of Sam Loney and Sarah Loney who were born in Ireland.

William Henry and Matilda moved to north of Bellville in the very early 1900's. They were not able to make the payments on this property so they moved to Sterling. William worked in the winter cutting logs.

In 1907 or 1908 he went west to help with the harvest. It cost ten dollars return to go anywhere in the west. Then the following summer he returned west and rented a three quarter section of land in Ninette. The family moved in early spring.

In 1913 they bought a quarter of land near Belmont. In the early winter of 1915-1916, their home burned. They were left with just the clothes we were wearing. In 1919 they were burned out again. They decided to move on.

In 1920, they homesteaded near Crane River. In 1929, they moved to Rorketon. William Henry was a very staunch Orangeman. He was justice of the peace for several years. William died in February 1941. Matilda, passed on in 1953. Both are buried in Ridgeway cemetery.

William Henry and Matilda had the following children:

William Samuel, born March 22, 1883, died May 15, 1883.

Sarah Ann, was born February 22, 1884. She married Peter Story on December 21, 1904. They had one adopted daughter, Fay. She died in the spring of 1968.

Elizabeth Jane was born September 3, 1887. She married Charles Bennett around 1908. They had two children Grace and Gertie. Gertie, a polio victim died young. Grace married Dick Copeland. They had two girls. Jane remarried and had a daughter Agnes who married Phil Shewchuk and have two sons. Jane died October 12, 1939.

Martha Lucinda, was born August 14, 1889. She married Jack Day. They had a son William who died from effects of war service in the late 40's. Daughter, Mary, married John Gibson. She died in March 1974.

Alma Albertha was born August 1, 1891, died May 3, 1892.

Beatrice Pearl was born April 14, 1893. She married Arthur McDavitt on September 17, 1912. They had three children, Pat, Ella married Bates, and Jean who married Hamilton. Beatrice died 1971.

Albert was born December 19, 1895, died 1940.

William Allen was born June 15, 1898, died October 13, 1983. (See William Allan and Alice (Cluff) Robbins)

Mary Matilda, was born December 1, 1900. She

married Jim Moxley in 1945. She remarried Earl Stern.

Alma Albertha, was born October 3, 1902. She married Gerald Bond, and had one son, Richard.

Hector Burl was born November 16, 1904, and died February 3, 1993. (See Hector Burl and Jane (Yeo) History)

William Allen and Alice (Cluff) Robbins

William Allen married Alice on June 18, 1922. William A. moved to Ninette with his parents in 1910. In January 1916, he enlisted with the 108th Battalion, where he saw my first airplane. He was sent overseas in 1916, on the Olympic, Sister ship to the Titanic.

He arrived in England, transferred to the artillery then across to France eventually landing up with the seventeenth battery, seeing action near Vimy Ridge. Then onto Belgium where he was gassed. He was then onto the Chambray Battle where he was severely gassed. He was recuperating on Armistice day.

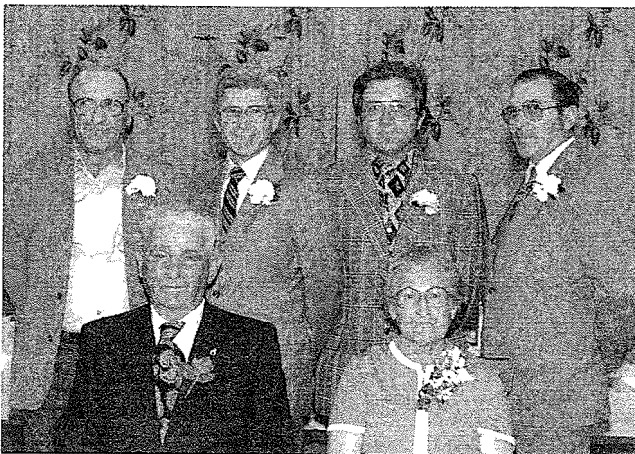
He returned to his parents' farm in 1920. In the summer of 1921 he met Alice Cluff in Killarney. They were married in Ninette on June 18, 1922.

Both he and Alice were very active in the community. He was president of the Red Cross and Chamber of Commerce. He was secretary-treasurer for our Legion Branch, number 87 for twenty-one years and had a lifetime membership. He was appointed by the P.A.O.C. conference of Toronto as Pastor, and held services province wide.

Alice was president of the Ladies Aid of the United Church for twenty-five years. Church services were held in their house. William Allen passed away on October 13, 1983.

Born to them were four sons:

William Harold, their first son, was born in



B: Bill , George, David & Samuel F: William A. & Alice M.

Crane River on March 22, 1923 and moved to Rorketon in 1928 where he lived with his grandparents until they moved to Freedale in 1937. In 1939 he joined the Princess Pats. January 5, 1939 he went overseas and landed in England in the early spring, then went to Sicily, and onto Italy. He was wounded and was sent back to Sicily for six months, convalescing. Then back to England where he married Esther King on July 31, 1943. In 1943, he was shipped to the front line. He returned to Europe in the spring of 1945 to Core Headquarters sorting out SS troops from regular German army. He returned to Rorketon in August 1945 and was discharged in late October.



Esther (King) Robbins and father William M. King

Esther (King) Robbins was born November 22, 1913 in the city of Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, England. She came to Canada in 1946.

In Rorketon, William operated a trucking business until 1960. He then went into the road construction business.

One son was born to William A. and Esther. Edward Keith was born December 28, 1946. He lived in Rorketon until June 1971 where completed his education in Rorketon. He married Elsie Korotash on September 23, 1967. They have one daughter, Tina Marie born January 31, 1971. They have two grandchildren, Harley and Jessie Antonyshyn.

While in Rorketon he worked with his father in the road construction business until June of 1971 when he moved to The Pas and joined the Department of Highways. He then was transferred to Melita in 1979 and again to Winnipeg in 1980 where he still resides.

William and Esther adopted a little girl, Diane, born January 21, 1952 in Winnipeg. She lived in Rorketon until 1970. After high school, she moved to Winnipeg and completed a business course. She



Ed, Elsie, & Tina Robbins

was hired by Manitoba Telephone System, where she worked until 1981. She married Metro Chudobiak, of Gilbert Plains, on October 11, 1975. They lived in Gilbert Plains where they owned and operated the Gilbert Plains Hotel until 1984. They moved back to Winnipeg and now reside in Headingly. She is currently employed with The Manitoba Telephone System. They have one daughter, Candace.

W.A. Robbins was one of the first council member for the United Church, followed by W.H. Robbins.

Esther was very active in the United Church where she played the organ from 1947 to 1970. She organized Sunday school, taught piano lessons and became Queen of the International Flying Farmers.

Her father (William M. King) served in the first world war with the Queens Royal Rifles. In 1917 he was wounded in France and was sent back to England where he spent ten months in the hospital and then was discharged from the army. He followed Esther to Rorketon in 1952 and lived there until his death in 1956. He is buried in the Ridgeway cemetery.

George Allen, second son of William A. and Alice, married Nora Maughan on June 21, 1952. Born to them were Donna Jean on May 31, 1955 who married James Burkholder on June 21, 1975.



Samuel & Beryl Robbins family: Susan, Cheryl, Marilyn, & Sheila

David Allen was born June 1, 1958, and Darlene was born on May 31, 1961.

Samuel Frederick, third son to William A. and Alice, was born June 15, 1933. He married Beryl Jackman on July 21, 1962. They have four daughters: Sheila Marie born July 21, 1963. Marilyn Louise born November 17, 1965. Cheryl Ann born July 28, 1968, and Susan Loraine born May 11, 1971.

Robert David, last son of William A. and Alice, born March 21, 1943. He married Cathy Gibson on July 8, 1967. They have one daughter, Rachelle Diana born May 6, 1971.

Rorke Family

In 1908 Mr. Rorke came from Kentin, Ontario, to Winnipeg. In 1910 he settled on a piece of land, 13-28-16. They had three children Harold, Bert and Joy. After a year Mr. Rorke could not support his family on that homestead so in 1911 he went back to Kentin, Ontario to work. Mrs. Rorke and Bert the eldest of the family took over the farm while Mr. Rorke was gone, because it was an arrangement



George & Emma Rorke with daughter Joy



Russell, Joy (Rorke) Begg

with the government that if you did not homestead, the government took the land back. He bought the store and managed the post office. The store burnt in 1935. He then built a small post office. He was the postmaster until his passing February 17, 1938 at the age of 74. Joy, his daughter, took over the post office. Mrs. Emma Eliza Rorke passed away at the age of 81 on February 28, 1948.

Harold and Girtie had three children, Ted, Patricia and Jack. Harold passed away at an early age, Ted and Patricia both passed away.

Joy was born November 15, 1909 in Winnipeg, Manitoba. In 1910 the family moved where they homesteaded. Joy received her education at Freedale school and completed her high school at the convent in Ste. Rose du Lac, Manitoba. After attending normal school, she taught school at Freedale, Million and Cecil until 1937. She then became the postmistress at Rorketon, a position she held until she retired in 1969. On August 18, 1943, Joy married Russell Begg in Rivers, Manitoba. They resided in Rorketon until 1988 when they moved to Dauphin, Manitoba. They had no children.

Bert was married and they had two daughters, Katherine and Barbara. Bert died in 1984. They were an important part of Rorketon as the town was named after the Rorkes. Mr. Rorke was a councillor for many years.

John Saari

John Saari emigrated from Finland to the U.S.A. in 1898 and landed in New York, from where he was sent to a mining town in Colorado to work on a job there. From there he went to Hibbing, Minnesota where he met Mary Mattson and married her in 1905. Three sons Eli, Walter and John were born.

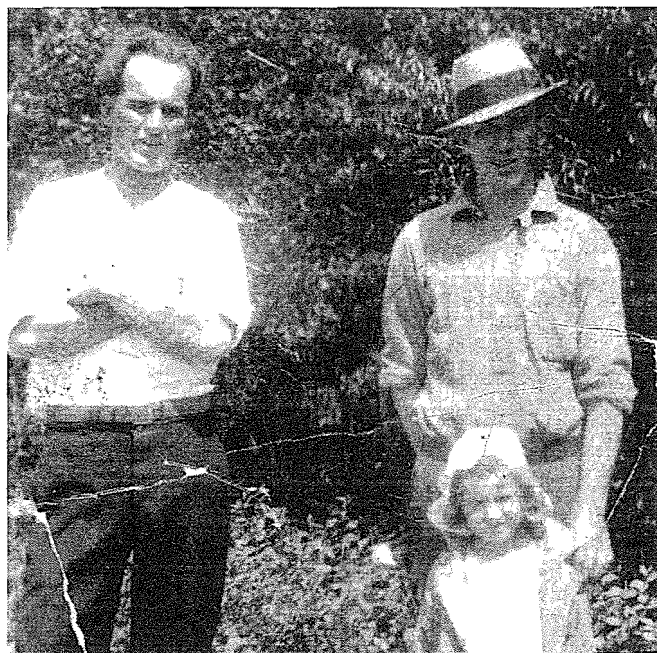
In 1912 he moved to Belden, North Dakota where he bought a farm. He farmed there for six



John & Mary Saari, Wedding Day

years during which time two more children were born, Winnie and Elva.

In 1919 he moved again, this time to Rorketon and bought a quarter of land called a homestead between Rorketon and Toutes Aides. A homestead cost ten dollars. He hauled logs from Twin Islands on Lake Manitoba for their house. In the mean time his family lived in a house in the Cecil school district, called the company house, because other families lived in the same house while waiting for their home to be built.



Walter & Eli Saari & niece Betty

In 1921 John moved his family to his new home.

In winter he took off for Ontario and made ties for the railroad for more income. The oldest son John was left to care for the five cows.

Then in 1922-23 the railroad was built to Rorketon.

Now in 1924 another son, Willie, was born. John did not go to Ontario anymore. He bought nets and started fishing in winter.

In 1927 another son was born but he lived for only 6 months. He is buried on the farm where he was born.



Elva & Winnie with Winnie's daughter Betty

Winnie was the first to marry and became Mrs. Frank Papuga. They had two children, Lawrence and Betty. They farmed for a while, then ran a store in Rorketon, and retired in Dauphin, where Winnie passed away in 1991, and Frank in 1996.

Walter had land on the east shore of Lake Manitoba. He raised cattle and fished during the winter. He was married and had six children. Eli married and had three boys. John, who lived in Seattle, Washington was also married but had no children. Elva married Victor Chejionis of Waboden, Manitoba, a railroad man, and they had two boys. Both Elva and Victor passed away. Only Willie remains, of the brothers and sisters.

Mother, Mary, had a stroke in 1948 and died the same year. Willie stayed on the farm with his father who passed away in 1962 at the age of 85. Willie remained in the farm until 1975 when he moved to Mandan, North Dakota, where he married and lived for the next seven years. In 1985 he moved to Dauphin with his wife, who died four years later. Willie still lives in Dauphin.

Harry Schurko

Harry was born in 1911 to Anton and Theodosia Schurko in Sifton. Anton was born in 1862 and died in 1932, and Theodosia (Lytwyn), was born in 1868



Theodosia Schurko

and died in 1958. They came to Canada in 1907 from Poland, settled in Sifton and farmed there until 1921, when they moved to Moose Bay. They opened fifteen and twenty acres of land by hand on the SW 34-27-17 and farmed and fished.

Harry was the youngest of a family of five. Mike and Effie were twins born in 1901. Anne was born in 1909 and Andrew, year unknown.

Andrew died at the age of twelve when he shot himself in the leg and bled to death before they could get him to the hospital by train.

Mike moved to Chicago, married Nora and had a son Rudolf. He was a bus driver all his life. He died in the 1980's.

Effie's children were Mary, John, Victoria, and Tony Iwanchysko. She was a cook in Sioux lookout and died in 1973.

Anne's children were Dan and Olga Iwanchysko.

Harry went to school until Grade five in Sifton and then had to help on the farm in Moose Bay. He was a very good mechanic. He worked for Alex Iwanchysko as a machinist for his threshing machine which did custom work for the Moose Bay and Weiden farmers. He also drove the tractor and breaking plow, breaking new land around the area. In the winter time, he fished and worked for Tony Biletski at his sawmill. From 1944 to 1947 he lived between Alex Iwanchysko's in Rorketon and the

farm. One winter he went out cutting pulp in Ontario.

In 1947, he sold the farm to Pete Hrushowy, bought a 1939 car from Andrew Ruskin and built his house in Rorketon. He married Annie Biletski in 1947 and they had six children. He worked on a cat for John Biletski and the tow grader for the R.M. Summers were spent at Lynn Lake with the Moons Brothers on graders and cats. He won a 1954, 2 ton green Ford Custom truck.

Harry and Annie were members of the Ukrainian Greek Orthodox Church. Harry was caretaker for the church for a few years and Annie always helped and was especially good at being the main cook.

In 1963, Harry was working with Bill Robbins Sr. on construction of the Red River Floodway, southeast of Transcona. Harry died of a massive heart attack at the age of 52. He is buried beside his wife Annie at the Moose Bay Cemetery.

Annie (Biletski) Schurko

Annie was born on January 3, 1919 to Micheal and Martha (Pich) Biletski.

Annie's father, Micheal, was born in Sokol, Austria, in 1895. At seven years of age, he came to Canada with his parents, Thomas and Dora (Gorski) Biletski. They settled in the Million area by Harry Chuipka's homestead.

They had a family of nine children, 7 sons, Harry, Micheal, Peter, Bill, Martin, Tony, and John, and two daughters, Mary (Karpluk) and Sara (Zondlo).

Annie's mother, Martha (Pich), was born in 1898 or 1899, on the ship to Canada. Along with her parents, Peter and Polly (Machiuk) Pich, was Grandfather George Pich who came from the western Ukraine. They settled in the Oak Brae area for a short time, then they moved to their homestead in the Moose Bay area. While their house was being built, they stayed with Thomas Biletski.

They had a family of nine children, Melania (Huculak), Mary (Boyechko), Martha (Biletski), Alice (Sklar/Gardovich), John, Nick, and another son who died at a young age.

Micheal and Martha were married in 1919. They bought a homestead (SW 35-27-17) in Moose Bay. They had a mixed farming operation. They sawed logs for lumber to build barns and other buildings. They also fished on Lake Dauphin.

They had 7 children: three daughters, Mary (John Kandia), Annie (Harry Schurko), and Verna (Nick Holowich), and four sons, Andrew (Nellie

Rosmanovich), John (Doris Dionne), Fred (Violet Bilinski/Holowachuk) and Donald (Phyllis Milton).

Andrew enlisted in the army in World War II.

Martha died in 1944 from diphtheria.

Mike married again in 1950 to Kataryna, a mail order bride. They retired to Rorketon in approximately 1967.



Mike & Kataryna Biletski

Mike died in 1969 and is buried in Moose Bay Cemetery.

Katie then moved to Sudbury to live near Annie Lesik, her daughter from her previous marriage. Katie died in Sudbury in 1992.

Annie went to Moose Bay School to grade 5 or 6.

On October 10, 1947, Annie married Harry Schurko. They lived in Moose Bay for a short time before moving to Rorketon.

She enjoyed sewing, knitting, crocheting, going to dances and bingos and card parties. She was an avid listener to Ukrainian and Country Music Broadcasts on the radio and collected many songs. She was the head cook for weddings, etc. for many years. Harry and Annie were members of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church.

Harry passed away in September of 1963 while working on the Winnipeg Floodway.

Annie continued to raise their family of 6 young children on her own, and she was one of the original members of the Rorketon Drop-in-Centre.

Annie suffered a stroke on October 7, 1979, and lost the use of her right arm. While she was in rehabilitation in the hospital, she finally found the time to draw and paint pictures.

She lived for a short time in one of the seniors' homes until her leg had to be amputated. She then resided at the Gendreau Personal Care Home at Ste. Rose until the time of her death on July 19, 1985.

Harry and Annie are buried in the Moose Bay Cemetery.

They had a family of six children, Donald (Denise Fortin), Joyce (Charles Claeys), David (Linda Sraybash), Fred, Micheal, and Gordon.

Joyce (Schurko) Claeys

Joyce married Charles Claeys, son of George and Theresa Claeys, on May 26, 1973. They reside on a farm in the East Bay area and have a grain farm operation.

They have three children; Stephanie, Marlene, and Patricia.

Donald and Denise Fortin Schurko

Donald, is the eldest son of Harry and Annie Schurko. When Donald was 13 years old, he went by train to Lynn Lake to work with his dad during the summer holidays.

He was only 15 years old when his father passed away, and being the oldest, he had a lot of responsibilities helping his mom with the younger children. He would do odd jobs for people and would often help at the transfer yards after school and on Saturdays and during summer holidays. In 1968, he started driving a semi truck for Nick Skakivitch, and later for Adelard Lamy, until June 1973.

In 1971, he married Denise Fortin, daughter of Gabriel and Eva Fortin formerly of Toutes Aides. Denise attended Toutes Aides School up to grade six, and for grades 7 and 8, she went to Micawber School, as by that time, they were already closing the smaller schools. Grades 9-12 were in Rorketon School. She completed grade 12 in June 1970, and immediately began working at the Credit Union with Joe Panagapka. She continued to work until 1973, when she quit working for a couple of years while their children were babies. She went back to work for the Credit Union in November 1976.

In June 1973, Donald started working for the Department of Highways, where he is still employed.

He has just completed 20 years as a volunteer fire fighter. For many years, he was the caretaker and ice maker of the Rorketon Skating Rink. He is a third degree member of the Knights of Columbus.

Donald and Denise are active members of the St. Anthony's Roman Catholic Church.

They have three children, Dianne born on July 25, 1972, Daniel born on August 17, 1974, and

Dawn born on July 11, 1976. All three of the children have graduated from Rorketon High School and have since ventured out into the world.

David Schurko

David married Linda Sraybash, daughter of William and Anne Sraybash, on March 7, 1976.

David drove transfer for Rorketon, Winnipegosis, and Gardewine. Linda worked in the Personal Care Home which her parents operated. They presently have a cattle ranching operation.

They have four children, Connie, Leslie, Jody, and Tracy.

Fred Schurko

Fred has travelled around to various job locations such as Toronto, Sherridon, Fort St. John, and Yukon Territories. He is now running his own welding repair shop in Rorketon

Michael Schurko

Micheal worked for Nick R. Biletski for many years. He has been in Toronto since 1988, where he does the mechanical repairs for a construction company

As a hobby, he rebuilds old cars and trucks.

Gordon Schurko

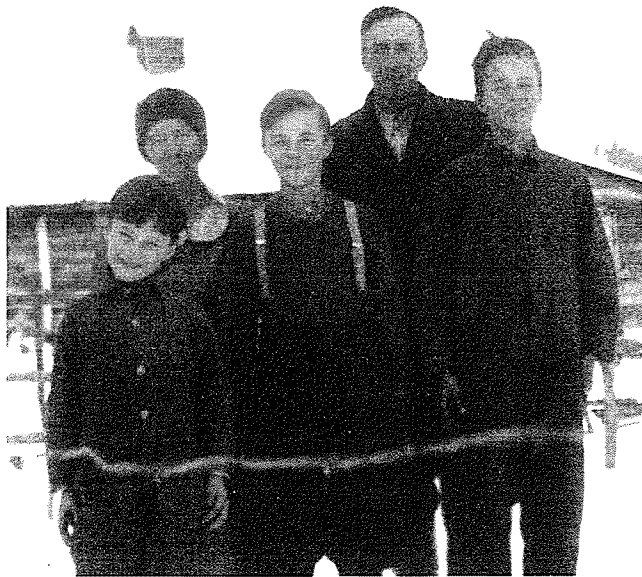
Gordon worked for the R.M. of Lawrence for several years, then he went to Toronto to work with Micheal. From there he moved to Taylor, British Columbia, where he worked for a water hauling company. He currently resides in Williams Lake, British Columbia, where he has started his own street cleaning business.

The Scutt Family

Charles Scutt was born in Birmingham, England on June 27, 1890. He went to school there, and came to Canada in 1910. He worked on a farm in Reston. In 1914 he enlisted in the army in the Fifth Brigade of the Horse Artillery. When he was discharged in 1919, he returned to farm at Reston.

Mary Siefert was born at Langenburg, Saskatchewan in 1891. She went to school there. She worked in a hotel in Altona for seven years before moving to Rorketon with her family about 1915. In 1922, she met and married Charles Scutt. Also in 1922 they got their homestead in the Toutes Aides district. It was the Southeast quarter of section three, township 30, range 15. They paid \$10.00 for it.

They later moved to the Makinak district. Fred was born there. The winter of 1923-1924 they



Mr. & Mrs. Charlie Scutt, with sons Fred, Frank and Nelson.

stayed on a farm near Ste. Rose. In 1924 they returned to the homestead in Toutes Aides. Frank had been born that winter. In 1928, the family moved to the Cecil district. Nelson was born there in November.

The Scutt boys all attended the Cecil School. Frank now lives in Calgary; Nelson lives in Kenora, Ontario; and Fred lives in Rorketon.

Sister Patricia

Sister Patricia dedicated her life to God and to her fellow man; without regretting a moment of it.

Sister Patricia was a member of the Franciscan Third Order and began her life of dedication in Winnipeg where she was boarding in the Franciscan convent, attending to her ailing mother.

Sister Patricia moved on from Winnipeg to Regina to look for work and while there she heard of Berens River requiring a teacher. She therefore moved to Berens River where she taught and cared for the sick for four years.

After Berens River Sister Patricia moved on to Bloodvein River for four years. It was here that she encountered a life that was previously totally unknown to her. There were no phones, no boats or planes and whenever she wanted to leave the community she had to row 14 miles to Mathesson Island where she went aboard a larger boat, the Wolverine. Priests would make visits to the community once or twice a year but other than that she was all alone to teach the children, tend to the ill and elderly as well as to bury people. In those days people died either from old age, T.B. or pneumonia.

It was at this time that Sister Patricia took her

vows to God, pledging that she would be a Sister forever, and came under the direct charge of the Archbishop.

In August, 1929, Sister Patricia moved up to Skownan. "They were the loveliest people I ever saw ... just wonderful!"

In her class at Skownan were 45 enthusiastic pupils. Sister Patricia found that the books they were using were all out of date and the students had been reading the same book for six years! She immediately set to work and ordered more books. They arrived in the winter via dog sled - the only way people travelled at that time - and the children were so excited they pleaded with her to allow them to take the books home. She agreed, on the condition that they must be returned in excellent condition. The books were returned the next day without a mark on them!

In Skownan at that time there were no roads and Sister Patricia used to travel from Skownan to Rorketon via horse and wagon. There was no liquor - there were no white men - and everyone was in bed by 9:00 pm! Also - everyone attended church in those days.

Sister Patricia left Skownan after 17 years of hard work and moved to British Columbia where she worked for three years in the reserves there, and then came back to Skownan for 8 years.

Due to meningitis she was forced to retire. When she first moved to Rorketon some of her ex-school boys built her first home. Unfortunately it was burnt down.

Sister Patricia was very happy with her life and wouldn't have been anything else. She loved the natives and their peaceful way of life and was lonesome for them.

Skakivitch, Nick and Sonja

Nick married Sonja Ferchak on July 13, 1946. They spent their early married years in Winnipeg where their children were born: Linda Susan on June 8, 1950, and Barry Nicholas on September 5, 1952.

In July 1958, they moved to Ste. Rose where they were part owner of the Ste. Rose Transfer. In March of 1963, they sold their share of this business and purchased the Rorketon Transfer which they operated until March of 1970. Nick then became employed with the Department of Northern Affairs until his retirement in May 1986. Sonja was employed by Hanchar's Grocery from September 1975 until December 31, 1977. After his retirement, Nick did a lot of volunteer work at the Rorketon Drop-in Centre until September 26, 1992, when he

and Sonja moved to Dauphin where they are presently residing.

On June 21, 1969, Linda married Mike Kachur, (see Mike and Victoria Katchur). Their children are Cheryl Lynn, born October 2, 1969, and Richard Barry, born December 8, 1972.

Barry Nicholas died accidentally on July 10, 1969.

Sklar - Pich - Gardovich

Roman Sklar was the son of Mike and Olyanka Sklar (Bulbak). He was born in 1898 in the Ukraine. As a young man, he joined the army, then emigrated to Canada in the early 1920's.

Peter and Polly Pich (Machiuk) emigrated from Austria and homesteaded in the Moose Bay farming district, where in 1904, their daughter Alice was born.

Roman Sklar and Alice Pich were united in marriage in 1922. After several years on the Pich farm, they moved to Waboden, where Roman worked as a section foreman on the Hudson Bay Railway. They saved enough money to buy a general store in Rorketon. They had a family of three daughters, Dora, Jenny, and Elaine.

While Alice managed the store, Roman went away to work at the mines in Fort William, Ontario. There he died accidentally in 1942.

After a couple of years, Alice met Ignace Gardovich. He was born in 1900 in the Ukraine. He emigrated to Canada in 1929, settling in Welland,



Wedding of Roman Sklar and Alice Pich: Bill Boyetchko, Martha Biletski, Mary Boyetchko, Katie Sklar, . Best man Martin Biletski, Grandpa, Mike Biletski, Polly Pich, Peter Pich, Grandpa, Mike Sklar.

Ontario, where he worked in a metals factory, Union Carbide Company. In 1944, he married Alice and with her family moved to Welland only to return to Rorketon two years later. They operated the general store for a few years, changing the business to a coffee shop called "The Silver Grill Cafe".

After a few years, the coffee shop closed down and Alice went away to work for CNR as a cook for the work crews. Ignace had already been working for the CNR for some years. Both worked until retirement.

Ignace Gardovich passed away in February, 1971. Alice passed away in May, 1988.

In May of 1946, Alice gave birth to their baby daughter, Eleanor.

Eleanor attended school in Rorketon and gradu-



Sklar Family Picture Grandma, Mrs. Sklar & Dora, Nick Pich ? and Peter Pich



Alice & Ignace Gardovich, 25th Wedding Anniversary

ated from here. On July 24, 1965, she was united in marriage to Alex Biletski of Rorketon, son of Anthony and Stella Biletski. In 1966, they made their home in Flin Flon where Alex taught school and Eleanor was the homemaker. In 1975, they decided to move to Calgary, continuing their careers. Now they are raising a family of two daughters, Amber and Burgundy. Recently, Eleanor decided to go to University and will be receiving her B.A. degree in April, 1996.

Dora Sklar was the first born to Roman and Alice. She was born at Moose Bay, in June 1927. She received her education in Rorketon and Welland. While living in Welland, she married Walter Sockovie. They moved to Rorketon where they managed a dry goods and clothing section of a general store for a couple of years. Later, they made their permanent residence in Welland where they raised their four sons. The eldest, Martin, a teacher, married Kathleen Talmadge. Their children are Christina, Kimberley, and Scott. Martin is now married to Betty Manson.

The second son, Wayne, a vice-principal, married Sharon Orr. They have one daughter, Andrea.

The third son, Randy, a customer's service representative for Stelko, married Barbara Oroz. They have two daughters, Emily and Elizabeth.

Kenneth, the fourth son, is single and lives in Welland. He works at Arc Industries.

Jean (Jenny) Sklar, the second daughter, was born in The Pas, in March 1935. She received her education in Rorketon and Welland. In 1953-54, she taught school in Horyn. She then married Roy Mullen, a farmer in the Fork River district. They

raised a family of three, Rodney, Blaine and Darlene.

After Roy passed away in 1976, Jean worked as a Nurse's Aide. In 1981, she was united in marriage to Stanley Masiowski and they reside in Dauphin.

Rodney, Laurie (Wilson), and sons, Robert, Matthew and daughter Michelle, farm at Sifton.

Farming at Fork River, are Blaine, Linda (Coffey), and children Sarah, Julie, Elizabeth, Micheal, and Daniel.

Darlene married Dennis Harry Dudar of Ethelbert, where they farm with their family of three, Dwight, Shawn, and Marsha.

Elaine, the third daughter. She worked for the Credit Union for fourteen years. (See Sulo and Jennie Huhtala) was born in Rorketon in July, 1940. She received her education in Rorketon. In August, 1956, Elaine married Edwin Huhtala, son of Sulo and Jennie Huhtala.

Mike and Irene Sliworski

Irene Dutchak was born in the Ukraine in 1906 to Prokop and Phyllis Dutchak. At the age of five, she emigrated to Canada with her parents who settled on the farm in the Rorketon district, NW 20-28-15W.

Mike Sliworski was born in 1903 to Frank and Mary Sliworski, a family of eleven.

In 1926, Mike married Irene Dutchak. After their marriage, the couple resided in Winnipegosis for many years, before returning to the Dutchak family farm in 1944.

Here they raised cattle, seeded grain, and milked cows. The children helped carry wood and water, among other numerous chores. The farm is still owned and operated by a family member.

Mike and Irene belonged to the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Rorketon.

They raised a family of four. Two sons and two daughters.

Their family:

Lawrence and wife Nell of Dauphin.

Peter and wife Helen of Burnaby, British Columbia.

Mary and husband John Smigelski of Brandon. Daughter Linda and husband Michael Teriaco of Winnipeg.

Ann and husband Roy Hill and children Bradley and Heather of Rorketon.

Mike passed away in March, 1985. Irene passed away in January, 1989.

Dmetro Smigelski Family

Dmetro (Matt) Smigelski was born in 1896 in Kamien, Ukraine, near the Carpathian Mountains. When he came to Canada in 1912 the Canadian Immigration department sent him to Langenburg, Saskatchewan, where he worked and farmed. In 1916 he obtained a homestead four and a half miles north east of Rorketon. In 1921 he married Mary Karlash who was born in Stuartburn, Manitoba, in 1903.

They had four sons, Mike, Wasyl (Bill), John and Joseph. The first three boys attended Edillen School. All four boys got their primary education at Vedenia. As there was no high school in the Rorketon area, Bill was sent to Ste. Rose where he completed his education.



Smigelski Family

Mike bought a quarter section of land, four miles south-east of Rorketon and began farming and ranching there. In 1946 he married Minnie Ziola. (See Ziola Family)

They had three daughters and three sons. Adeline and her husband, Orville Taylor, reside in The Pas. She works for a bank. They have two sons who work in Winnipeg. Peter and his wife, Teresa,



Mike & Minnie Smigelski and Family

took over the family farm and also own the original Ziola farm. They also ranch. They have one daughter and three sons. Joann and her husband, David Ilkew, live in Winnipeg. She is a resource teacher. They have three daughters. Sandra and her husband, Philip Gaudry, ranch at Meadow Portage. She is a clerk for the Meadow Portage Community Council. They have two daughters and one son. Maurice and his wife, Marilyn, ranch in The Pas. They have four daughters. Bernard and his wife, Brenda, live in The Pas where he operates an Autobody shop. They have one son and three daughters. Mike suddenly passed away in 1991, just shortly after moving to town.

John also purchased a quarter section of land which was originally owned by his grandfather, John Karlash. He married Mary Sliworsky in 1948 and farmed until 1957 at which time he moved to Brandon. He was employed as a welder at Brown Steele for thirty-six years. John and Mary had one daughter.

Bill married Olga Helash in 1952. Bill was employed by Acklands in Dauphin for 42 years. They had a daughter and a son.

Joe worked the farm that Matt and Mary Smigelski owned and when they moved to Rorketon in 1967, Joe took over the operation of the farm. He married Lena Zaleski in 1967. They had two sons and a daughter. Matt and Mary had a total of twelve grandchildren and twenty-seven great grandchildren.

Dmetro passed away in 1977 after a lengthy illness and Mary was called in 1987.

Sologuk

submitted by Granddaughter Sophie Cayer

Sophie Sologuk (Zabiaka), my grandmother, came to Canada in May of 1912 with her mother, one sister, Lena, two brothers, Nat and Nick, her grandfather and aunts and uncles.

Sophie left Fork River area to work in Swift Current. It was there she married Peter Sologuk. They moved to the Zabiaka farm before home-



Sologuk Family, Annie, John, Sophie, & Mike

steading in the North Lake district. They had four children Annie, John, Metro and Mike. In 1940 they sold their farm and moved to Rorketon where they bought a cafe and rooming house. There was a pump in the back of the kitchen for running water. There were big stoves in the kitchen.

Not too long after they bought the cafe, Babka Zabiaka came to live with them. They then bought a house in town from Pete Adams. Around the same time, uncle Matt and aunty Eva came and helped them look after the restaurant. Later Matt and Eva moved to Sudbury, Ontario. In the 1950's they sold the restaurant to Mr. and Mrs. Peter Shyiak.



Sophie & Peter Panagapko

Peter Sologuk passed away March 1, 1956. After many years of living alone, Sophie married and lived with Peter Panagapko until he passed on in 1973. She was a very hard worker and helped her daughter on the farm and looked after her own garden. Sophie did lots of community work and work for her church, until she fell and broke her hip. Because she was unable to walk she then lived in Dr. Gendreau Home in Ste. Rose Du Lac until her death on June 2, 1992. Her house was well known for the big veranda and the many beautiful flowers around her veranda. Sophie and Peter lay to rest in the Toutes Aids Ukrainian Catholic Cemetery.

Sologuk/Tanasichuk/Didychuk submitted by Sophie (Tanasichuk/Didychuk) Cayer

My mother, Annie Sologuk met my father, John Tanasichuk, a worker on the pipeline, in Lethbridge where Annie worked as a cook. In 1941 they were married in Calgary. They moved to Volcan, Alberta

where they had a daughter, Sophie, on November 18, 1942. In 1945 mom and I moved to Rorketon and lived with my gedo and baba Sologuk in their cafe.

It was in the restaurant where she met her second husband, John Didychuk. They got married on November 16, 1947 and moved to John's homestead. This is where they farmed and where they raised their children. John also worked for the CNR from 1955-1978 when he retired but still kept farming. I (Sophie) lived with John and Annie until I was 18 years old when I went to work in Winnipeg and lived with my uncle Mike and aunty Mabel. After living in Winnipeg for a year, I decided that I did not like it, so I moved to Dauphin. I met Narcisse Cayer in 1961.



Didychuk Family: B: Donnie, Valerie, Sophie F: John, Gary Annie

Annie and John had the first of three children Donnie, on July 25, 1948. Dad delivered Donnie himself at home.

My sister, Valerie, came along on October 22, 1952. Valerie was born during the winter fair in Brandon.

My brother Garry, came along on December 6, 1957.

We all worked on the farm. At one time we milked as many as twenty one cows and mom, dad and I milked them by hand. There were times when dad and mom had to go to Dauphin, so I milked them all by myself. It took me two hours to milk all the cows. Sometimes my hands would get so sore I would put the calves to a few, without my parents knowing, of course.

As I was growing up I remember we always had many people come and visit us. Nobody ever left

our house hungry or thirsty as dad always made sure your glass was well filled and mom always put out a big spread on the table. They were known to everyone as uncle John and auntie Annie. Dad contracted emphysema in his early years and suffered for many years from it. He passed away as he wanted to at home in his bed while he was sleeping, on February 8, 1993.

Annie still lives on the farm.

Donnie, their eldest son, received his education in Rorketon. He married Gail Katchur on September 11, 1971 in Rorketon. They moved to Calgary, where Donnie worked as a plumber until 1982. They had two children - Trevor born January 1, 1978 and Carrie born March 25, 1982. Donnie now resides in Rorketon with his mother on the farm.

Valerie, my little sister, also got her education in Rorketon. When she finished school she worked in Ninnette at the Sanitorium as a nurses' aide. She later moved to Dauphin and worked for home care where she met Donald Parthenay. They were married October 18, 1975 in Ste. Rose Du Lac. Valerie and Donald have two children - Aaron Elvis Donald born February 1, 1977 and Lisa Marie Ann born May 17, 1979. They reside in Ste. Rose Du Lac.

Garry, Annie and John's youngest, got his education in Rorketon too. He left home to work with my husband all over Manitoba for Royal Paving. He later worked with other construction companies until he bought his power cleaning operation in Brandon called Didyt Power Cleaning. He sold this company and moved back home to Rorketon to help with the family farm when dad got too sick to run the farm. He is now employed with the Manitoba Department of Highways and lives in Rorketon in his own home with Judi Chornawka.

Narcisse Arthur Cayer was born May 11, 1939 in Ste Rose du Lac. He was the fourth son of Jules Joseph and Marie Rose Cayer of Cayer, Manitoba. They ranched in Cayer until 1948 when they moved to Ste Rose du Lac where his father ran the water truck business until 1953. At that time they moved to Dauphin.

Narcisse left home to go to Winnipeg at the early age of 15 to work on construction and later attained employment with the City of Winnipeg. He received the balance of his education at Tec-Voc vocational school in Winnipeg. At the age of 17 he ventured up North working for the radar station in the Arctic Dew line, mid Canada line, and Thompson. In 1961 he moved back to Dauphin where he met Sophie and we were married in Dauphin July 28, 1962. At that time he was still working up North.

We lived in Dauphin and had three children; LeVern Jules Joseph, born November 16, 1962; Monique Ann Marie, born December 12, 1970, and Deon John Joseph, born December 29, 1972.

We lived in Calgary for five years and then moved back to Dauphin in 1968 when we lost our house in a fire. After that, Narcisse went back to Calgary and worked enough to pay for a gravel truck. He then started his own gravel business.

He hauled gravel and asphalt all over Manitoba until 1988 when we sold the trucks. In 1980 we bought what was known as Picks Cafe in Rorketon. We then changed the name to Cayers Coffee Shop. In 1984 we sold the cafe and boarding home and moved back to Dauphin. Narcisse went back to trucking but now he was, and still is, doing Highway hauling for Kleyson Transport.

On December 5, 1986 our eldest son, LeVern, was married to Kathryn Graham in Winnipeg. LeVern is now divorced and resides in Winnipeg with Donna K. Woods. We welcome her into our family. He is currently employed by Husky Oil as a District Manager and Donna is a realtor for Coldwell Banker Realty.

In May 1994 our youngest son, Deon, was married to Mickolene (Mickie) Czarnecki in Dauphin. Deon drives a truck for Strilkiwski Trucking in Snowlake. Our happiest and most memorable day is August 31, 1994 when our granddaughter Nichole Raelene, was born to Mickie and Deon who still reside in Dauphin. Our granddaughter is the apple of our eyes. Mickie is a homemaker and works at Star Time in Dauphin.

Our daughter Monique resides in Dauphin and has a summer home at Manipogo Beach. She followed in her father's footsteps and is working with him for Kleyson Transport as a long distance truck driver driving coast-to-coast.

Ourselves, we are presently planning to move back to the Rorketon area. We bought a cottage at Manipogo Beach for retirement and plan to reside there. At least that's the plan to-date but, you never know what the future will hold.

The Children of Peter and Sophie Sologuk

Annie, born October 26, 1919, married John Tanasichuk and had a daughter, Sophie Nellie. She married John Didychuk, November 16, 1947 and they had three children Donnie, Valerie and Garry.

John, born July 7, 1921, married Lea (Reboul) had three children Richard, Brian and Terry. Lea, Brian and Terry live in Sudbury. John and Richard have passed away.

Metro, born August 8, 1924, married Eva

Didychuk had two children Larry and Jo Ann. He later married Elsie Charboneau. He passed away on May 16, 1968. Larry, Jo Ann and Eva reside in Osoyoos, British Columbia.

Michael (Mike), born November 11, 1936 married Mabel Hatt had three children, Teddy, Debrah-Anne, Jerome Rumford. They all reside in Nova Scotia.

Dan & Lena Sraybash

Dan Sraybash, born in 1893 in the Ukraine, emigrated to Canada in 1911. Lena Sraybash (Roznowski), born in 1903, immigrated to Canada in 1907. They both eventually ended up in the Meadowlands area where they met, married on November 9, 1918, and set up a homestead in the same area. They worked two years on the homestead clearing land, building a house and barn and digging a well. After all the hard work they had put into the homestead, a veteran of the First World War came home, filed on their claim and they had to move. After a few years they ended up farming across the road from the Roznowski homestead on the banks of a dead lake. The area was later dug up as a gravel pit.



Dan & Lena Sraybash picking apples

Dan and Lena farmed in this area until 1945, at which time they moved to the Rorketon area and bought George Stark's farm 1/2 mile east and 1 mile north of Rorketon. Dan spent many years away from home, working in the mines of Ontario and Manitoba, trying to save enough money to buy some livestock and a good team of horses. Lena, in the meantime, had to do all the chores and raise a family at the same time. They had five children, three of which survived. Their oldest daughter, Nellie, married Frank Smerch in 1943, settled for a while in Winnipegosis, then moved north to the Flin Flon area. Bill and Steve Sraybash worked on the family farm for quite a few years before finally taking over the farm in 1959. By this time the farm was fairly prosperous and the family had established a ranch 14 miles east of Rorketon on leased land which Steve Sraybash and son David are now operating.

Dan was a familiar sight on the road east of Rorketon with his horse and buggy going out to check the cattle on the ranch, as he never did learn to drive a vehicle. Bill and Steve were familiar sights in town delivering merchandise from the trains to all the stores and businesses and also operating a school van in the back of their one ton truck or sometimes with a horse drawn sleigh.

Bill and Steve operated the two businesses for quite a few years until the ranch became self-sufficient. Steve married Kay Osadchuk in 1953 and Bill married Anne Maksymchuk in 1955. All three families lived on the farm in Rorketon until 1959, at which time Steve bought the adjacent Warrow farm. Bill stayed at the original farm and Dan and Lena moved to Rorketon and bought the Mackie house. They also had another lot across the tracks where they maintained a garden until the present time.

Nellie and Frank Smerch had two children, Larry and Donald.

Larry married Linda Aho and they have two sons. Ryan lives in Cranberry Portage with his parents. Ricky is in college in Winnipeg.

Donald lives in Vancouver and has one daughter, Tricia. He is manager for Freby Products.

Nellie and Frank eventually moved out to Vancouver. The family did live in Rorketon for a period of three years at which time Frank worked on his invention, a double track snowmobile.

Nellie remarried Cliff Kind in 1965. Now she is a widow and still lives in Vancouver.

Bill and Anne Sraybash had four children: Ted, Linda, Donna and Ronnie. They still reside in Rorketon. They farmed for a number of years, operated a store in town, and eventually converted Pich's Cafe to a Care Home for disabled persons.

Steve and Kay Sraybash had four children: David, Janet, and twins Dale and Gale. Steve still continues to farm and ranch east of town. They bought the old railroad station and converted it into a home. Unfortunately the top story burnt several years later and it had to be rebuilt.

A good many grandchildren continue to live in the Rorketon area.

Dan and Lena were married for 71 years. They suffered some hard times, but always had friends and relatives to help. Dan always said that those who had the least to offer were most willing to share whatever they had in times of need.

Steve and Katherine Sraybash

Steve was the youngest son of Dan and Lena Sraybash. He received his education in the Rorketon School, until grade 10. His dad and brother Bill went to work in the mines while Steve and his mother looked after the livestock.

On July 31, 1953, Steve and Katherine (Osadchuk), were married in Dauphin.

In the spring of 1951, Steve got the dray (freight) business in town. Steve also operated the school van, which was a one ton Chevy truck with a caboose on the back with benches and a wood heater for the winter. When there was a lot of snow he used horses. In 1957, Steve and I bought Nick and Pearl Wawroru's farm. We didn't move until the summer of 1959.

Our first child, David, was born in December 1955. Our second child, Janet, was born, in September of 1960.

In 1963, the twins came along, Gale and Dale.

We bought the CN Station in 1975. It was moved to the farm in 1976. The station was moved by Minty's Movers from Onanole, Manitoba.

In the fall of 1985, Steve went to work in Thompson for the winter, to help upkeep the farm. This carried on until 1989. Steve would run the loader or rock truck, while I was cooking at camp. In the spring of 1989, our house burned down. With the help of friends, neighbors, and family, the house was rebuilt. By June we were living in our home again.

Steve and David are operating the same way as Steve and Bill did, from the beginning with his parents. David bought Bill's farms where Dan and Lena homesteaded.

All our children went to school in Rorketon as well as our grandchildren now.

David is married to Carol Biletski.

Janet is married to Chris Smook and lives in Thompson. They operate Smook Contractors for



Sraybash family: Dale, Gale, Kay Steve, Janet, & David

whom Steve and I worked in the winters. They have four children, Micheal in Grade 10, Katherine, in grade 9, Jamie, in Grade 6, and Adam, in Grade 4.

Gale married Tim Huhtala. They live north of Rorketon. Tim took over his dad's farm. They have three boys, Justin, Tyler, and Cory, our youngest grandson. Gale works for Home Care, and Tim works on the farm.

Dale lives in Chelan, Saskatchewan. He was married to Sandy Crivea. They had three children, Dale Junior, Travis, and Kristine. Now Dale is divorced and living with a friend, Carol Dzurka. Dale is a heavy equipment operator and he operates a patrol. Dale and Carol operate a small acreage and raise quarter horses. Carol works with handicapped people.

In July of this year, Steve and I will be married for 43 years. God has blessed us with 14 grandchildren.

George and Emma Stark Family

After hearing rumours about bumper wheat crops and farmers making big money, dad bought a quarter-section of land, sight unseen, approximately two miles out of Rorketon. In 1921 mother, dad and six small children left a home and job in Brandon and moved to the farm located at SW 19-28-15W.

Our first house of clay plaster had two rooms, wooden floors and a thatched roof. As the family increased to six daughters and three sons, construction of a larger house was necessary and was completed around 1931. A bachelor neighbour, John Leonen, helped dad build the house.

Both parents emigrated from what was then known as Austria. Dad, Jerzy Szczurko, born of

Ukrainian and Polish parents 1879 in Skoloszaw, Jarostaw, arrived in Brandon 1906. Mother, Solomea Gdyk, born of Polish parents in 1886 at Lorrace, Przemysl, emigrated in 1905. They were married at St. Hedwigs Roman Catholic Church, Brandon in 1911.

Because dad who was orphaned at an early age, could neither read nor write, the children's names were registered each with different spellings. On advice of the municipal administrator, dad decided to have the name changed. Much to mom's dismay it cost several head of cattle to pay for the legal transaction.

Dad's step-sister Rose and Joe Czekierda lived in Magnet school district.

Life on the farm was a difficult struggle as there were wet years and drought and the depression. The soil was alkali and very stoney. Soon they were in debt as cattle, horses and machinery were purchased.

Dad was plagued with poor health much of the time. Hemorrhage was a way of life. Finally, in the late thirties, he had a successful operation in Winnipeg. They moved off the farm to their home in Rorketon about 1945. His final years were spent in St. Paul's nursing home. He died in 1963.

Mother had a deep faith and trust in the Lord. She was known for her good cooking and resourcefulness. We never went hungry. She always had a barrel of sauerkraut, kishka (a buckwheat blood sausage), headcheese and fresh bread. As well, she

took in laundry from four families, using a washboard for scrubbing and "sad" irons for pressing.

Our parents faith and trust in God was passed on to us. As a family we regularly prayed the rosary. Mother taught us our religion (catechism). The priest would arrive by train Friday night to celebrate mass on Sunday and stayed with us until Tuesday morning. In summer the Sisters who came to teach Catechism would stay with us.

The older children started their education at Edillen School, later attended Rorketon School, which was one room with grades 1-8, sometimes over fifty students and one teacher.

Living on the farm was hard work but also great fun. At harvest time, mother would hide a keg of the best homemade beer in the well, to be hauled out at the opportune time to refresh the threshmen as they came off the fields. In winter the well would over flow and flood part of the yard, making an excellent skating rink and attracting the kids from town.

Friday nights we looked forward to going to town. The walk home was sometimes scary, especially if there was talk that the swamp light was seen.

As soon as they were old enough the boys would hop the train "riding the rods" in search of work. Some went farming, others to lumber camps.

The following are the family members:

Joseph (1912-1986) was nine years old when the family moved from Brandon. Being the eldest, very early in life he was given the responsibility of helping with the younger siblings and on the farm. At age eighteen he left home in search of a better way to make a living. He married Vicky Sokoloski and eventually made their home in Ladysmith, British Columbia where he operated Stark's Welding and Repair Shop. They had five children; Joan, Karen, Kevin, Sally-Ann and Lavinia, who like so many others at that time left home at a young age to make her way in the world. Over the years she worked in the U.S.A. as well as Canada, retiring in Vancouver.

The third child Jessie, born 1915, became a religious Sister with the Sisters of Charity of Providence. She spent many years working in Indian missions of Northern Alberta. In 1989 Sister Augustina celebrated her golden jubilee as a nun. She resides at Providence Centre, Edmonton.

Richard (Dick) born 1917 started working at local farms before age 14, earning fifty cents a day. In 1941 he joined the army, returning on a hospital ship in 1945. After recovering from his illness he went into the insurance and real estate business in Dauphin. Married in 1954 to Valerie Swiderski, they



Mrs. Stark, Rose Cyckierda, Mrs. Papuga and Lavine

had four sons and three daughters, Lorne, Janice, Maureen, Douglas, Gordon, Caroline and Greg.

Florence, born in 1921, was three months old when the family moved to Rorketon. Her first job was in Ochre River - wages \$5.00 per month. She married Bus Wilkinson in Brandon. They had four children Gail, Barry, Ray and Douglas.

Mary was born in 1923. After the others left home she chose to stay and help on the farm. In 1948 she married Charles Bretecher. They had four girls and three boys; Edward, Leonette, Elizabeth, Louise, Joe, Emily and Michael. They still reside in Toutes Aides.

Jack, born 1925, at age fifteen rode the freight to seek work in British Columbia. In 1955 he married Jeanne Hettler, eventually making their home in Chemainess, British Columbia. They had one son Dallas. Now he is a widower and is retired. He enjoys golfing.

The youngest, born Katy, born in 1927, became a teacher. She first taught on permit at Methley, then Edillen. After getting her teaching certificate, her first school was Oak Brae (1946- 47). From Dauphin she went to Whitehorse, Yukon. In 1958, she married Lyolle Marshall. They had four children; Teresa, Michael, Wayne and Clint and now resides in Kamloop, British Columbia.

Stan Struthers

In the summer of 1990, I moved to Rorketon and began my duties as the school's principal that fall. I served as principal for two school years and lived in Rorketon for four years. It was from Rorketon that I formally began my career in politics as a candidate for the New Democratic Party in the federal election of 1993. We lost, but gave it a good try! Currently, I am the Member of the Legislative Assembly for Dauphin and Rorketon is in my constituency.

During my four years in Rorketon, I rented a house from Eve Bruce-Lockhart, close to the school. I enjoyed curling and the many socials that took place in our community. I met many people in Rorketon who today remain my friends.

Zenovia (Zonia) Talpash

I was born November 14, 1914 at Sifton, on my parents' farm. After a few years my parents moved to a little place called Sclater, Manitoba where I grew up and attended the school.

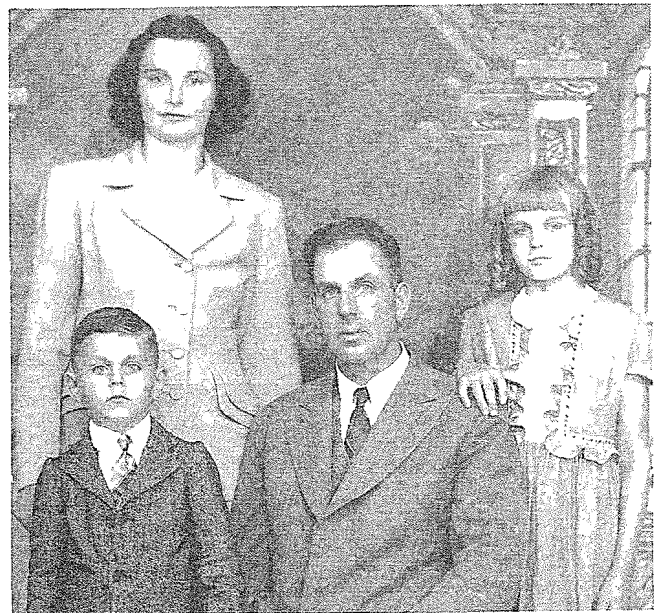
My ambition was to be a nurse, but there was no money for me to take a course.

A few years later I arrived in Rorketon as a young bride, married March 1935 to Joseph

Talpash. He had a farm one and half miles east of town across the road from his parents Ben and Pearl Talpash. On his farm he had four horses, two cows, a large old house furnished, and three hundred dollars in the bank at Ste. Rose. I thought we had a fair start for a young couple. Besides farming Joseph was also a fisherman during winter months, which helped financially.

After three years of our marriage our first child was born. A Christmas baby girl named Savellia, born December 25, at 10:00 A.M., blond with big blue eyes, with Miss Hill attending. What a beautiful Christmas gift!

Four years later our second child was born, a baby boy, Victor David on December 22. The nurse, Miss Hill, scolded him for not waiting until Christmas.



Joseph Talpash with Zonia, son Victor and daughter Savellia

Both children attended Rorketon School until June 1954. In August of 1954 we sold our farm to Walter Tuer, Joseph's nephew. We moved to Oxbow, Saskatchewan, where we started a business - a Macleods' authorized Dealer. The children completed their education and went their separate ways. Daughter Sylvonia went to Saskatoon, took up photography then later moved to Banff and Calgary, where she worked in photography for a few years. From there she went to Hawaii, worked there in photography. Later she got a job with a travel wholesaler, Barry World Travel. She also lived in New Zealand for a year.

Now she has a home in Lynden, Washington and works in marketing for K.G.M.I. Radio Station in Bellingham, Washington, U.S.A.

Son Victor left Oxbow, went to Calgary where he completed his education and then worked for Photo Craft Photography. Later he moved to Vancouver and got a job at Eatons' Photography Department. After a few months he was promoted to a manager in that department and worked there for a few years. Later on he bought a motor cycle shop which he ran for a few years. Following that he started a steam cleaning business which he still operates.

In January 1966 my husband and I sold out our business in Oxbow, Saskatchewan and took a trip to Hawaii for five weeks. When we came back we sold our home in Oxbow and took a trip to Kelowna.

We liked the area and bought a home. My husband passed away November 4, 1979, in Kelowna General Hospital at the age of seventy four.

Since my husband passing I have travelled a fair amount through Canada and U.S.A.

In 1980 my daughter and I took a trip to Switzerland, Austria, and Germany for several weeks and enjoyed it very much.

Agnes and Nick Tkachyk

Nick married Agnes Ukrina Mackie on November 14, 1959 in Rorketon. They moved to the Rorketon area in 1963 and into the present place in 1972. Agnes taught catechism in both Rorketon and in Toutes Aides for three or four years. Nick and Agnes were both 4-H leaders for ten years. Nick taught woodwork and Hunter Safety with Arthur as his Junior leader. Nick was a Charter member of the



Agnes & Nick Tkachyk

St. Lawrence Knights of Columbus where he served in several positions starting as auditor and going on to youth director and three terms as Grand Knight. Nick was also a fourth degree knight with the St. Viators Assembly. He was first Vice President as well as Second Vice of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Rorketon. He was also caretaker of the hall for eight years.

Agnes was an auditor and member of the UCWC in Rorketon and Secretary Treasurer of the hall and served one year as an auditor for the St. Peter and Paul's Church.



B: Jeanette, Pernell, Agnes, Chris Corrina, Shawn, Art, Joey & Tamara. F: Samantha, Chantal, Willow

They had five sons which included a set of twins, Arthur and Roudolph. Roudolph passed away at the age of two weeks.

Their boys were all in 4-H taking Mechanics, Photography, Beadwork, Woodwork, and they all took their Hunter Safety.

Arthur married Bonnie Jameson and has two children. He is divorced and resides in Winnipeg.

Theodore (Ted) moved to Winnipeg where he worked from an early age. He married Barb Stewner and had one daughter. He divorced and later married Kathy Bard on July 2, 1995. He passed away on Oct. 16, 1995.

Pernell married Jeanette Kopecki and they moved to Meadows, Manitoba.

Christopher also lives in Winnipeg.

Nick worked for the Department of Highways in Rorketon for 24 years, retiring in 1992. He suffered a stroke caused by a brain tumor in June of 1994. I have lived in Winnipeg since Nick's illness, because care for him was much more accessible there. Nick passed away on September 18, 1995.

A very unusual incident happened which you may find interesting. In 1961, Nick found work in Churchill. Our nine month old son, Arthur, and I went to join him. During the long rail journey,



Nick, Peter & Mike Tkachyk

Arthur became very irritable. As the time passed, I became very tired and a kindly man offered to take Art so I could have some rest. Well, when I was able to bring Nick home, I needed a lot of help and one of the home care attendants was the same man who had walked Arthur so many years ago. He was of course much older, but the very same kindness was still there. His name was Melvin Allison.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Tuer

Walter Tuer was born in Brandon in 1918, son of Michael and Sarah Tuer. He moved to the Rorketon area in 1934 to live with his grandparents Ben and Pearl Talpash. He slowly started to build up a cattle herd and also kept bees and sold honey to the local stores.

In 1952, he married Ann Charnish, who was born in Broadview, Saskatchewan, in 1928.

Daughter Laura was born in 1955 and now lives in Winnipeg. Marilyn was born in 1958 and lives in Souris.

Walter had served the citizens of Rorketon most of his life.

One of the greatest contributions came in the field of education. He served as a member of the local school board for eighteen years and with the formation of the Duck Mountain School Division, he served as trustee for seven years.



Ann & Walter Tuer

Walter was a founding member of the Rorketon Credit Union and served on the credit committee for fifteen years.

A cattle man himself, Walter became involved in the Ste. Rose Cattlemen's Association. He was initially a member and then elected to the board of directors - a total of ten years.

He was also a member of the local community club and the Ukrainian Orthodox Church.

Walter nominated and campaigned for Gil Molgat, now a senator, in his first election in the Ste. Rose constituency.

Walter died on February 20, 1975 at the age of fifty seven.

Anne remarried in 1978, to Howard Bennett of Ochre River. They own and farm the land one and a half miles east of Rorketon and reside at 219 Willow Avenue in Rorketon.

William (Bill) Tuer

Bill was born in Brandon, on December 6, 1923 to Mike and Sara Talpash Tuer. Bill's mother was the eldest daughter of Ben and Pearl Talpash, who homesteaded first in the Moose Bay area and later in Rorketon.

Bill resided and worked in the U.S. for a number of years and while there he met and married Anna Sugrue of Iralea, County Kerry, Ireland on August 6, 1952.

They had four children; Kathleen Mary born June 4, 1953, Patricia Ellen, born April 11, 1955, Michael Patrick, born May 6, 1956 and Brian Henry, born November 27, 1958 and deceased in 1961.

Bill and Anna moved to Rorketon in 1957 where he ranched with his brother Walter for many years.

Kathleen was educated in Rorketon and completed two years at Carlton University School of

Journalism in Ottawa. In 1977 she married Brian Leigh Taylor of Vancouver. They have two children, Meaghan Anna born September 13, 1979 and Sean Patrick born January 22, 1982.

Patricia was educated in Rorketon and Balmoral Hall school in Winnipeg and graduated from the University of Manitoba in 1976. She has been living and working in Monte Carlo, Monaco for the past several years.

Michael was educated in Rorketon and St. John's Ravenscourt School in Winnipeg. He is living and working in Peru, South America at the present time. In June 1995 he married Elizabeth Nellie Munoz of Cajamerca, Peru. They have a son Patrick Brandon born March 12, 1996.

Steve and Mary Ukrina

Steve and Maria moved to the Weiden District in the early 20's, I believe in 1923, from New Brunswick. They were of Czechoslovakian descent.

Steve spent much of his time working in the far north of Manitoba.

They raised three children, Mary, Joe, and Anna. Mary married Alex French who worked for the CNR in Gillam. There they owned the Gillam Hotel. Mary and Alex passed away within 11 months of each other. They had one son, Tom.

Joe married Mary Harpiak and moved to Cowan. In later years, he retired to Swan River. He passed away in the mid 1980's and his wife, Mary, died in November of 1995.

Steve passed away in 1944 and his wife Maria in 1952. After the passing of her husband, Maria moved to the town of Rorketon and lived where Wilfred Honish now resides.



Mrs. Uhrina – Agnes's Grandmother

Nick and Pearl Wawrow

Nick and Pearl Wawrow came to Canada from the Ukraine, in March of 1930, by ship to Montreal then by train to Rorketon, where they bought the homestead two and a half miles out of Rorketon (where Steve Sraybash now farms). They cleared the land by hand then with oxen until they could afford horses. They farmed there until 1956, raising five children, Sylvia, Leona, Romeo, Allen and Annie. They sold the farm in 1956 and moved to Toronto, where Nick worked for a time at a steel company until his death in 1970. Pearl was a home maker until her death in 1979. Sylvia married Ken Pawluk in 1948, moved to Toronto, and still lives there. Leona married Jerry Shippett and lives in Kitchner. Romeo married Lillian Hasuik, and is living in Mississauga. Allen married Mary Ellen Yanta of Mississauga. He passed away at an early age in 1994. Anne married Bob Anderson and is living in Mississauga.



Nick Wawrow with his first horses



Anne, Allen and Romeo Wawrow



Sylvia & Leona Wawrow

Nick and Pearl were active in the Ukrainian Catholic church at Toutes Aides and later in Rorketon where he helped with the building of the Ukrainian Catholic church.

Nick Werbiski

Nick was born in Sifton and moved to the Moose Bay district with his parents. He met Mary while she was working in her father's store because he would always come in for tobacco.

Mary is the daughter of Fred and Annie Pulak. Nick and Mary were married June 7, 1933. They had three children.

Thelma was born 1935; she married Lloyd Nosler on December 29, 1965. They now reside in Victoria.

Fred was born March 17, 1941; he lives in Rorketon and manages the local hotel.

Kenny was born June 25, 1950 and passed away on November 29, 1973.

Nick was laid to rest February 16, 1975.

Mary resides in Rorketon.



Joe, Mike, Nick, Peter & Ludwig Werbiski

Wilson Family

submitted by M. Phyllis Stradsin

My uncle Ernest moved to the north from Minnedosa in 1909. He and a fellow called Dad Taylor (not related) were first from the Wilson family to move there. My dad, Bruce Wilson, and his brothers, Charlie (Mary) and Jack (Margaret) moved up there and were settled there before dad and mom were married in March of 1913. Mom, Caroline Barnes, came from England in April of 1912 and went to work for a farmer near my grandparents' farm near Minnedosa.



Wilson Family Picture, Jack, Charlie, Eron, Mary, Gib, Bruce, Corine, Wilbert, Phyllis & Lil.

My oldest brother was born in February of 1914 and died at birth. My brother Leslie was born in January of 1915. I was born in January of 1917. Cecil school was our only education.

My brother Les married Lena Bzowy on November 1, 1938. They had Lorraine, Audrey, Albert and Alan. They moved to Ontario in 1951. They were back for a short stay and went back and



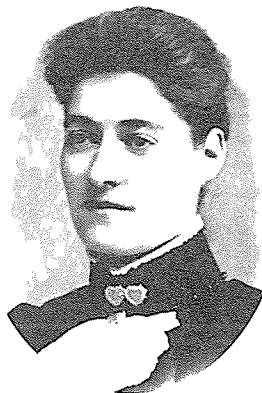
Leslie Wilson & Lena Bzowy

lived their lives out there. Les passed away in May, 1982 and Lena passed away in 1995.

Dad was active in council business and was Reeve once. He was active in getting the Ridgeway Cemetery started. Because there was a lot of rock on our farm, dad always went out to work in the fall harvesting. He did some winter fishing too. We were, I guess, what one would call poor, but were never deprived of enough food, warm clothing and a lot of love. Dad died of cancer in April 1931 at the age of 54.



Mr. Wilson



Mrs. Wilson

Mom and dad were in their thirties when they married. Mom had never been on a farm until she came to Canada. Mom died at the age of 81 in January of 1960.

We were fortunate we had great neighbours. Our cream cheques and eggs kept us in groceries.

Our entertainment for most of the fall, winter and spring were weekly dances. We left at 6:00 in the evening and were home around 6:00 in the morning - in time to milk cows and go to bed.

Uncle Gib (Gilbert Wilson) lived with us after he came back from World War I where he was wounded. He got a \$2.50 pension. Out of this he always bought a hundred pounds of brown sugar and we had taffy all winter.

Uncle Ern (Ernest Wilson) served in the first World War as a medic taking wounded soldiers to the hospital. He was wounded in the knee and got a \$7.50 a month pension. He lived on the quarter section he purchased after he came back from the war. He had a stroke and died in 1944. Neither uncle Ern or uncle Gib married.

Jack and Maggie Wilson lived in the Freedale district. They moved to the Riding Mountain area in the early thirties and lived there until their last few



Phyllis & Charlie Strasdin



years. They moved back to Bethany district where they both died in the late fifties or early sixties.

Charlie and Mary Wilson moved back to Minnedosa some time in the early twenties, to help his mother and dad on the farm. Mary passed away in the late thirties and Charlie in the sixties.

Charlie Strasdin and I were married on February 7, 1936. Our family are Donald, Shirley, Ernie and Evelyn. We moved to Terrace in 1951 and to Prince George in 1959. Charlie passed away in November 1986. All the family married and live in Prince George. Ernie lost his wife (Patricia Batters) September 22, 1982.

Burdeyney, Myftody (Mike) and Takenna Wolitsky

Myftody was born in Austria and Takenna was born in Poland. It is not known when they arrived in Canada, but they were married in Vita, Manitoba in 1912.

They came to Brooksby, Saskatchewan in 1925 from Ste. Rose, and to their homestead in Prairie

River, Saskatchewan in 1929. They moved back to a farm in Rorketon in 1945.

They had eight surviving children:

Steve married Pauline Orenchuk and had three children, Phyllis, Edward, and James. Steve was in the sawmill business in various parts of British Columbia until his death.

Mike married Mary Hnatiw, was in construction work and lived in Prince George, British Columbia until his death, leaving behind three little daughters, Linda, Debbie and Sandi.

Fred was born in Rorketon, and married Mary Bloski of Porcupine Plain, Saskatchewan. He lived in Jasper, working as a mechanic until he retired after his wife was killed in the Hinton-Edson train wreck. He then lived in Calgary with his youngest son for some years, but is now living in a Senior's lodge in Peace River where his son, Ken, lives. Fred and Mary had four sons, Ralph, Gordon, Ken and Donald.

Charlie was born in Ste. Rose. He married Betty Kuff of Prairie River and they had three daughters, Starlinda, Cheryl- Lynn and Delia. Charlie was a janitorial contractor until his death.

Ena was born in Brooksby, Saskatchewan and married Albert VanOosten from Holland. They lived in Calgary for many years where Albert was a building contractor. They now live in Abbotsford. Ena and Albert have two sons, Gerald and Jeffery.

Pauline was born in Prairie River, Saskatchewan and married Neil McDonald of Lake Ainslie, Cape Breton. Neil was in the R.C.M.P. in various parts of western Canada and the N.W.T., and in later years, worked with the Social Welfare Department. Pauline and Neil have four children, Mary Jane, Heather, Gordon and Charles. Neil is now deceased and Pauline lives with her daughter, Heather, and son-in-law, Glenn, in Lethbridge.

Sophie was born Prairie River, Saskatchewan and, like Henry, is better known to Rorketon than the rest of the family. She married Omalin Budzey.(See Omalin Budzey)

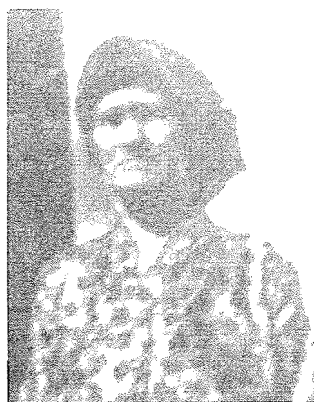
Henry was born in Prince Albert. He is not married and lives at Seventy Mile House, British Columbia. He is semi-retired from sawmill and construction work and still enjoys his trap line.

Myftody died in 1954 - Takenna died in 1960.

Zabiaka

submitted by Great Granddaughter Sophie Cayer

Annie Zabiaka (Solomon) came to Canada in 1912. Her husband Fred Zabiaka came in 1910 and stayed with Panko Solomon while he applied for



Anne Zabiaka



L-R Back: Patricia, Maryanne, Florence Front: Mike & Stephanie Zwarich

immigration papers for the rest of his family. In 1912 Annie and Fred's father, Harry Zabiaka, his brother Phillip, his sisters, Annie and Dora, his daughters, Sophie and Lena, and his sons Nat and Nick came to Canada. Nick almost fell overboard while crossing the ocean, but was saved by grandpa, Harry. Their other three children, Mary, John and William (Bill) were born in Canada. They settled in the Fork River, area. In 1934 Fred died, and Annie and her two sons kept up the farm until 1944 when they decided to sell. Annie moved to Fork River. In 1946 she moved to Rorketon to live with her daughter Sophie Sologuk until her death.

Max Ziola History submitted by Eva Ziola

Max moved to Rorketon with his parents, Cyril and Florence, in May 1939. After attending school in Rorketon for some years, he moved to Winnipeg. There he worked as a pin setter in a Bowling Arena. Later he went to war, then returned to Winnipeg. Here he worked as a bar tender for the Canadian Legion Lounge until he was hired by the Canadian National Railway in 1947. He retired in 1977.



Mr. & Mrs. Ziola & son Walter



Minnie's 65th Birthday

Max enjoyed golfing, curling, bowling, darts, shuffleboard, pool, playing cards and fishing.

He married Eva Mann on June 19, 1951 in Melville, Saskatchewan.

Max and Eva had four daughters, Angela, Beverly, Cynthia, and Dauphine.

There are now ten grandchildren, Stephanie, Seth, Dustin, Nathan Susan, Michael, Jeffrey, Alicia, Beau, and Shea. There are two great grandchildren, Sheyla and Sierra.

Max passed away on March 12, 1980.

Ziola Family

I, Boris Ziola, son of Florence and Cyril Ziola, was born February 13, 1940, in Rorketon one of nine children.

I attended school at Edillen and Rorketon. I left Rorketon to work in southern Saskatchewan in the

oil fields, then up to northern Manitoba. In 1961 I left for Clinton, British Columbia, to work as a lumberjack, then worked as a faller for the Power Commission, predecessor of British Columbia Hydro. I have been with them for thirty-four years, working as a subforeman lineman in the Transmission Department, in Surrey, British Columbia. I have lived in the lower mainland for thirty years.

I married a Clinton girl, Moira Heiwitt in 1965. We had three girls, Brenda, born August 21, 1965. She was born with cerebral palsy and attended a special needs education centre, daily, on handi-dart. In past ten years she has adult workshop or day mode to advance her skills. She communicates with a bliss symbol board. She now lives in a group home, a few miles from our home.

Cheryl Ziola, born November 6, 1966, graduated from Q.E. Senior High in Surrey, British Columbia. She studied journalism for three years at Langara College in Vancouver. Presently she is working as a Community Relations Officer, for the British Columbia Forestry Association.

Jody Ziola was born June 30, 1975, graduated from North Surrey High and is working as an office clerk receptionist.

Florence and Cyril Ziola

Florence and Cyril Ziola came to Rorketon in May of 1939. They settled on a farm SW 9-28-15. He was a blacksmith by trade. They had seven children when they moved here. There were two more born here.

We are scattered all over Canada.

Danda Daczko who was a seamstress and her husband Ed is deceased. They have one son Leonard Daczko and wife Yeonne. He is an air traffic controller out of Twassen, British Columbia. He is the controller who called down that plane into Gimili a few years back.

Max Ziola who is deceased and who was a railroad engineer out of Melville, Saskatchewan, along with his wife Eva, have four daughters. Angie and Dan Noble are ranchers and also farm at Abernathy, Saskatchewan. They have three boys. Bev Beiber is a railroad engineer in Melville and have one daughter and one granddaughter. Cindy and her husband Barry Coulter farm and ranch. They live in Willowwop, Saskatchewan. They have one daughter and two sons.

Dophne and her husband Brad Ottenbrite live in Grayson and run a dance hall, Barn 22. They have one daughter and two sons.

Minnie Smigelski and her husband Mike

(deceased) farmed and ranched. They have six children.

Adeline and her husband Orville Taylor, live in The Pas, where she works in a bank. They have two sons, who work in Winnipeg.

Peter Smigelski and his wife Teresa live on the farm and also own the original Ziola farm. They have one daughter and three sons. They ranch.

Jo Ann Ilkew and her husband, David, live in Winnipeg and she is a resource teacher. They have three daughters.

Sandra Gaudry and her husband Phillip ranch at Meadow Portage. She is a clerk in the Meadow Portage Municipality. They have two daughters and one son.

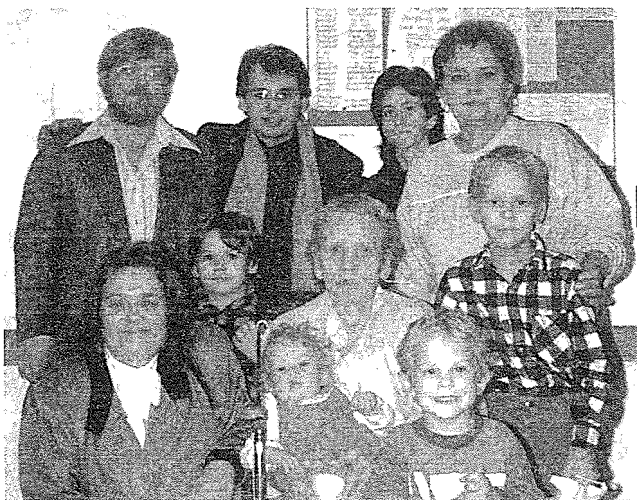
Maurice Smigelski and his wife Marilyn live in The Pas where they ranch. They have four daughters.

Bernard Smigelski and his wife Brenda live in The Pas where he operates an auto body shop. They have one son and three daughters.

Olga and her husband Fred Luke are retired from farming and live in Dauphin. They have four children; two sons and two daughters. Ted and Bonnie Luke have three daughters and they live in Ste. Rose du Lac. Linda and her husband Allen Kaye and their two children live in Birdshill. Carol and Joe Dumas have two girls. They live in Dauphin. Jim lives with his parents.

Walter Ziola (deceased) and wife Evelyn lived in Quellville, Saskatchewan. They had eight children; three sons and five daughters and are scattered all over the west.

Victor Ziola retired from the Military and his wife June lives in Courtney, British Columbia. He does carpentry work now. They have two daughters and a son and four grandchildren.



Vicke (Ziola) Miller & Family

Victoria Miller, husband (deceased) lives in Melville, Saskatchewan. They have two children both in Winnipeg and four grandchildren.

Boris Ziola and his wife Moirce live in Surrey, British Columbia and he is a hydro man with British Columbia Power. They have three daughters.

Ed Ziola and wife Ann live in Cache Creek, British Columbia and he is an electrical engineer with the Logan Lake Mines. They have two sons, one works as a disc jockey out on the island and one works in Alberta.



L-R: Ed, Dave, Rick & Mary Ann Ziola

Stephanie (Glena) Zwarich **submitted by MaryAnne (Zwarich) Zalischuk**

Stephanie was born on May 1, 1930 in the town-site of Rorketon, on Lot 7, Block 6, Lawrence Municipality. She was the second oldest in the family and attended Rorketon Elementary School to grade eight. She was also in Ukrainian dancing.

In the summer, Stephanie and brother Mike dug seneca roots and in the winter they snared rabbits and weasels for spending money. They sold them to Bill Perepeluk. Stephanie also worked casual at Perepeluk's Restaurant.

Stephanie spent a lot of time, during the summer holidays, visiting the Grandparents at Weiden.

In June, 1945, Stephanie came up with yellow jaundice and was very sick most of the summer. Miss Hill, the Rorketon Health Nurse, attended to her.

In September, 1945, she got a job at Fork River Hotel and was paid \$30.00 a month with no days off.

There she met her husband, Mike Zwarich, and they were married on November 16, 1946. They lived in the Rice Lake District just east of Fork

River. Mike took over the farm prior to his parents' passing in 1952. They mix farmed for thirty years and in 1976, Mike's health started to fail, so they sold their land and moved to Dauphin. Mike was employed as a janitor for four years at the Towers Hotel and retired after asthma attacks and a hip replacement. Stephanie was employed as a Dietary Cook at St. Paul's Personal Care Home for seventeen years and retired in February, 1993.

They had a family of three daughters who attended school in Rice Lake and Winnipegosis Collegiate.

Their eldest, Patricia, was born in 1947. She was a Nurses' Aide at the Winnipegosis Hospital. She married Elmer Zalischuk and resides in

Winnipegosis. They have two sons, Michael and Steven.

Mary Anne, their second daughter, was born in 1948 and is married to Marvin Zalischuk. She is employed as an Administrative Receptionist with The Town of Dauphin. They have a family of three, one daughter, Elaine, and two sons, Kevin and Keith.

Florence, the youngest in their family, was born in 1956. She married Ron Hutsal and resides in Dauphin. She is a Dental Receptionist at Heschuk's Dental Centre. They have two sons, Trent and Travis.

Mike and Stephanie will be celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary on November 16, 1996.



Ernie Wilson

Toutes Aides District

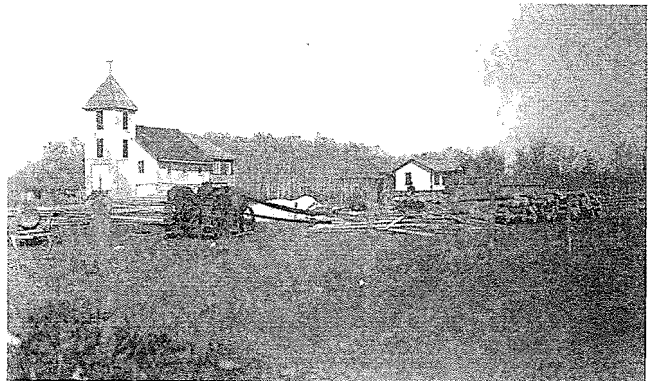
Toutes Aides is situated on the shore of Lake Manitoba, one of the many lakes that provided the early settlers with an abundance of fish and an ample supply of water for the livestock. The unspeakable beauty of the lake with the sunrise and sunset and the moon's reflection shimmering across the surface of the water fascinated the pioneers.

The first settlers in the area came in 1887. They were three Bretecher brothers: Pierre, Francois and Martin. They had spent several years in McCreary, but the water shortage created a problem for the cattle. By now they had a nice herd, so they decided to venture north to look for a place with ample water. When they arrived by the lake they were pleasantly surprised to find such a beautiful place. Everything they needed was in abundance: water, fish, hay, wild life and lots of bush. They then decided it would be home. Their first task was to build a log shanty to live in. The two other brothers, Jean and Alexandre, came to join the family, in 1906. They were followed by more French speaking families.

Toutes Aides Roman Catholic Church

Father Auguste Janicheski was one of the first priests. He had intended to start a mission in the East Bay district. One day he met the Bretecher brothers in Ste. Rose. They persuaded him to come to Toutes Aides instead to start a mission. In 1906, Father Lecoq celebrated the first Mass which was held in Martin Bretecher's home. It was Father Janicheski who named the parish "Notre Dame de Toutes Aides". It means "everyone helps". It is indeed well named because if someone needed a helping hand, there was no task too big for the pioneers. Everyone was there to help.

Because the Bretechers were devoted Catholics their next priority was to build a church. Without a doubt, the Bretecher brothers chose the most beautiful spot to build the church, on the shore of the great Lake Manitoba. They first had to go to Twin Island to cut the logs, then hauled them to Toutes Aides, a distance of twenty miles. They hewed the logs. A



First Toutes Aides church and Leberges' saw mill.

hewed log is one that's squared on two sides with a broad axe. The flat sides face the outside and inside.

In 1907, the Sabistons and Sandersons, who were excellent carpenters, built the church, with the help of the Bretecher brothers. Finally, with a lot of hard work, a small church was ready for the pioneers of Toutes Aides. Father Lecoq brought the church bell from France. It was placed in the bell tower of the new church. It is the same bell we still hear on Sundays, calling us to worship. It can be heard over a great distance. September 1, 1907, Joseph Wizniak was the first to be baptized in the new church. Father Janicheski left for France, his home-land, in 1909 and never returned due to poor health. The first pastoral visit was on August, 1918. There were eighteen delegates being confirmed on that day. High mass was sung by Father McNeil, a priest of St. Edward in Winnipeg. A rectory was also built. It was a one story structure. For thirty years the small church served as a place of worship. As large families moved into the district, there was a need for a larger church. Therefore, in 1933, once again parishioners decided to build a larger church. The already existing rectory would be enlarged and used as a part of the new church. The 286 big logs were hauled from Crane River to the Laberge Brothers saw mill to be sawed into lumber.

On March 11, 1935, with a 40F below temperature and a road heavy with snow, five teams of hors-



Toutes Aides Church



Inside Church

es set out for Winnipegosis to get the material required for the construction.

April 23, 1935 at 8 a.m. the volunteers arrived to start construction. The foundation was dug with horses and scraper. After the forms were made, the cement was mixed with sand and stones, then poured.

The rectory was enlarged and the roof lifted to make a two story structure. The rectory was then attached to the new church making it one large building. It took forty thousand shingles to cover the roof. It was now a sizable rectory, the reason being that the priest had visualized a high school in Toutes Aides and it would have been the living quarters for the teachers. It never did happen. The main carpenter was Mr. E. Saint-Germain from Cayer. On November 15, 1935, the rectory was completed. On November 25, 1935, the first mass was celebrated in the small chapel.

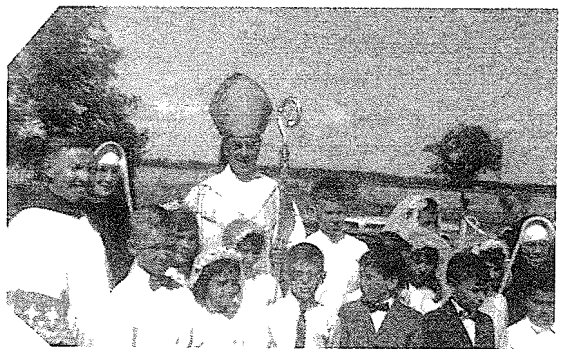
The inside of the church is very impressive. Upon entering one is transformed with admiration. One feels privileged to walk into this magnificent church. There is a beautiful life-sized painting of Jesus on the cross with his mother and John at his

feet. The next painting that captivates your interest is the painting of the Holy Family, Joseph, Mary, and Jesus, on the left is the painting of Mary and her Mother, Saint Anne. Between the pillars, there are also paintings of the saints. As we grew up with these beautiful paintings, we took them for granted, until we were made aware that they were painted by a great artist, Mr. Sam Neil. He came from Holland, in the 1930's, as a young man. He stayed in the rectory while painting the murals. One can only imagine the pride and joy he must have felt when the paintings were completed. Hopefully his work will live on forever.

Mr. Bourbonniere made the iron cross for the new church and he himself installed the cross on the steeple with the help of parishioners. To this day one can see the cross from a great distant.



Sister & Fred Marshall



Confirmation

The cross withstood all the elements of nature, with only the braces repaired once. In 1994 the old siding was removed and new white siding was installed.

In the early years, on Sundays, the church was filled to capacity with a large choir. As the years went by, families have moved. With fewer parish-

ioners and a shortage of priests, there is mass twice a month, from May to October. In the winter months the Mass is in Rorketon.

The following is a list of priests, brothers and nuns that served the Toutes Aides area.

Omi:	Father Lecoq	1906
	Father Janicheski	1907-09
	Father A. Desmarais	1913
	Father Louis Baud	1923
Cap:	Father Gilbert Blondel	1931-32
	Father Rupert	1932-34
	Father Pierre Constandt	1934-41
	Father Gerulphe	1934-37
	Father Willibrod	1937-40
	Father Masseo	1941-46
	Father Antoine Marie	1940-47
	Father Lazare	1950
	Father Germain DeClerck	1950-61
	Father Sigismunt	1961-63
	Father Cyprian Verhulst	1963-72
	Father G. Rioux	1972-75
Omi:	Father Joseph Masse	1975
	Father N. Belanger	1976-79
	Father Robert Laroche	1976
	Father R. Bernardin	1982-86
	Father Dominique Kerbrat	1987-89
	Father Bernardin	1989-

Brothers

Cap:	Brother Angelique	1932-37
	Brother Mansuetus	1936-47
	Brother Lucidius	
	Brother Bellinus	
	Brother Sophronius	-61
	Brother Adelard Gervais	
	Grey Nun Sister Laurette Dorion	1976-85
	Sister Rita Prefontaine	1977-85

Helen Bretecher was a self-taught organist. She played the Latin masses and old hymns beautifully. She was the only organist to play at weddings, funerals and masses. Many times she walked from her home to church because she had no other way of transportation. It was always a pleasure to sit in church and listen to Helen play. It was indeed a loss for Toutes Aides when she moved to Dauphin.

To the First Settlers of Toutes Aides:

By Helen Bretecher

"You were the part of our life that gave us reason for tomorrow and the confidence to find it. To walk in your footsteps was the highest form of respect we could give you. What our parents left for us, we hope we are leaving towards our children".

On July 14, 1984, a cairn was erected on the south side of the church, in memory of the first pio-

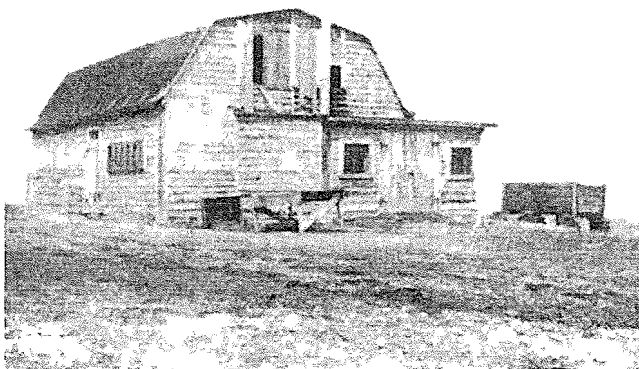
neers of Toutes Aides; the five Bretecher brothers. The Statue of Mary was blessed by Father Armand LeGal, a descendant of the Bretechers'.

The plaque reads:

En memoire des
Freres et epouses
Pierre & Charlotte Primeau
Jean & Josephine DeLaHay
Martin & Juliette Adam
Francois & Elise Brichon,
Alexander & Aimee Brichon

Cheese Factory

Mr. Lionel Adams held a meeting with the farmers to promote a cheese factory in Toutes Aides. Mr. Napoleon Dufault built the factory, in 1923, with nice spruce logs. It was situated on the lakeshore of Lake Manitoba. Mr. Pierre Bretecher made the base for the steam boiler. A big vat and a presser for the cheese were installed. Fifty pounds were made at one time. Mr. MacIntosh was the first cheese maker. Mr. McArthur was the next. He worked for a year, then Mr. Aime Jacques was the last cheese maker. The factory remained open until, approximately, 1927. It did not succeed because the milk could not be kept cool. They sold some of the equipment to the Cayer district. Mr. Lionel Adam then used the factory for fish packing plant. Mr. John Bretecher was the packer. In 1927, Auguste Brunel bought the factory, dismantled it and moved the lumber to SE 28-25-15. He built a barn using the lumber and it lasted for another twenty years.



Toutes Aides Cheese Factory

Cabins

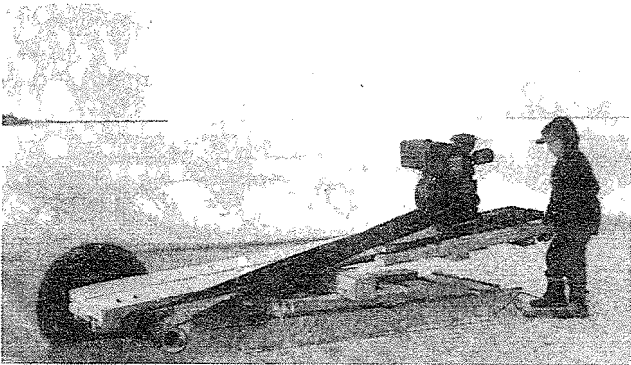
In 1951, Charles and Mary Bretecher started the Rainbow Camp. They built two duplex cabins with light housekeeping and two double beds in each. They had a boat launch and rented boats and motors. They sold fishing licenses. After some forty years, the business closed and the cabins are used for family and friends. Their satisfied customers have been



Charles and Mary Bretecher's Rainbow Camp



Rainbow Camp and Children



Cutting ice on Lake Manitoba with a special saw that was built by Charles Bretecher.



Cutting ice

returning since their business opened. In 1996, a customer and old friend, Mr. Al Baker who is 96 years old motored from the U. S. A. to spend a few days fishing and visiting.

Mail Route

Mr. Reboul was the first to have the Toutes Aides and Meadow Portage mail route. His son-in-law, Antoine Bretecher, took over until 1951 when Charles Bretecher got the contract. Charles delivered the mail twice a week, Monday and Friday, with a pick up truck. He had to be in Meadow Portage by 10:00 am to meet the incoming mail from Skownan and Waterhen and pick up the mail bags. At the time there were a lot of parcels from T. Eatons and Simpson Sears. The only way to shop was through the mail. In 1955, Lake Winnipegosis overflowed into Spence Lake and then into Lake Manitoba. It washed the bridge north of Toutes Aides, so Charles had to take the mail by boat as far as his brother Leon's place. He then took the tractor for the rest of the way. There were times when Charles had other commitments and was unable to make the route whereupon Mary, his wife, would take the mail, baby, and all to Meadow Portage. They had the contract until January 1, 1967.

Charles was also the electrician, plumber, and carpenter for the surrounding areas. He built Brichon's and his brother, Armand's house and renovated a lot of homes in the area. He was always ready, with a smile, to lend a helping hand.

In 1930, Martin Bretecher had the mail route from Toutes Aides to Rorketon and East Bay. In 1910-1915, Jean Bretecher became the mail carrier. Once a week he made the trip with horse and buggy or on horseback. In 1940, Armand and Helen Bretecher acquired the Toutes Aides post office. It was in their home west of the present day store. Armand also had the mail route to Crane River. In 1945, the mail was moved from their house to the corner store. In 1949, Gabriel Fortin bought Armand Bretecher's house and, in 1957, it burnt. Gabriel began hauling the mail to Crane River in October, 1949. Twice a week he hauled the mail by horses and democrat, through swamps and over bush roads. Many times he had to carry the mail bags across swamps on his back so the mail wouldn't get wet. In winter he would take a short cut across the bay, which was fifteen miles with a caboose and horses. When Gabriel was fishing, Eva would make the route. The salary in the first years was \$510.00 a year and increased to \$60.00 a month. The last few years they were paid \$72.00 a month. In the winter, storms left the roads filled with hard, deep snow

drifts, but nevertheless the mail got through. It was steady employment. Gabriel and Eva had this mail route for twenty two and half years.

Post Office

Juliette, Mrs. Martin Bretecher, was the first postmistress. She was given the job because she was educated and could speak English. The post office was in their home. In 1914-1915 Mrs. Pierre (Charlotte) Bretecher was postmistress until ill health forced her to quit.

Stores

Mr. Arthur Lafond, in 1915, built the first store in Toutes Aides. It was situated north of the church.

Louis Gaudry had a general store in Toutes Aides. Louis also had the post office.

Wilfred Adam, in 1919, had a general store and pool room, where the store is today. It burnt down and the family moved to Winnipeg just before the depression. This was the first fire in Toutes Aides.

Lionel Adam, in 1924, bought a parcel of land north of the church with two buildings on it. One was a large white house that had been previously moved to Toutes Aides from the north (Meadow Portage) and the other was used for a general store. The store burnt down. They then moved their fish shed onto the site. Pete, Lionel's son, operated the store from 1937 to 1940 when the store was closed. The big white house was moved to Rorketon, in 1943.

Corner Store

Emile Reboul built a storey and a half building. It was just a shell. In 1940, Mr. and Mrs. Louis and Juliette Gaudry, a distant cousin of Louis Gaudry who had the "first store", moved from Meadow

Portage to Toutes Aides. They bought the building and converted it into a general store and small cafe with living quarters. It was known as the "Lakeview Store and Cafe". They boarded the school teacher and travellers. They operated a livery barn. In 1945, the postal service was moved to the store. Gaudry's sold the store, in 1946.

Steve and Gertie Lytwyn became the next owners of the general store and conducted the postal service. He raised a few head of cattle on the side.

Leon and Ollie Bretecher took over for a short while, but due to ill health he was forced to sell the business.

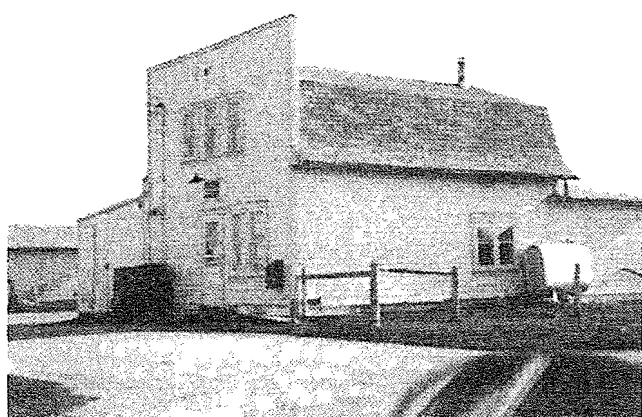
Cornellious and Julie Kuyp, in 1955, bought and renovated the store. They continued to operate the store and post office until 1985 when they retired and moved to Ste. Rose. One of the customers remarked, "He was a kind and honest man. He never turned any one down. Mr. Kuyp was my banker. He looked after my interests." There were a lot more customers who had the same opinion of them.

Paul and Dorothy Bilodeau took over the business in 1985. In 1993, the store closed and the post office was moved to their residence. In December of 1995, Paul and Dorothy moved to Neepawa.

David Boyechko and Debra McPhail bought the building, in 1994, with plans to reopen the store. Every one was pleased to see, on May 1, 1996, the store and gas pumps open for business. Late 1996, Debra obtained sole ownership of the business.

Rene Pineau had a garage and gas pumps. His sister, Eugenie, had the post office and confectionary. She sold the small building. Edmond Moreau enlarged the building and started a general store.

Edmond Moreau had the store by 1948, Ed took over from his father in the early 1950's.



Toutes Aides Store



Moreau's Store

Grocery Stores

Luger Rene had a little grocery store north of the church. He then moved it to where Alex Bretecher built the garage.



Ludger, Rene, Store & Garage

Lionel Adam and Mr. Charles Leflour were great friends in Saskatchewan. Lionel managed to convince Mr. Charles Leflour to move his family to Crane River. In 1920, Mr. Leflour came by himself and built a grocery store. His family joined him

when the store with living quarters was built. The natives would sell their fish to buy groceries. Dried senaca root was bought for fifteen cents a pound. In the winter, Mr. Leflour would fish and buy fish. In the summer, because there was no fish to buy, the family moved to Cayer where he had built a second grocery store. It was divided in half, with living quarters in the back and sleeping quarters upstairs. The family spent six summers in Cayer. Because there were no schools in this area, once again the family decided to move to Toutes Aides. In 1926 they dismantled the store and moved it from Cayer to Toutes Aides. When the store was assembled, Mr. Lionel Adam then moved the family to Toutes Aides by boat, the Saskatoon.

They were buying and trading with the families and the natives of the area. The store was located on the first corner by the creek, Bretecher Creek. In the winter, Mr. Leflour returned to Crane River to fish, leaving his wife and sons to look after the store and gas pumps.



Leflour Family

Toutes Aides Community Hall

The first meeting was held May 27, 1956, to elect the first executive and to make plans to build the Hall.

The first executive was:

President: Rene Van De Kerckhove

Secretary Treasurer: Helen Bretecher

Vice President: Charles Bretecher

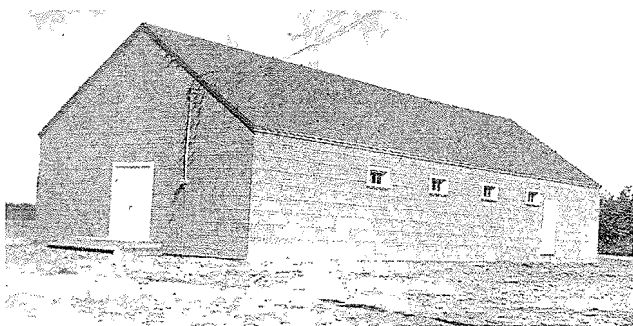
There were seven directors:

Albert Bretecher Marcel Nedelec

Armand Bretecher Donat Fortin

Bill P. Didychuk Henry Philippot

Raphael Brichon



Toutes Aides Hall

The land was donated by Charles and Mary Bretecher. Later they donated additional land for a parking lot. Money was raised to build the hall through dances, raffles and donations. When the floor of the new hall was completed, in July 7, 1957, an open air dance was held and it raised \$83.00. The 70x30 hall was erected, in 1957, with lots of volunteer help. Antoine Bretecher was the main carpenter. June 9, 1957, 21,000 feet of lumber was purchased from McCreery's Mill for the building of the hall and seventy-five bags of cement were used for the foundation. It is a framed building. Inside, a stage was built as well as a 12x12 kitchen and a 12x12 cloak room. The caretaker Marcien Fleury was paid \$2.00 for sweeping and \$4.00 for sweeping and scrubbing the floor. In 1977, the first addition, 70x18, on the east side was built complete with a kitchen. In 1989, another addition, 70x16, was added on the west side to accommodate bathroom facilities and more seating capacity.

Presently we have completed a project to update the sewer system, to install drain tile, some minor repairs and a new wheel chair ramp. It is rented for various functions including the weekly Knights of Columbus bingo.

The Toutes Aides Mansion

Two brothers, Alphonse and Charles Dufault, were two Counts from France. In 1900, they immi-

grated to Canada, and built a stately home in Toutes Aides, not far from the lake shore.

Some of the material such as brass rods for the window closures, metal embossed ceiling tiles, and frosted or colored window panes were imported from France. The walls were plastered and the lower three feet were cedar V-joints topped by a small ledge, to protect from chair damage.

There were four rooms downstairs with a large window, 60x60, in each one. There were four panels in each window. There was a lateral one across the bottom and the center one had a brass rod on the left side to fit into a bracket. The door in the kitchen had two rose-colored arched windows. The front door had an oval bevelled glass window.

The entire upstairs was of cedar. There was a dormer window on each side and the angles between the windows were fitted with cupboards which accommodated the angle of the roof. The place was heated by water radiators.

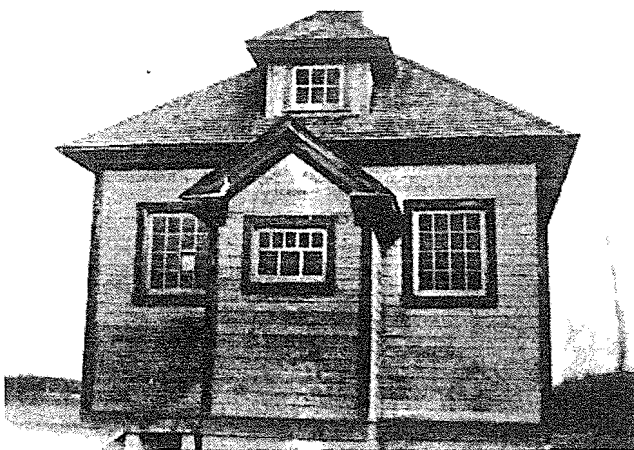
Alphonse had enlisted in the French army. When he returned, he took over the house and Charles and family moved to Methley. Alphonse was a gifted carpenter who built homes all through the R.M of Lawrence. Some of his finest works are still standing. One is the Abbotshall School.

The house they built belongs to Mary Woods and is still standing as solid as the day it was built.

School

The first school was built, in 1915, but officially opened on January, 1916 and was situated NW 9-29-15. The school was by Bretecher Creek 200 yards off Dufault creek, east of the bridge on the south side of the road. The carpenters were Charles Lariviere and his son Albert.

The first school trustees were Augustin Pineau, Jean Bretecher and Odile Dupas. The first teacher



Toutes Aides School

was Bernadette Adam. Next Mrs. Louis J. Gaudry. The year after the teacher was Marthe Lord from St. Norbert. The following are the names of some teachers who taught in this school: Coil, Mr. Crow boarded at Martin Bretecher's place. The first French teacher was Miss Payette. She boarded at August Pineau's place. The priest would come once a week to teach religion. Classes from grade 1-8 were taught in the school and it was overflowing with students, 52 to be exact, with only one teacher. Classes had to be split, with the older students attending in the morning and the younger children in the afternoon. In the late 1940's, the school building was moved closer to the townsite. A twelve foot addition was built on.

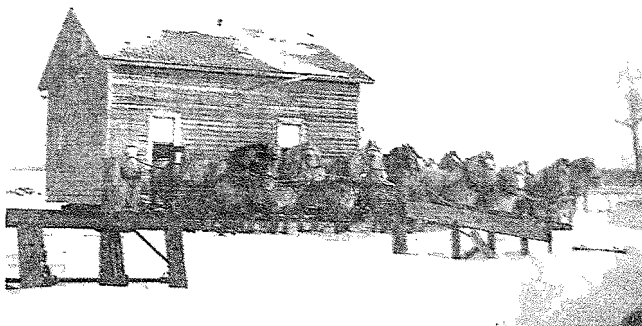
The Manipogo Information Centre took over the building for a few years. As it stands with its broken windows and its faded siding the doors are closed on the past.

Pump House

In August 1976, trenches were dug from Lake Manitoba and pipes were laid for the cistern and pump house to supply Toutes Aides with water. The pump was removed and the water is now pumped straight from the lake.

Garage

Alex Bretecher and his wife Regina moved into the village of Toutes Aides, in 1948. They bought Laberge's garage and small house. The old garage had no hoist, just a pit in the middle of the garage, where Alex stood to fix under cars. In 1952, Alex built a new garage. In 1950, they moved their house from the farm with eight teams of horses across the lake. Regina turned the living room into a store, and coffee shop. The Bretechers were the caretakers of the school. She also operated the concession booth at Manipogo Beach from 1960 to 1984. In 1985, they moved to Dauphin where they presently reside.



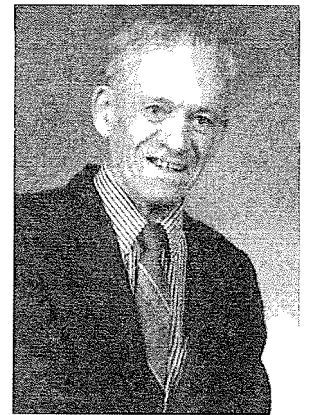
Moving House

Beauty Parlour

Rudy and Mabel Bilodeau moved into Toutes Aides, in 1973. They had bought the place from Mr. Fortin two years before. Mabel opened a beauty salon in one of the bedrooms, and later they built on a beauty parlour and the garage. Rudy was the Watkins dealer while they lived in Toutes Aides. They moved to Winnipeg, in 1981.

Blacksmith Shop

Mr. Noel Bourbonniere and family, in 1935, moved from Camperville to settle in Toutes Aides and lived north of the garage. In 1937, Noel built and started a blacksmith shop where the garage is today.

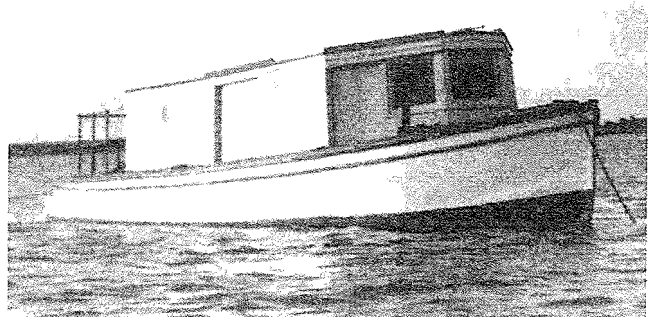


Maurice Laberge

Maurice Laberge, in 1937, opened a blacksmith shop in Toutes Aides. He fixed wheels and shoed horses. They had a small house beside the garage. In 1944, Maurice and Luger Rene took a contract to cut and saw 1,000 cords of fire wood. They hired six young men to help and in three months they had the job done. The Laberge family owned a saw mill by the first church.

The Saskatoon

Lionel Adam had a boat named the "Saskatoon". There was no road to Crane River so Adam took freight to Crane River by boat. It was the only boat



Pete Adam's Boat "The Saskatoon"

to freight across to Steep Rock. It carried ten tons of freight. Years later with a road built to Crane River, there was no more need for the old boat. It was too costly to repair so it was anchored at Toutes Aides Bay. Eventually with the wind and rain, it deteriorated and was beached.

The Watkins Dealer

In 1915, another service was brought to the district. The Watkins salesman, Mr. Joseph Elzear D'Aoust from Makinac travelled to the remote areas with a covered wagon, driven by a team of horses, to display and sell his products.

It would be a two week round trip. When he would arrive at the farmer's place late in the day, he was welcomed and treated as part of the family. In no time his team of horses were put in the barn and an extra plate was set. In return for his nights lodging, he would leave some of his products. "Vanilla" was always in demand.

Manipogo

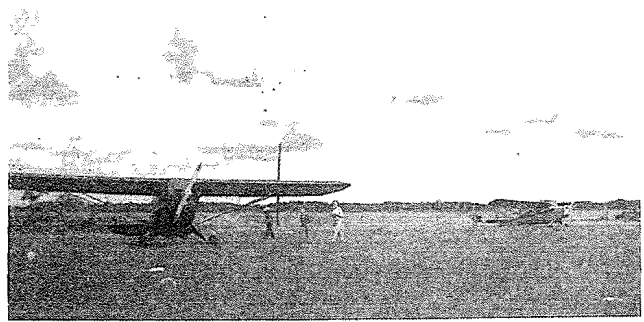
The Mystery of the Lake

There was always excitement at one time or other in the R.M. of Lawrence, but nothing that would come close to the enthusiasm of the adventure that took place on September 22, 1957. The search for the Lake Manitoba Monster was compared to the Buffalo hunts that had taken place a century ago.

The Manitoba government issued a message of good luck to the explorers. The message came from the office of the Honourable F. J. Jobin, Minister of Industry and Commerce.

Through the years a lot of people claimed to have seen the monster. An expedition was planned after there had been sightings once again of the monster in the North West Bay at Toutes Aides. A thirty-five foot creature with a black body and as many as 18 humps on his back, a head like a horse, but somewhat rounder, that bellowed like a freight train.

Some forty cars arrived, and four planes landed north of Charles Bretecher. Reporters and photographers arrived with cameras and binoculars. Accompanying the expedition was Mr. Bill McGillivray, a skilled deep water diver. He carried an under water camera to record encounters. A large number of men from Dauphin joined in the search. Mr. Vern Anger and Michael Hopkins, manager of the Dauphin radio station CKDM, were on hand to report blow by blow description of the events.



Search for Manipogo Monster, 4 planes landed in Charles Bretecher's yard

Mr. Cyril Bates and his son, David, as well as Mr. William Marsh piloted the boats, with Mr. Marcien Fleury from Rorketon as the guide. They went as far as the Limestone Caves along the shore of Steep Rock Lake searching the caves with no success.

Everyone was glued to the radio station waiting for words of the capture of the monster. To everyone's disappointment, at sun set, there was still no word of the capture of the monster.

It's not every community that can boast of their own Monster. There is still a lot of interest forty years later, although it still remains a mystery. In 1996 there was a T.V. program on our very own "Manipogo Monster". We are the envy of Manitoba.

Manipogo Beach

In 1960 the Manitoba Government developed a provincial park called Manipogo because of the sightings of the Ogopogo Monster. It was appropriate to take the first four letters of Manitoba and the last four letters of Ogopogo.

The park has camp sites along with a sandy beach that stretches for a mile. There is also a boat launch.

It is a very popular place for the local people and for those who come from far, just to camp in our beautiful wilderness setting. At times the sunset is breathtaking.

For about the last fifteen years the Lawrence Recreational Commission, arranged for swimming lessons through the Red Cross Aquaquest. It is always a great success with a large enrollment.

For the first time, in 1996, there is a charge to enter the park. As the saying goes, "There's nothing free anymore".

Manipogo Information Program Launched (excerpts Manipogo News)

A new service called the "Manipogo Information Program" was launched April 27, 1973.

It comes under the Extension Branch of the Department of Northern Affairs and will provide information service to those communities surrounding Toutes Aides.

Range of Service

The centre is being equipped with audio visual equipment, thirty or more television tapes; information boxes and other resources of use to the people in the area. The program director, John Morrisseau, will be mobile throughout the communities of Toutes Aides area.

The program will also have a Communications Worker in the centre during regular work hours. This is to give assistance to people passing through in obtaining the kinds of information needed.

Besides a weekly newsletter, the Manipogo News, we plan to put out special mailings. These issues will give detailed information about special events or services available to the Toutes Aides area.

Consultant Group For Manipogo Centre

On the evening of May 2 the newly launched Manipogo Information Program began to take form when members from communities surrounding Toutes Aides (area) and staff from the Extension Branch of Northern Affairs met to develop an understanding of the role the centre would play in the communities.

The meeting was chaired by John Morrisseau, director of the program. He introduced Mr. Orval Strong head of Extension; Mr. Joe Dufour, Director of Extension and Mr. Vince Hasker of the Information Communication Program in The Pas.

Community members attending were:

Grace Adam, Skownan

Roy Chartrand, Waterhen

Joe Jeannotte, Meadow Portage

Juliette Kuyp, Toutes Aides

Dmetro (Matt) Mazier, Rorketon

Maggie Smith, Cayer

Evelyn Zastre, Eddystone

Mrs. Mary Woods, newly hired to the program, took minutes.

The meeting started out with the staff of Northern Affairs giving a short history of a program of this nature.

Vedenia District

Toutes Aides' Ukrainian Catholic Church

The church of the Presentation of the Mother of God is the second church of the parish.



Toutes Aides Ukrainian Catholic Church

The first church was constructed by Ukrainian settlers with the assistance of Rev. Adonis Sabourin in 1910 near the settlement at Toutes Aides on Lake Manitoba upon a ten acre site acquired from the government. The small wooden church was sold in 1936 for use as a community school.

The second church was constructed in 1937 upon the same site as the first. The faithful were visited in 1913 by Bishop Nykyta Budka and in 1934 by Bishop Vasylij Ladyka.

The wood-constructed cruciform church, built upon a high foundation, is apexed centrally at the axis of its intersecting arms by a large open dome and lantern covered with white sheet metal. The gabled roof is covered with dark coloured asphalt shingles; the external walls are finished in narrow wood siding painted a light colour. The main entrance has a small decorative gabled overhang supported by several vertical wooden posts, which resembles an open porch vestibule. The church is accessed directly by a wide set of stairs with railings. To the immediate right of the main entrance originate stairs leading up to a choir loft which is supported by two vertical pillars and which is bounded by a fence-like divider. The sanctuary is located in the west section of the church. Two windows have been built into the side panels of the

angularly-vaulted wall behind the main altar; between them hangs a church patron icon, painted by Yakiw Majdanyk, which was relocated from the first church in which it had graced the tetrapod. Upon the large traditional main altar sits a tabernacle which corresponds in appearance to that of the church, and an ancient metal-bound Book of Gospels from the Stavropihijsky Institute in Lviv, Ukraine. The sanctuary is adjoined bilaterally by two sacristies which exit to the church grounds. A somewhat vaulted ceiling dominates the upper expanses of the nave, rising in the centre towards a large open dome which effectively seems to expand the interior space and which streams in through its eight elongated windows with arched summits. The dome is supported structurally by four corner wood-finished pilasters and four wooden arcades. A wooden moulding provides a decorative ceiling/wall delineation. The finishing of the ceiling with donacconna and of the walls with plywood was included in the renovations of 1958. Glass-mounted oil-print depictions of the Stations of the Cross are symmetrically arranged along the lateral walls of the nave while glass-mounted oil-prints of the Mother of God and Jesus Christ-Lover of Mankind adorn the votive altars in the transversal naves. The wooden painted floor is carpeted before the main altar and up the central aisle. The church is illuminated by electric chandelier suspended from the centre of the dome and heated during the winter by a cast-iron wood-burning stove which is stored elsewhere in warm weather. Sixteen wooden pews provide seating for approximately sixty faithful. M. Sawchuk was foreman of construction and his crew.

Near the church stand a single-bell belfry and the parish hall was constructed in 1972. The cemetery lies in continuation of the church property.

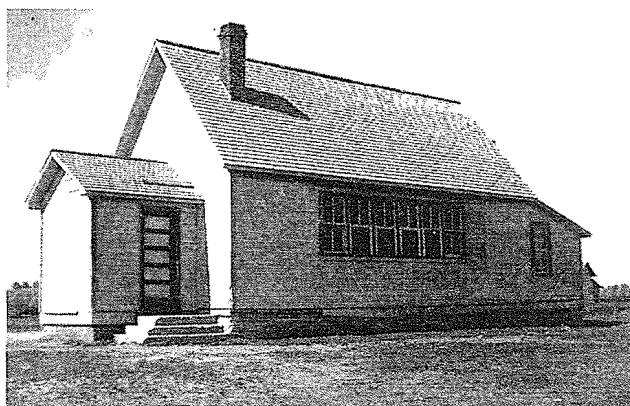
Ukrainian pioneers began settling the Toutes Aides area in 1907 and eventually organized themselves into a parish; their goal was the eventual construction of their own church. From its inception the parish has been faithfully served by a church Brotherhood and Sisterhood. The completion of construction of the new church altered somewhat the aims and goals of the parish organizations, one consequence being the changing of the name of the Sisterhood to the "Parish Women's Society". Summer Catechism classes which have been taught for many years have been held in the local community school since 1988. In 1941 the parish registered twenty-two members with fifty-eight children; currently, only twelve member families, totalling thirty individuals of whom none were born in Ukraine, belong to the parish. In 1988 the parish was under

the directorship of Rev. James Scharinger, pastor, Peter Didychuk, Eileen Ruskin, Vivian Didychuk, John Ruskin, Larry Didychuk, Katherine Didychuk, and Maria Shewchuk.

The Ukrainian Catholic parish of the Holy Presentation of the Mother of God, Toutes Aides, is under the pastoral charge of Winnipegosis.

Vedenia School

In 1936, the Ukrainian Church near the settlement of Toutes Aides, was sold to the Municipality of Lawrence. It was moved to SE 5-29-15W and used as a community school which became known as Vedenia. A small room, called the sacristy, was part of the building. It became the teacherage.



Vedenia School

In 1949, there were complaints of the school being too cold for the children. The teacher, Vivian Gray Didychuk, was requested, by the inspector, to chart the temperature at the level of the children when they were sitting. This had to be recorded several times a day. In June 1949, the school was permanently closed.

Fedor Didychuk Store

In 1920, Mr. Fedor Didychuk converted a room in their home into a grocery store, providing staples. It was situated on NE 5-29-15.

After Mr Didychuk passed away, his son, Mike, took over the store with the help of his mother. He operated it for six years. Then it was closed.

Micawber District

A new district

Micawber is located on 29-14-16. There were twenty quarters on thirteen sections of land.

In 1919 there were only two or three settlers in

the district. Two years later, the population was increasing rapidly. Most of the settlers were married and had large families. If a family included a son the age of 18 or over, he too could register a quarter of land in his name for the registration fee of \$10.00. There was no road; the settlers had to cross the swamps to get to Toutes Aides. Teams were busy hauling lumber from Mr. Marshall's mill, in Crane River, to Micawber. Slowly the road were being improved. It was considered a good farming country. Several tractor outfits were breaking land. The government was drilling wells in the district. There was a rural phone. There was new life, new hope.

The settlers visualized that a store would open in the immediate district, and that the Amaranth line of the CNR would be put through. With the Ste. Rose branch it would give the district good facilities. On January, 1921, Micawber Post Office was opened on the SE 16-29-14. It was situated six miles east of Toutes Aides, on the main road to Crane River. Every Saturday the mail was delivered. The new postmaster was C.G. Deighton. Their dreams were realized when Mr. C. Deighton opened a small store selling the necessities. Mr. Johnston also owned and operated a small store, but the dates are unknown. There were twenty-two families settled in the area and a store so close was convenient for them.

These are the family names:

H. Stevens	NE 30
E. Stevens	SE 30
E. Horsefield	SW 28
J. Gladdish	SW 27
W. J. Janson	SW 22
W. M. Pitt	SE 21
T. H. Johnston	NE 21
S. R. Johnston	NW 21
W. C. Popple	NE 20
J. C. Steel	SW 20
A. Laberge	SW 19
A. Lamarche	NW 18
C. J. Deighton	SE 16
W. A. Robbins	NE 13
N. W. Parkhill	NW 10
Jas Robinson	NE 09
W. M. Turnbull	NW 09
H. Kerelation	NW 06
W. Webster	SE 06
A. M. Armett	NW 05
D. D. Ross	SW 03
A. E. Ross	NE 03

As it turned out the land in the Micawber district was swamp and not much good for farming. The district now is mainly pasture and wild hay.

"On January, 1921 a school district was formed. It was called Farnham No. 2046 and was situated on the corner of 29-19- 14. Trustees were J. Gaddish, chairman W. Sloigitt, W. Sayder and C.G. Deighton was secretary-treasurer.

J. E. Hill from Isabelle, Manitoba, was the contractor for the new building and supplied the material needed. The school was to be completed by June 1, 1921. While the school was being constructed, classes were held in the house opposite of the school site. In 1923, Tax Rate was 30 mills for school district No. 2046.

On April 1923, because of the R.M. of Lawrence's poor financial state of affairs, the school was closed.

January 8, 1925, the school was closed once again due to lack of funds.

The Farnham School had their annual Christmas concert on the 17th of December, 1924. The neighbouring districts of Crane River, Toutes Aides and Abbotshall came to enjoy the evening. Miss Vida Murphy of Swan River was credited for training the children and decorating the school. It was a great success. The concert was followed by the Christmas tree which was loaded with presents for the children. Mr. D.D. Ross was Father Christmas. After a delicious supper was served by the local ladies, the dancing started and continued until sun rise.

Miss Vida Murphy returned to her home town because once again the school was closed due to lack of municipal funds. The settlers hoped that it would not be closed for long."<excerpts from Dauphin Herold>

In 1925 the school known as Farnham No. 2046 (Micawber) was moved in Rorketon to be used for classes and became Rorketon's first school. In 1945, when Rorketon built the new school, there was no need for the old one. It was then moved back to the Micawber district, but not at the same site. This time it was moved to 12-29-15 three and a half miles from Toutes Aides on Mr. Didychuk's land. The name was then changed to Micawber. It remained open until 1967. Richard Lytwyn was the last teacher to teach in the school. In the mid-seventies, the school was moved to Martha and Brian Didychuk's yard, where it still stands solidly and is being used for a machine storage shed.

No records from 1921-1950.

The teachers of Micawber from 1951-67 were:

Denise Moreau	1951-53
Denise Desrosiers	1953-54
Louise E. Himpe	1954-55
Muriel Suray Fontaine	1955-56
Cecile Viallet	1956-57

Alice M. Puclos	1957-58
Rosita Delaurier	1958-59
Anita Ducharme	1959-60
Peter Deczycia	1960-61
John F. Solomon	1961-62
no register	1962-64
Gerald Shewchuk	1964-65
no register	1965-66
Richard Ernest Lytwyn	1966-67

The Well

The "Gladdish Well" was known for the best water and is the only land mark left of the Micawber district. Many people pass by the old well and stop for a drink whenever they were going to Crane River on the old bush trail. For the older generation, passing on the main road, a few miles from the well, still brings back memories.

Family Histories

Arthur Adam Family submitted by Eva Fortin

Grandfather Arthur's parents were Etienne and Marie Adam of Longueuil, Quebec. Etienne and Marie had a large family of whom four sons came to Manitoba.

First to arrive in 1889 was Wilfred Adam, an older brother of Arthur Adam. Wilfred taught school

in the original Waterhen school at what was then known as "La Pecherie" which became known as "Adam's Landing".

Grandfather Arthur married my dear Grandmother Elisa Lancto of St. Hyacinthe, Quebec around 1884. In 1892, they too followed the first two brothers and came to Ste. Rose du Lac with their first four children of an eventual family of thirteen.

Before too long grandfather Adam wrote to his twin brother, Gedeon Adam, about homesteading.

Great Uncle Gedeon and Auntie Noamie came with their elder children. Travelling by train and wagon to Ste. Rose with Mr. Dougald McKinnon, who was also coming to Ste. Rose du Lac. Mr. McKinnon spoke no French and Uncle Gedeon spoke no English but they managed fairly well, it seems.

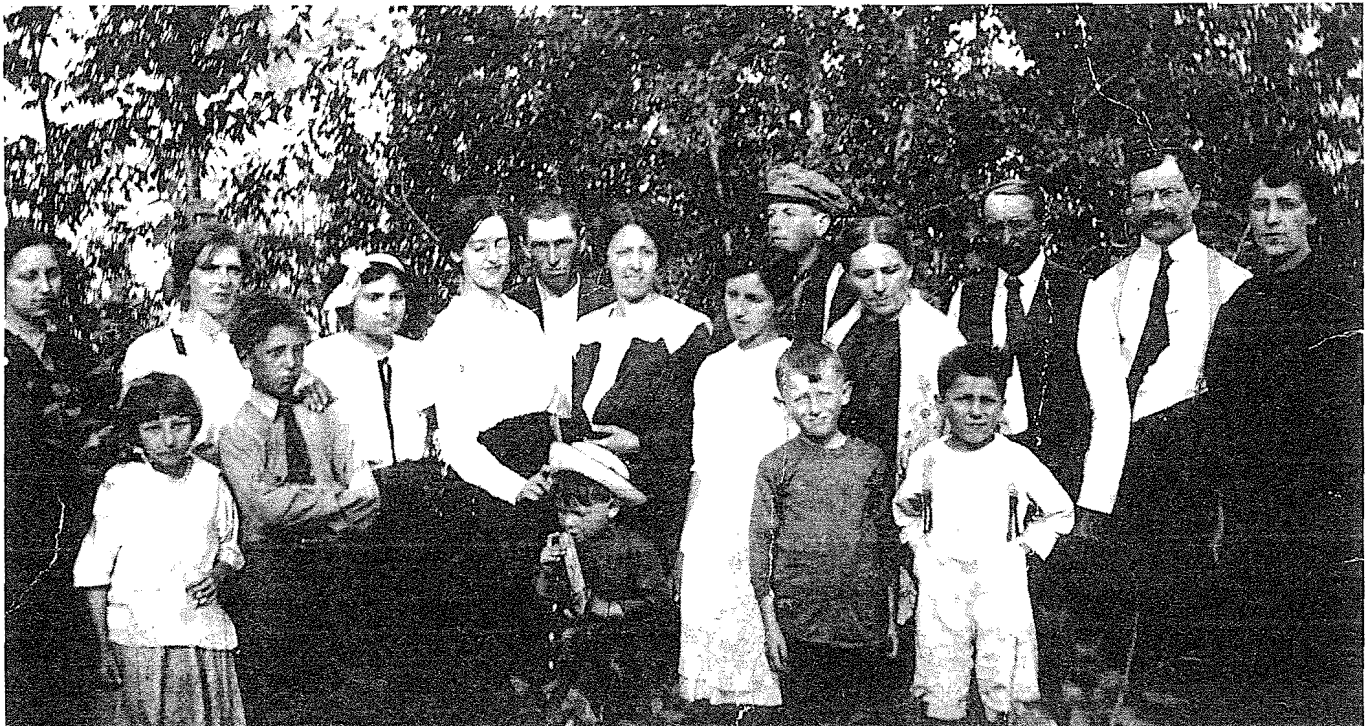
In time Grandfather Arthur moved his family, now numbering ten, to "La Pecherie", in 1903.

My mother, Mary Louise, taught school there.

On April 12, 1912, the day the Titanic sank, Grandfather Arthur moved his family to Toutes Aides.

My dear grandparents had thirteen children; the first four born in the Montreal. The next six born in Ste. Rose du Lac, and the final three born at "La Pecherie" and Meadow Portage. They are the following:

Honora born in 1886. She married William



Adam Family, 1913



L to R -Bert Hutton, Allister, Leslie in front, Edsel on his mom, Honora's (Adam)knee.

Hutton, a fur trader and later lived in The Pas and area. They had four sons. The only remaining one being Bert Hutton of The Pas. Edsel, the youngest was a pilot in World War II and was declared "Missing in Action over Germany" in 1944. Albert died at age twelve and Leskie at twenty- one in 1941, both of pneumonia. Honora married a Mr. Hyslop some year after William died.

Mary Louise, my mother, born 1888. She married Alonson Ball of Grandview in 1912.

Grandfather, Florido and Raoul had gone to work in the Toutes Aides, Burrows Lumber Mill prior to that. My mother went to visit them. One day, as they were speaking French, my dad heard them and came and spoke to them. They were delighted. That was how dad met my mother.

My parents lived in Grandview where dad was a machinist for Burrows Mill there. After the mill moved to Bowsman in 1923, they also moved to Bowsman. There Dad was the top machinist.

Of their seven children four of us remain. Ralph drowned in the Woody River in Bowsman at twelve years old. Orval deceased in Toronto in 1978. Kathleen Katzberg resides in Winnipeg. Glen died at two weeks old. Mae Allen was formerly Mae Ferriss, now lives in Swan River with her husband Ed Allen. I, Evangeline (Eva) married Gabriel Fortin and we live in Ste. Rose du Lac; we lived in Toutes Aides from 1947-1978. Raoul "Ab" as they call him married Irene Bell and they've been in Toronto for years.

In approximately 1912, Dad homesteaded in the Toutes Aides area, NW 6-30-15.

When our mother passed away in January 1930, we children went to different relatives, some for only a few months but my little brother Raoul and I stayed with Grandfather, Grandmother and the Aunties and Uncles who were still at home in Toutes Aides. I stayed two years and Raoul stayed five years, until we went to Bowsman to attend school.

I have many happy memories of these years.

Marcella, born 1890, married Lionel Adam. Their children were Rene born at Adam's Landing. Rene married Annie Tremble of Waterhen and she still resides in Winnipeg, Rene died a few years ago. Their son Romeo married Lorraine Bilodeau of Laurier and they now live in Winnipeg. Son A.R. Pete married Mary Didychuk of Toutes Aides. They now live in Dauphin. Lucille married Chris Stoppel who died not long ago and Lucille resides in Winnipeg.

Florido born 1892, never married. He stayed on the farm in Toutes Aides until the later 1940's, when the farm was sold.

Uncle Florido moved to Winnipeg and died in November of 1959. His own quarter was just south across from Manipogo Beach. There is also a fraction of the quarter east, which is right on the lake shore immediately north of Manipogo Beach.

After Uncle Florido's passing, in 1959, the beach front properties were left for his sisters, Catherine, Marie Therese and Solange. Marie's lot now belongs to Sylvio Plamondon.

Auntie Solange and Uncle Louis also built a cottage on her parcel. Auntie Solange had quite a large lot and her son sold it to Dr. Gilbert Bretecher and Georgette of Dauphin.

Raoul, born 1893, never married. He lived and worked on the farm, but their quarter which is about one mile north of Manipogo Beach, right along the crossing from Spence Lake to Lake Manitoba, belonged to Uncle Raoul. The family all lived there from 1912 on.

Raoul Adam



Uncle Raoul also had a quarter in Meadow Portage.

After 1947 Uncle Raoul went to Carrot Rivers. He died in Winnipeg in the 1970's.

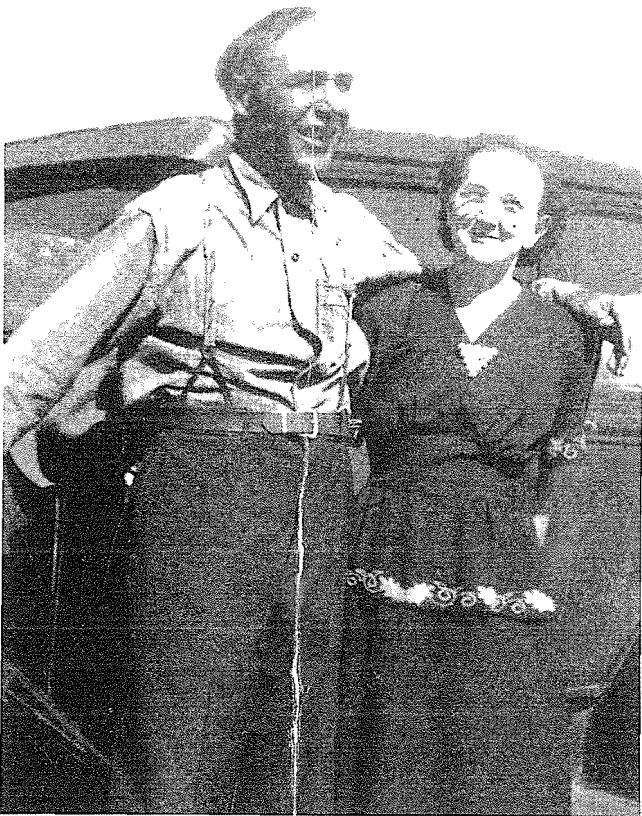
Bernadette, born 1894, married Joseph Thomas of the RCMP. They lived in Swan Lake, Baldur, and finally Winnipeg where Uncle Joseph was a city policeman.

Later they moved to Burlington, Ontario and during those years Uncle Joseph became Ambassador Aide to Belgium and he and Auntie Bernadette resided in Belgium for a number of years.

They had two children, Roland and Pearl who now lives in Bemiji, Minnesota with her husband and family.

Flora was born 1896. She married Englebert Jensen, a Swedish gentleman, and she and Uncle Englebert lived in Luseland, Saskatchewan. They had two children. Norman, and Loretta who later became a dietician in Bing Crosby's home. Auntie Flora, in later life, married, Mr. Fleming in Edmonton, where she had resided for a number of years.

Basil, born 1898, married Melina Graveline of East Bay area July 8, 1931. They were married in Toutes Aides church.



Basil Adam and Melina.

They had one boy who lived only five days.

Uncle Basil and Auntie Melina lived on Uncle Basil's quarter in Meadow Portage, NW 34-31-16.

Uncle Basil ranched with Uncle Raoul.

Ludger Farand bought the place around 1947 after Uncle Basie and Auntie Melina bought Uncle Florido's quarter across from Manipogo and built a house there.

In 1947 Gabriel and I also moved back to Toutes Aides to his home, but we had lived in our own little house in Uncle Basil's yard, helping with the farm work.

From 1940 when I left school to 1946 when we were married, I had made my home with them. They became my God-parents in 1944.

Uncle Basil and his wife Melinda lived in the house in Toutes Aides until he passed away, in 1959. He is buried in Toutes Aides cemetery.

Auntie Melina sold the place. She later married a Mr. Allen Bond and they resided in Portage la Prairie. She passed away, in 1978 and is buried in the Portage cemetery.

Catherine, born 1900, married Leslie Faulkner in Winnipeg.

After she passed on, in 1992, she left me all her pictures.

The Adam home was a lively place with many evenings of dancing and singing. I can remember falling asleep to music downstairs many times.

Auntie Catherine and Uncle Leslie had no children. Though completely blind, Uncle Leslie was remarkably capable. He could type letters.

He and Auntie Catherine lived in their home and later at Holiday Haven in Winnipeg.

Marie Therese born 1902, married Michel Dumas. Uncle Michel was a veteran of both wars. Marie Therese was a fine pianist and loved to dance. They had one son Florian who is in British Columbia. They lived in Winnipeg.

They had built their cottage on their lot north of Manipogo and spent a lot of summer days there until Uncle Michel passed away.

Auntie Marie Therese lived in Winnipeg until she passed on, in 1993.

Aime born 1905 was born at "La Pecherie". He married Merilda Beauvais of Fisher Branch. He owned the old quarter across from the family home.

Uncle Aime spent sometime in the Reserve Army during the war.

Uncle Aime and Auntie Merilda had four children. Gerald went to school in Toutes Aides for his first grades. He and is now in British Columbia and married to Ernestine. Doris and husband Roy

Fanzega live north of St. Francois. Arthur and live Louis in British Columbia too. I believe Louis is the baby of the grandchildren generation, whereas Rene Adam was the first born.

Their home was on his quarter about a mile north of Manipogo Beach.

After Arthur was born in 1951 or 1952, they moved to Fisher Branch. They sold the place to Ray and Grace Bass.

Uncle Aime lives in Central Park Lodge, Auntie Merilda died almost two years ago.

Solange, born 1907, married Louis Fries and they had one son Victor who married Margaret Fosseneuve. They live in Winnipeg and Victor is the caretaker of a school.

Uncle Louis passed away in 1965.

In 1959, they started coming out to our place in Touts Aides from Winnipeg, first tenting and then building a cottage on Auntie Solange's lot north of Manipogo.

After Uncle Louis died Auntie Solange kept coming with Victor and sometimes his friends.

Auntie Solange died fairly young in the early 1980's. She and Uncle Louis had lived in Winnipeg all their married life.

Honore was born 1910, in Meadow Portage, on Uncle Basil's quarter.

He also worked on the home place in Toutes Aides and had a quarter of hay land NW 34-31-16.

Uncle Honore married Mary Nykoluk of Volga, Manitoba in 1942. They had four children Allan, born in Winnipegosis Hospital, is now a lawyer. He



Bernadette (Adam) Thomas, one of first teachers, and husband Joseph Thomas, an ambassador to Belgium.

married in Winnipeg. Lloyd also married and lives in Winnipeg. There were also Sharon and Cynthia. One is in Toronto.

Uncle Honore and Mary built a house in the Benyk's Point area and lived there a year or two. Later they moved to Winnipeg and sold the house to Antoine Bretecher who moved it to his place east of Toutes Aides.

Uncle Honore worked on the pipeline crossing the prairies.

He passed away, in the 1970's, but Mary married again to Mr. Leon Carbotle. He also pre-deceased her. She lives in an apartment in St. Boniface and is very well. She is the only remaining "Auntie-in-law".

A.R. (Pete) and Mary Adam submitted by Doreen Balchen, Karen Worrall and Marie Adam

The first known ancestor of the Adam family was Guillaume, married to Marguerite Nicolet in 1665 and lived in Ste. Genevieve, Normandy. His son Guillaume, a corporal in the French army, emigrated to Canada around the year 1690. He married Catherine Charron at Longueuil, Quebec.

The family name at that time was Adam dit Laramee. Some of the family later shortened it to Adam; some took the name of Laramee. Six generations later, our great grandfather Isaie Adam, son of Etienne Adam, moved to Manitoba from Quebec with his family, around 1898. Three of his brothers also settled in Manitoba, while another moved to St. Louis.

Isaie established himself with his family as a rancher and teacher at a place known as "The Fishery", later known as Adam's Landing. The site was on the east side of Lake Winnipegosis, south of the mouth of West Waterhen River and not far from Salt Point, an area made famous by the author, Gabrielle Roy, in her novel "Where Nests the Waterhen" (La Petite Poule d'Eau). Isaie married Aimee Primeau; they had three sons, George, Conrad and Lionel, and four daughters, Berthe, Juliette, Blanche and Florence.

Lionel, our paternal grandfather, married Marcela Adam, in 1908. They started a trading post at McLeod's Island just west of Skownan. Two sons, Rene and Romeo (Ron), were born at Adam's Landing. In 1913, they moved to Radville, Saskatchewan, where they operated a general store. Our father, Aime (Pete), was born there that year. A daughter, Marie, died in infancy and is buried in the Radville cemetery.

In 1918 the family returned to Manitoba and



Lionel Adam



Marcella Adam

established a trading post at Crane River. A daughter, Lucille, and a son, Carl, were born there. The family operated the trading post for over forty-four years, as well as a second store at Toutes Aides from 1924 to 1940.

The pioneering spirit and fortitude of our grandparents in those days is demonstrated by the arduous journey Grandfather Lionel, as a young man, would make for supplies, by sailboat from Lake Winnipegosis through Lake Waterhen to Lake Manitoba, then to Westbourne, Manitoba. This journey, which took a month or more, necessitated living off the land as he went.

Though the family was expected to help run the two businesses, father Aime (Pete), then seventeen, was hired on as a labourer on a road construction project for PR 276. He became forman.

One year later, father's leadership capability and entrepreneurial spirit, had him going into a commercial fishing operation with six hired employees.

On January 19, 1937, Aime (Pete) married our mother, Mary Didychuk, daughter of Nick and Iryne Didychuk of Rorketon. Mother's family had immigrated from Bashkiw, Ukraine, in 1902, to settle in the newly opened farming lands west of Lake Manitoba.

Father relates a story about how, as newlyweds, they made the trek from Toutes Aides by truck to a fishing camp on Lake Manitoba, clearing out the overgrown trail by axe. Finally, mother saw a building in the distance and with a sigh of relief exclaimed, "I can see the barn!" Father answered, "Darling, that's not the barn, its our house." They spent the winter at the camp. The next two years they operated the store at Toutes Aides.

In 1940 they moved to Winnipeg where father worked for the CN Railroad. In 1944 at grandfather Lionel's request, father and mother returned to Crane River to help operate the trading post and fish



Nick & Irene (Wizniak) Didychuk

and fur business established in Rorketon as a winter operation. In the summer in Rorketon, father worked with Nick Werbiski in the farm implement and hotel business.

In 1949 the International Harvester Co. asked father to take over their farm implement franchise at Ste. Rose du Lac. Father established the dealership in partnership with his brother Romeo (Ron). They still operated the trading post at Crane River in partnership with their sister Lucille and her husband, Chris Stoppel, until 1962, when it was sold. During the Rorketon and Ste. Rose years father also operated a wholesale business distributing flour, salt and lard. In 1955 Romeo (Ron) left the partnership for health reasons and retired to Calgary. They plan to return to Manitoba in 1995.

In 1961 mother and father purchased a section and a half of farmland in the municipality of Ochre River where they raised livestock and at the same time continued to operate the implement business. In 1966 they sold the business and their house in Ste. Rose and moved to their farm, which they still own, 11 km northwest of Ste. Rose.

Father was President of the Manitoba Farmers Union local 509, with over three hundred members, including many from Lawrence Municipality, and a founding member of the National Farmers Union.

In 1970 the Honourable Edward Schreyer, Premier of Manitoba, asked father to stand as a candidate for the New Democratic Party in a by-election to be held in 1971 in Ste. Rose Constituency. Father accepted the challenge and was elected on April 5, 1971 to the Manitoba Legislature. He was

re-elected again to represent the constituency of Ste. Rose, which included Lawrence Municipality, in 1973, 1977 and 1981. During every election mother was active in campaigning, doing a lot of canvassing throughout the constituency on father's behalf. Father gives a great deal of credit to mother for his success.

Father is proud of having obtained paved roads for Rorketon and other areas, senior housing and three senior nursing homes.

During his tenure he served on many boards dealing with agriculture, natural resources, municipal affairs and others. In 1981 the Premier appointed him Minister of Municipal Affairs and Co-operative Development. In that portfolio he set up the "Main Street Program", a program to upgrade the business area of towns and villages. This program proved to be very popular and approximately fifty towns and villages took part in it, including the village of Ste. Rose du Lac. Because of his promotion of this program, father was dubbed "Mainstreet Pete"! In 1984 father was appointed Minister of Government Services. Father retired from office in 1986, after serving the people of Manitoba for fifteen years.

Father and mother are enjoying retirement now and spend their time between their farm and their new home in Dauphin. They have four daughters and seven grandchildren.

Doreen, born in Ste. Rose, married Bruce Balchen, from Dauphin, in 1958. They live in Dauphin, where Bruce is a Land Surveyor. Doreen and Bruce also jointly operate Repromap Ltd, a map-making business in Dauphin. They have one son and three daughters. Bayne has a Bachelor of Science degree in Survey Engineering from the University of Calgary, and was commissioned as a Manitoba Land Surveyor in July, 1995. He is practising in Swan River. Tambi, working in Vancouver, and Brenley, working in Saskatoon, are Court Reporters. Brenley recently married Brian Thompson, formerly of Ochre River. Kendall, the youngest, graduated from the University of Manitoba with a degree in Physical Education in 1988, and in 1993 graduated as a Doctor of Chiropractic from the Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College in Toronto. She is practising in Saskatoon. All are talented musicians.

Lorraine, born in St. Boniface, married Jerry Page, from Brandon, in 1969. They have two children, Jarrett and Lindsay. Lorraine has a Master's Degree in Social Work from the University of Manitoba and works at Victoria Hospital in London, Ontario. Jarrett is attending the University of



Pete & Mary Adam Family, B: L-R Lorraine, Marie, Mary F: L-R Doreen, Pete, Karen

Alberta, in Edmonton; Lindsay is attending the University of Western Ontario in London.

Marie, born in Ste. Rose, married Glenn MacDonell, of Ottawa, in 1977. They live in Ottawa and both work for the Federal Government. They have one son, Adam. Marie has a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Manitoba.

Karen, born in Ste. Rose, married Robert Worrall, of Ste. Rose, in 1979. Robert and Karen operate Worrall Equipment in Ste. Rose.

Earl Joseph Bass History

Earl Joseph Bass was born May 24, 1912, eighth child of William Bass and Delia Trumbla.

William Bass was born in Lowell, Massachusetts. Delia Trumbla was born in Illinois.

They came to Elie, Manitoba, after their second child was born, because Delia's father couldn't afford to buy land in the U.S.A.



William & Delia Bass

William and Delia were offered, by the government, a piece of land in Waterhen and settled there in the early 1900's, with their children. William had been in the American army. They had 12 children when William died of cancer, April 15, 1928.

Delia and her family lived off the land, as did most people at that time. Most of the boys lived at home with their mom, raising cattle until they got married.

The oldest, George, died accidentally at the age of 28.

Frank married Blanche Gudry. They have two children. Lorraine married to Art Barton, lives in Winnipeg, and Melvin who lives in Princeton, British Columbia.

Lulu married Roy Berg.

John married Rachel Berg.

Ray married Grace Gudry, sister to Blanche.

Virden married Therese Bretecher.

Bill married Jean Gudry, cousin to Blanche and Grace.

Earl married Germaine Bretecher.



Earl & Germaine Bass Wedding

Lillian married Dave Smith. They have two children, Marie Dukquits of Amherst, Wisconsin, and Dorothy Rudd of Winnipeg.

Charlie married Grace Donald of Stettler.

Victor married Hilda Trumbla.

Jim lives in Anola, Manitoba, and is married to Louise. Uncle Jim still plays and sings with a band.

Earl married Germaine Bretecher, November 24, 1948, in Toutes Aides. She was the daughter of Alexandre Bretecher Sr. and Aimee Brichon. She was born in Toutes Aides on July 14, 1916. She had two brothers, Alex and Rene, and one sister Blanche, who died at five months of age.

Germaine was a talented and kind person. Before she married, she worked in a clothing factory in Winnipeg where she learned one of her many talents, sewing. She sewed her own wedding gown. She also did beautiful needlework, baked and decorated wedding cakes.

Germaine and Earl lived in Winnipeg for a few years after they were married. Earl worked for the Red Cross. Their first son Lloyd Errol, was born in Winnipeg on October 21, 1949.

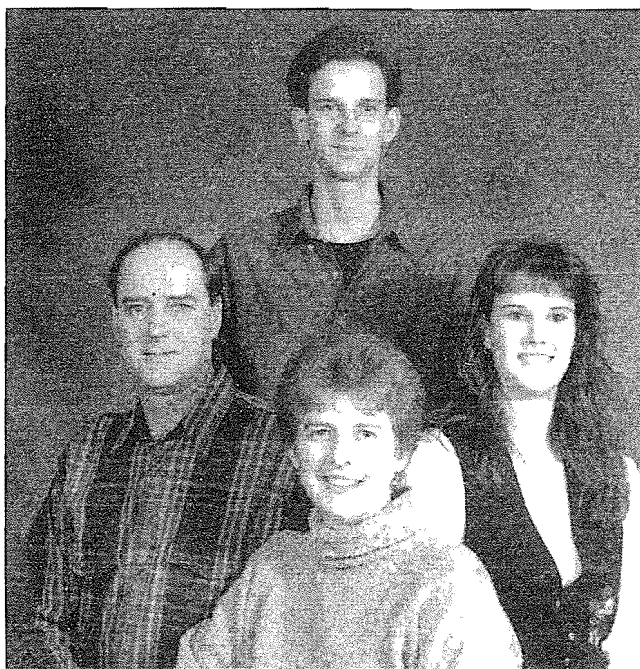
They moved back to Toutes Aides when Lloyd was little and lived in a small house behind Alex and Regina Bretecher's house and cafe.

On July 18, 1955, their second son Jerome was born.

Earl worked for the Parks, taking care of Methley Beach, Rainbow Beach, Manipogo, and Blue Lakes. He took great pride in the work and made many lasting friendships while working. He was also a commercial fisherman and sometimes a taxi for those who needed transportation.

In 1955, they built a new home in Toutes Aides. Their home was built by Fred and Barbara Marshall. The house was sold to Wayne Vandepole, of Ste. Amelie, Manitoba, when Earl was unable to stay alone. He moved to Trois Villas in Ste. Rose until his death, November 1, 1985.

Earl and Germaine took care of her mom, Aimee Bretecher most of their married life. She was a crippled with rheumatoid arthritis. Germaine died of cancer June 20, 1968. Grandma Bretecher continued to stay with Earl and Jerome for some time



Lloyd, Jeannie, Kevin, & Allison Bass

after Germaine died. Earl continued working at Manipogo Beach until his retirement.

Lloyd left home at sixteen years of age and went to work in Flin Flon and Thompson.

In 1971, Lloyd took autobody training at Red River Community College in Winnipeg. He worked for Allard Motors in Dauphin and Gobeil's Auto in Ste. Rose. On July 28, 1973, he married Eugenie (Jeannie) Marie Brunel, daughter of Jean Louis Brunel and Germaine (Lepine), of Methley. They live in Ste. Rose. Lloyd worked for Gobeil's, later known as Du Lac Auto for several years. In October of 1990, he took over the autobody part of Du Lac Auto, which he now owns and operates as Ste. Rose Autobody.

Eugenie, born September 28, 1950, is an L.P.N. and has worked in Ste. Rose Hospital since 1971, after taking her training at Ste. Boniface School of Nursing.

Lloyd and Jeanne have two children, Kevin Earl, born February 17, 1976, and Allison Germaine, born July 29, 1978. Kevin works at Co-op in Ste. Rose, and Allison is in Grade 12.

Earl and Germaine's second son Jerome, left home in 1973. He had been working for Inco in Thompson since. He enjoys the fishing and outdoor life that the north offers.

Viriden Bass

Father, William Bass was born May 26, 1870 and died April 15, 1928. Mother, Delia Trumbula was born July 17, 1880 and died November 9, 1975.

William Bass had ten sons and two daughters; George, Frank, Lulu, John, Ray, Viriden, Bill, Earl, Victor, Lillian, James and Charles.

George deceased January 28, 1928

Frank deceased November 20, 1980



Bass Family

Lulu deceased June 29, 1983

Ray deceased January 23, 1988

Bill deceased April 4, 1980

Earl deceased November 1, 1985

Charles deceased October 27, 1970



Viriden & Therese Bass Wedding, Oct. 16, 1939

Viriden Bass married Theresa Bretecher on October 16, 1939. They had two sons and three daughters; Ruth, Helen, Doris, Norman and Lorne. Viriden and Theresa lived in Waterhen where their first two daughters were born. When the girls were ready for school, they moved across Lake Manitoba where Ruth attended Toutes Aides School and boarded at Armand Bretecher's. The third child (Norman) was born at Lake Manitoba. When Helen was also ready for school, they moved to Mr. Alex Laberge's place where all three children attended Micawber School.

Five years later, another daughter, Doris, was born and five years after that their last child, Lorne, was born. All five attended Micawber School. Ruth took correspondence to Grade 10. After attending Little's Business College in Dauphin, she went to work in Winnipeg. After a few years she moved to Calgary. There she met her husband, Jack Robertson. They had three daughters, Elise, Leone and Jackie.

Helen was the second eldest daughter. After finishing her eighth grade, she went to work in Winnipeg. There she met and married Jim Kozier and moved to Ontario. They had two sons: Darren and Corey. Mr. Kozier passed away in April of 1984. Helen has since married Sylvio Goulet. They now reside in Dauphin.

Eldest son, Norman, attended Micawber School to grade 8, then attended Rorketon Collegiate to Grade 12. He worked in Northern Manitoba for a



Virdin & Therese Bass Family

few years. He married Agnes Flower. They took over the family farm in 1970. They have two children: Neil and Carey.

Doris, third eldest daughter, went to Micawber School to grade eight then attended Rorketon Collegiate to grade ten. She left home to live with her sister in Ontario where she attended nursing school. She married Colin Ross. They have two children: Merissa and Shane. Doris and family reside in Dryden, Ontario.

Lorne, the youngest of Virden's and Theresa's children, attended Rorketon Collegiate and Dauphin High School. He finished grade twelve and found employment for a few years. In 1979, he bought the farm of Ron Range which was formerly owned by Armand Bretecher. This farm originally belonged to John Bretecher, one of the first pioneers of Toutes Aides. In 1984, Lorne met and married Fidelia Napady. They have four children: Jason, Darla, Chad and Eric.

Bretecher Brothers

The five brothers were the first settlers in Toutes Aides. Their father Pierre, who had come to Canada with his sons remained in McCreary, because he was ill, he passed away August 8, 1899. Pierre, the oldest of the brothers, was born February 2, 1874. he was the first to venture to Canada around 1893-94.

Pierre was a masonry by trade. One of his works was the foundation for the cheese factory in Toutes Aides.

On January 22, 1910, he married Charlotte. She came from Montreal and was very well educated. Charlotte was fluent in French and English. She took pride in her daughter Florence.

Pierre kept his faith in the church throughout his life. He passed away on September 22, 1928.

Charlotte passed away October 31, 1916.

Jean the second oldest brother was born November 22, 1868. He had a love of music and enjoyed singing which he did frequently. He married Josephine who came from France in 1897. They took great pride in their family; Cecile, Helen, Marthe, Jean, Raymond and Francois.

Jean passed away April 5, 1955, his wife Josephine followed him on August 29, 1960.

Martin, the next brother was born 1871. He was the mail carrier between Toutes Aides and Crane River.

He married Juliette Adam. she mastered the Saulteux language which was the language of the surrounding native settlement.

Their children were Alva, Yvonne, and George. Martin passed away in 1947, his wife, in 1978.

Francois was born February 2, 1874, he married Elsie Brichon. They had seven children, Marcel, Armand, Leon, Charles, Therese, Antoine and Albert.

Francois died in 1945, his wife died March 25, 1926

Alexandre, the youngest son, was born June 2 1875. He married Aimee Brichon who was born November 5, 1891

They had three children; Alexandre, Germaine and Rene.

Alexandre passed on in March 1950.

Aimee died November 11, 1977.

Albert and Yvette Bretecher Family submitted Donald and Sharon Bretecher

The third and fourth generations presently live on this homestead. The pioneers of this homestead were Francois and Elise (Brichon) Bretecher.

Pierre and Jeanne (Bonnet) Bretecher were born and raised in Vignieux, France. The family of Pierre and Jeanne was comprised of ten children. There were five sons: Pierre Jr., Jean, Martin, Francois, and Alexandre. There were also five daughters: Jeanne, Cecile, Marie, Francoise, and Angele.

Pierre Jr. first came to Canada in 1893-94. When the Canadian government was sending out brochures to some European countries to encourage immigrants to settle here, the father, Pierre, and the remaining four sons set out for a promising future in Canada in the spring of 1895-96. The mother Jeanne, had passed away by this time. The five sisters each went on their own.

Upon arrival in McCreary, the father and the four sons took homesteads and settled down. They

acquired a few head of cattle. Three brothers obtained work at some farms and later on for the railroad track. The water situation became a problem, for wells and dugouts were not common. In 1897 Pierre, Martin, and Francois ventured north towards Lake Manitoba. To their surprise they found a lake with beautifully clean water. They built themselves a log shanty and settled down.

On February 2, 1910, Francois married Elise Brichon, daughter of Jean and Eugene "Moison" Brichon, who came from France in the early 1900's. She was a maid for the De la Fanchai family who had settled southwest of the town of Ste. Rose. She was very talented in French cuisine. Francois had a great love of horses and owned several. Francois and Elise had seven children during their sixteen years of marriage: Marcel in 1911, Armand in 1912, Antoine in 1914, Therese in 1919, Albert in 1922, and Leon in 1925. In March of 1926, Elise passed away. Becoming a widower at middle age, Francois devoted the rest of his life for the welfare of their children, until his death in March 1945.

Up to this time, only Albert and Leon had lived with their father on the homestead. All the other siblings had married and started their own farms. At this time Leon decided it was time to start his own farm.



Paulette, Elise, Donald, Gisele, Larry, Lisa, Valerie & Yvette & Albert (sitting)

On October 27, 1947, Albert Noel Bretecher married Yvette Cecile Fortin, daughter of Henri and Rebecca (Rondeau) Fortin, in the Notre Dame de Toutes Aides Roman Catholic Church at Toutes Aides. Albert and Yvette began their life together on the family homestead of Francois and Elise. In 1947, they built their first home. Albert and Yvette

had seven children during their forty-six years of marriage: Donald in 1949, Elise in 1951, Paulette in 1953, Valerie in 1956, Gisele in 1958, Laurent in 1962, and Lisa in 1965. Albert enjoyed every aspect of raising cattle and producing crops such as wheat, barley, and oats. He was one of the pioneers responsible for establishing the Ste. Rose Cattlemen's Association Auction Mart in the early 1950's. In 1978, Albert and Yvette retired to Dauphin with Larry and Lisa who attended DRCSS School. Up until his death on May 29, 1993, Albert was actively involved with the Knights Of Columbus, sports such as hunting and fishing, and just being an all-round fix-it man for anyone in the community. Yvette was actively involved with the community as a 4-H leader in sewing and knitting departments as well as various church activities such as the choir and teaching catechism for many years. Upon retirement, many days were spent, at their cottage situated at Benyk's Point, visiting with many friends and relatives. Yvette still resides in Dauphin today where she is actively involved with the church.



Donald, Sharon, Karen, Tracy, & Madeleine

On November 3, 1973 Donald Henri Bretecher married Sharon Barbara Rempel, daughter of Henry and Nellie (Topnik) Rempel, in Ste. Rose de Lima Roman Catholic Church of Ste. Rose du Lac. Sharon was employed as a Certified Laboratory Technologist at the Ste. Rose Hospital. Donald and Sharon reside on the family farm of Albert and Yvette where they still are presently engaged with ranching activities. Their family consists of three daughters: Madeline, born in 1977, Tracy, born in 1982, and Karen, born in 1986. Donald's favorite activities include hunting, fishing, and curling.

Sharon's favorite activities include needlework of any kind, curling, and gardening.

Elise married Lorne Reynolds, son of Laurence Reynolds and Lena (Anderson) Barker, on July 10, 1982 at St. Edward the Confessor Roman Catholic Church in Winnipeg. They presently reside in Winnipeg with their sons, Shawn and Christopher, and daughter, Rebecca.

Paulette married Robert Pich, son of William and Ann (Boyechko) Pich, on May 1, 1976 at the Notre Dame de Toutes Aides Roman Catholic Church at Toutes Aides. They are presently residing in Winnipeg with their sons Ian and Colin, and daughter, Cheryl.

Valerie married Orest Pich, son of Michael and Jennie (Jastrebski) Pich, on August 23, 1975 at the Notre Dame de Toutes Aides Roman Catholic Church. They are presently residing in Winnipeg with their daughter Melissa and son, Aaron. Gisele is presently living in Winnipeg with her son, Matthew.

Larry married Lori-Anne Hipher, daughter of Allen and Emma (Sebastian) Hipher, on June 23, 1990 at the St. Charles Roman Catholic Church in Winnipeg. They are presently living in Winnipeg with their daughter, Lauren.

Lisa married Chris Blake, son of Dave and Gwen (Bergman) Blake, on September 10, 1994 on the terrace at the Winnipeg Art Gallery. They are presently living in Winnipeg.

Alexandre and Regina (Bilodeau) Bretecher

Alexandre E. Bretecher was born in 1913. He first met Regina Bilodeau when she was fourteen. She lived in Horyn with her uncle Mr. Gelinas. Their relationship continued to blossom, as they



Bilodeau Family

would meet at various social functions. They were married in 1939. Two years later, in July 1941, their son Louis was born. The family lived with Alex's mother and father until 1943 when they bought three quarters of a section of land where he built a house and barn. They had some livestock. The first winter was difficult.

In April 1946, their daughter Angela was born.

In 1948, Alex and Regina bought Maurice Laberge's house and garage and moved into Toutes Aides.

Louis married Lucille Bouchard. They have four children, Ronald, Maurice, Dennis, and Nicole.

Angela married Brian Friesen in 1968. They have three children, Timothy, Paul, and Lisa.

The youngest child is a daughter, Anita. She married Frank Koski. They have two children.

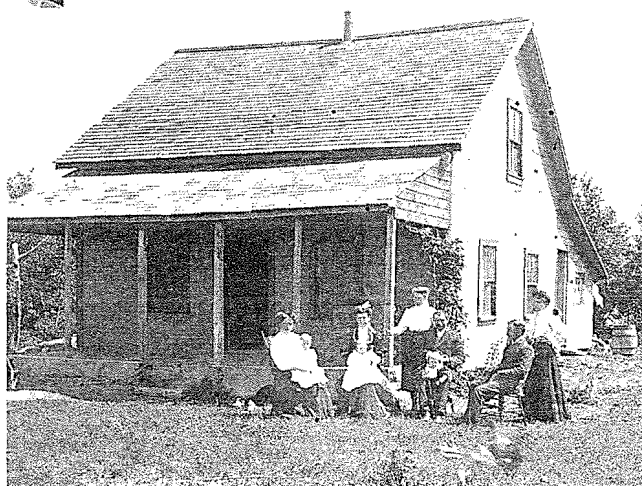
Alex and Regina retired in 1985 and moved to Dauphin where they now reside.

Martin and Juliette (Adam) Bretecher

Martin was born September 20, 1871, in Nantes, France. He was the third son of Pierre and Jeanne (Bonnett) Bretecher. In early spring of 1895, Martin with his father, Pierre, and his three brothers came to Canada to meet his oldest brother Pierre Jr. who had settled in McCreary.

Martin married Juliette (Adam) in 1905. They had four children, Alva, Romeo (died in infancy), Yvonne and George. Grandfather passed away in 1974 and Grandmother in 1978.

Juliette Adam was born July 20, 1887 in Montreal. At the age of two, she came to Skownan with her parents, Isaie and Aimee (Pumeau) Adam. Mr. Isaie Adam was teaching English to the native people. Therefore, Juliette learned to speak Saulteux fluently, as well as English and French.



Martin & Juliette Bretecher's House

Certificate of Marriage

THIS CERTIFIES THAT

John Marie Martin Bretecher and *Juliette Adam*
of *Water Heu River Man* of *Water Heu River Man*

were united in
Holy Matrimony

According to the Rites of the Holy Roman Catholic Church and the Laws
of the Prov. of *Manitoba* at *Winnipegosis* on the *27* day of *June*
in the year of our Lord *1906*

Witnesses *Alexander Bretecher*
Annie Adam

Pastor *Rev. J. Duffy*

What therefore God hath joined together let no man put asunder

declare the above to be an authentic copy of the Marriage record
Rev. J. Lopuschanski, C.M.I. F. J. Tonkin, Co.

Around 1903, Mr. and Mrs. Isaie Adam moved to La Pecherie on Lake Winnipegosis south east shore, known today as Meadow Portage.

Martin's first job when he arrived in McCreary was working on the railroad, laying rails. Then he cut cord wood in Riding Mountain during the bitter cold winter. Around 1897, he worked as a butcher in an abattoir known as Gordon Iwund and Ferris in Winnipeg.

Later, Martin was employed by a commercial fisherman (Josie Grenmon) to do winter fishing on Lake Winnipegosis. In the spring of 1903, while travelling around the south end of Lake Winnipegosis, he met my grandmother Juliette. Their courtship started around 1905. In the meantime Grandpa Martin built a house in Toutes Aides.

On July 27, 1906 Martin married Juliette at the Holy Roman Catholic Church in Winnipegosis. They settled in Toutes Aides. Grandma Juliette became the first postmistress and Grandpa Martin was the first mailman, travelling from Toutes Aides to East Bay. Grandpa also had cattle and horses.

Martin and Juliette had four children: Alva born September 1907, Romeo born 1909 died in infancy



Martin & Juliette (Adam) Bretecher 1906

and is buried in Ste. Rose, Yvonne born July 23, 1910, and George born March 7, 1913.

Juliette was a good hearted person. She loved to cook. Many travellers stopped at their place for a meal or to stay overnight. Juliette, knowing the Saulteux language, made the natives feel right at home.

Martin and Juliette lived most of their lives in Toutes Aides. Due to Martin's ill health, they moved to Winnipeg in 1944 to live with their daughter. Martin passed away in 1947.

Juliette lived in Winnipeg for another twenty-eight years. In 1975, she moved back to Toutes Aides with her daughter, Yvonne. She died in November of 1978.

Alva, eldest of the family, was born in 1907 at La Pecherie in Meadow Portage. At the age of fourteen he started ice fishing with his father. Later on he went out to work on farms and on the railroad. In 1934, he married Aurelie Hartin. In 1940, the farm of Pierre Bretecher was purchased and that's where they carried out their farming, fishing and raising a family. The mail ran between Toutes Aides and Rorketon and was also taken over by the family.



Alva and Aurelia Bretecher

In 1979, they retired and moved to Ste. Rose. On December 9, 1994, Alva, my father, passed away. Mother is presently living in Ste. Rose.

Direct descendants of Alva and Aurelie Bretecher.

"Verna" was born March 1936. I attended a one room school in Toutes Aides for nine years and helped out on the family farm. I received my high school education at Daniel McIntyre in Winnipeg. In 1953, I returned home and taught school for one year. In July of 1955, I married Ardell Hopfner of the Methley district. We then proceeded to set up a mixed farming operation. We had two sons, Hal and



Verna, Ardell Hopfner & Family; Dale, Erin, Nathan Hal, Blair, Ardell & Verna

Blair. We are now semi-retired and are residing in Ste. Rose.

Hal, our oldest, was born in 1956. He attended Magnet and Ste. Rose schools. Hal helped out on the family farm, played baseball, and played goalie for Ste. Rose Royals for several years. Hal married Dale Urbanski in June of 1977. They have a mixed farming operation now and reside where his grandfather and grandmother Hopfner used to reside. They have two children, Nathan 13 years old and Erin twelve years old.

Blair, our youngest was born in 1961. Blair was an avid hockey player. He played five years for Dauphin Kings, then went on to play in Vaasa, Finland. He also has taken up farming on our old farm site.

"Loran", second oldest, born February of 1940, was educated in Toutes Aides and Winnipeg. She worked as secretary for years. She married Wayne Magnusson of Tantallon, Saskatchewan, and they have two daughters, Lindsay and Shelly.

"Agnes", born July of 1945, was educated in Toutes Aides and Rorketon. She married Derrick Lane in 1966 at Vancouver, and they had two children, Michelle and Brian. During eighteen years, due to work, they lived in several parts of Canada, but are now settled in Vancouver. Agnes now works as travel agent for Thomas Cooke.

"Wilfred" was born January 1949. He worked on the family farm and attended school. Wilfred

graduated in Vancouver but returned home and began ranching. He married Marie Paule Gamache of Laurier and purchased a ranch in Cayer where they still reside and have greatly expanded.

"Robert" was born September 1954. Robert was educated in Toutes Aides and Rorketon. He was employed by Wilson Auto Electric for several years. He attended Red River College and graduated in Telecommunications. He married Betty Marrison in 1974. They lived in Yorkton for several years and then were transferred to Regina where Robert is still working for Saskatchewan Telecommunications. They have two children, Jason and Shauna.

Yvonne Bretecher

Yvonne, daughter of Martin and Juliette (Adam), was born July 23, 1910, at La Pecherie Winnipegosis.

She started school in 1916 in Toutes Aides. Her first teacher was Mrs. Rose Gaudry. As a teenager, she went to boarding school in Ste. Rose du Lac where the teachers were Sisters of Notre Dame Des Missions. Later, around 1925 she went to Winnipeg to take her Grade eleven at the Gordon Bell High School where she graduated.

Yvonne enjoyed her childhood in Toutes Aides. Yvonne's uncle, Lionel Adam, a merchant in Toutes Aides, taught her how to mend and seam fish nets. She worked for him during summer holidays.

After graduating in Winnipeg, Yvonne worked at many places. She worked in a sewing factory. Later, in the late 1940's and early 1950's, she seamed fish nets for Park-Harmeson Co. and John Leckie Limited. She did this work for a number of years. She earned fifty cents to seventy-five cents a day.

In 1958, having to stay home to care for her mother, she started a guest home for elderly people, handicaps and mentally incompetent patients. She did this for seventeen years, until she retired. In August, 1975, Yvonne and her mother moved back to Toutes Aides. She settled a half a mile north of Manipogo Beach. Her mother lived three years before passing away.

Yvonne appreciated the peacefulness of the lake. She enjoyed crafts.

In 1983, Yvonne received a pace maker. She still kept quite active.

She moved back to Winnipeg. She lived in a Senior Apartment on Colomey Street. She kept very active helping and doing things for the other seniors. Yvonne still enjoys doing her crafts, reading and going to Bingo. Then in June of 1995, Yvonne had a

stroke. Since November of 1995, Yvonne has been living at Life Care Centre at the Quest Inn on Ellice Ave.

Claude and Lorraine Berard (Bretecher)

Lorraine Rosemarie, the eldest daughter of George and Rose Bretecher, was born April 8, 1943, in Ochre River at Dr. McLennan's house and raised in Toutes Aides. Lorraine lived on the old farmstead and completed her grade eight in Toutes Aides School. In 1957, Lorraine's parents moved to Waterhen. Lorraine attended high school at St. Norbert Convent for one year. It was at that time in May, 1958, while she was visiting her cousin Freddie on the weekends that she met Claude.

Claude was born on January 5, 1936, in St. Joseph, Manitoba. Claude was working on construction with Freddie. In 1958, Lorraine with her two sisters (Blanche and Norma) moved on Basil Adam's farm. Lorraine attended Rorketon High School. In 1959, Lorraine moved to Winnipeg. She worked at St. Boniface Hospital for seventy- seven cents an hour. On January 28, 1961, Lorraine and Claude were married at St. Boniface Cathedral. The same day, they travelled back to Toutes Aides and had a big wedding reception in the newly built Toutes Aides Community Hall. Claude and Lorraine have four boys. Claude and Lorraine are proud grandparents of seven grandsons and two granddaughters. After raising her family, in 1981, Lorraine returned to school (Red River Community College) and graduated in bookkeeping. She is presently working at a Credit Union as a clerical clerk. Claude is a mechanic and is semi-retired.

Blanche Rewniak-Bechard (Bretecher)

Blanche Yvonne, second daughter of George and Rose Bretecher was born in Ste. Rose du Lac Hospital on June 22, 1944. Blanche lived and attended school in Toutes Aides. At thirteen years old, she moved to Waterhen with her parents. After attending school in Waterhen for a few years, she returned to Toutes Aides School for a couple of years. Then she went to Winnipeg in 1961 and took a hairdresser course. She worked as a hairdresser in Dauphin. During that time she met Dave Rewniak of Ukraine, Manitoba. They were married August 31, 1963 in Toutes Aides Roman Catholic Church. They lived and worked on her parents' farm north of Manipogo Beach. On February 7, 1968, their daughter Roseann was born in Dauphin Hospital.

Blanche became a young widow. Dave was killed in a tractor accident November 2, 1968. Blanche returned to Waterhen with her parents.

Beside working at the camp, Blanche would go once a week to Toutes Aides to do hair until she married Phil. Blanche married Phil Bechard on December 17, 1972. They worked with Blanche's parents in the tourist business. Due to Blanche's health they moved to Dauphin in 1985. Blanche died of cancer November 30, 1986. She is buried in Toutes Aides Cemetery with all her loved ones.

Blanche's daughter, Roseann is now married to Don Reid and lives in Calgary. Roseann and Don have two lovable children, a daughter and a son.

Nick and Norma (Bretecher) Roznowsky

Norma Estelle was born May 5, 1947, at St. Boniface Hospital, youngest daughter of George and Rose Bretecher. Norma spent most of her younger days in Toutes Aides. In 1957, she moved to Waterhen with her parents. In 1958 she came back to Toutes Aides and finished her elementary school.

After finishing school in Toutes Aides, Norma moved back to Waterhen with her parents, where she met Nick Roznowsky. Nick was cattle ranching with his father. Nick and Norma were married on November 5, 1966 in Toutes Aides Roman Catholic Church. Nick and Norma lived a few years on the ranch. Then they moved along the river, a mile north of the North Star Camp in Waterhen.

Nick and Norma have four lovely daughters residing in Winnipeg and two sons, Craig living in Calgary and Cory still living at home attending Winnipegosis School. Norma and Nick are proud grandparents of one girl and one boy. Nick is a school bus driver from Waterhen to Winnipegosis. Norma worked for a while at North Star Camp. Now, she is presently busy gardening and canning.

Rene and Jeanne Bretecher Family submitted Clement and Lesley Bretecher

Alexandre Bretecher came with his father from Vignieux, France in 1894. They settled in McCreary and later decided to move to the shores of Lake Manitoba.

Clement's grandfather, Alexandre, born on June 2, 1875, laid claim to this land in the early 1900's. He married Aimee Brichon in 1912. They had four children, Alexandre E., born 1913, Blanche, born in 1914, (died of whooping cough at eleven months of age), Germaine, born in 1916, and Rene, born in 1918. Alexandre married Regina Bilodeau and Germaine married Earl Bass.

Rene decided to stay on the family farm with his parents. On September 30, 1942, he married Jeanne Le Roch, daughter of Jean and Marie LeRoch. In



Alexandre and Aimee (Brichon) Bretecher and family; Germaine, Rene, and Alex.

1949, Rene's parents moved to Winnipeg. In 1950, they decided to return to Toutes Aides. On the way, Alexandre Sr. took sick and was admitted to Ste. Rose Hospital, and died shortly after. Aimee, who was seriously afflicted with arthritis, lived with her children until 1973. At that time, she went to live at St. Paul's Nursing Home in Dauphin. Later she was transferred to Dr. Gendreau Memorial Home in Ste. Rose, until her demise on November 11, 1977, at the age 86 years.

Rene and Jeanne have four children: Henry, born October 24, 1944, Clement, born March 6, 1946, Gilbert, born April 27, 1951, and Denise born July 16, 1957.

Henry is in Montreal. Gilbert is a doctor and is married to Georgette Zradicka from Dauphin. They reside in Dauphin with their three children. Denise is married to Wayne Shewchuk in Meadow Portage, and they have three children.

After working at Dominion Bridge in Winnipeg, Inco Mines in Thompson, and Royal Hotel as a beer waiter, Clement decided to return to the family farm. He is the third generation of Bretechers to farm this land. On May 16, 1970, he married Lesley Davies, daughter of Verna and William Davies of Mountview district, of rural Dauphin.

After completing her Grade XII in 1966, Lesley went to work in Winnipeg at Canada Manpower, Executive and Professional Division, as a receptionist. In 1967, she returned to Dauphin and was employed by the Town of Dauphin, until her marriage to Clement.

They settled in a mobile home on the family farm, then built their present home in 1978. They have three children:



Rene & Jean Bretecher family taken at their 50th Wedding Anniversary in 1992. L to R: Christine, Michelle, Darren holding Garret, Rick, Leslie, Clement, Georgette, Jamie, Gilbert, Jackie, Henry, Christopher, Wayne holding Gavin, Robert, Denise, Charlene. Sitting in front are Jeanne and Rene.

Michelle, born November 27, 1970. She married Darren Smith, son of Jim and Donna Smith of the Magnet district, on September 1, 1990. They have one son, Garrett Austin, born October 18, 1991 and one daughter Courtney Ashlyn, born August 8, 1995.

After Michelle and Darren graduated, they went to Brandon. Michelle took hairdressing, and Darren took carpentry. Besides taking over his Grandfather's farm, they keep busy in their respective fields.

Christine, born August 20, 1973, took two years of University in Winnipeg and then one year at Herzing Career College. She is employed at the Boyd Medical Centre as a doctor's office assistant. She spent her summer holidays working at Sticky's restaurant, Manipogo Beach and of course the boy field!

Richard, born April 19, 1979, is presently enrolled in Grade twelve at the Rorketon School. He loves hunting, snowmobiling and triking.

Many changes have taken place as the generations pass, but there is still one landmark on the farm, and that is the hip roofed barn. The barn was built in the early 1940's. The siding and shingles were bought from Pulak's Lumber Yard. The rough

lumber was sawed from logs brought from Crane River and Patenaudi Bay. One can only imagine the stories those walls could tell if they could talk. The stories told during the milking days, the days when everything was horse drawn, and of course those days when three boys had to haul five gallon pails of water to those bulls in the barn, bottomless pits you say.

The barn housed many freighter horses. Freighters, hauling fish from Crane River to Rorketon to the train, used to stop by to wait out a storm. The trail used to go through Rene and Jeanne's yard. Usually the freighters would stay in Rorketon overnite and return to Crane River the next day. Horses would board at the livery barn in Rorketon and men would sleep in their caboose or at a boarding house. Sometimes, when the socializing was too good in Rorketon, they would stop at Rene and Jeanne's, to spend the night the following day. They would haul all their perishable supplies into the house so they wouldn't freeze. Twice a week, Mondays and Fridays, there would be between 20-25 cabooses travelling together to Rorketon.

Some of the previous owners of the land which is included in the family cattle operation today are: Willie Howe, Alex Bretecher and Walter Saari.

Marcel and Helen Bretecher History submitted by Helen Bretecher

I was born and raised close to the junction near Toutes Aides. My childhood was a good and happy one, even though we were poor, and were the pioneers of the district.

My mother was the first white woman there at the turn of the century. We had a lot of people stopping in. We lived a short distance from the church and where the town is situated.

My first day of school was when I was five years old. The teacher made me sing and I got a prize. She said I sang very well. Later on I had to learn English and did the best that I could.

When I got to be fourteen years of age, my parents bought me an old organ, of which I was very proud. First I had to learn the scale of the key of G, and started to play for Sunday Mass. My knowledge was very limited, but gradually I improved.

Once I was asked to go and play in Crane River in the little chapel on the reserve. Archbishop Sinotte was coming to celebrate Confirmation. The organ I had there was in a suitcase with four metal legs. We even sang "Come Holy Spirit" in Saulteux for the occasion.

I took my Grade VIII by correspondence, the second year it was introduced in Manitoba. Mr. Baily, in Winnipeg was our director. There were seven of us all through Manitoba. In June, I had to go to write my exams in Ste. Rose du Lac. There, the sisters of the convent offered me an education, if I would work for my room and board. I gladly accepted. We were thirty-six boarders. I remember all the times my good friend, Marie Rose, and I sang the solos for recommended masses. It was nothing for me.



Helen, Florence, Rita, Alfred and Marcel Bretecher.

Later on, when my schooling was over, I got married to Marcel and started a family. The first three winters we went to live north of Lake Manitoba, what is called Bretecher Point, about ten miles east of Waterhen.

There was a long log house and a barn built for the Cote family. We had many visitors, hunters and trappers from surrounding districts. We had no T.V. or radio, but always got the news from our visitors. The trappers would come on skis and always had tea and a bit of lunch at our place. Later they would keep on checking their trap line. On their way back, they would drop in again and show us whatever they had caught.

After a few years, Marcel and I settled on our farm. Our little girls, Rita, and Florence, were of age to start school. I was sad to leave; Marcel's dad had been good to my family and me. He wanted us to stay. So there we were on our way to our own home, with a two dollar bill in our pocket, after buying a few groceries in Rorketon. Our first visitor was my brother, who came for supper that evening. Next morning I had to play the organ for the funeral of Jean Pierre Fouillen. I had three miles to walk but I didn't mind it if the weather was decent. I remember this one time, in October, the morning was quite cool, raining and a wind from the north, and I had to play for a marriage. Marcel tells me it isn't fit for me to go, so he suggested he would hitch the horses to the big wagon and rack, and he would take me, and at the same time get a couple of barrels of water from the lake.

Yes, I played the organ for many Midnight masses. This meant long practices, but when it came to Minuet Chretien, it was always beautiful. I also



Francois & Elise (Brichon) Bretecher Family, L to R: Marcel, Father Francois Armand, Therese, Antoine. In front, Albert, Leon and Charles.

played for several marriages. My good choir ladies sang the Ave Maria and other hymns very well. Amongst the singers were Lucille Moreau and Yvette and Aline Bretecher.

After several years, our son Alfred and his wife Vi, took over the farm. Marcel and I retired in Dauphin. For a few years I was busy with boarders, and then I wanted to do some travelling. My first trip was to go overseas and visit France, where my parents originated. It was wonderful to meet the relatives. They made us so welcome. Rita and I also went to the Shrine Of Lourdes in the Pyrenees, on the Spanish border. It was a beautiful and touching experience.

A couple of years later, I went to Hawaii and the Island of Maui. One Sunday, Rita and I went to a little chapel built in 1914. It reminded me of the chapel in Crane River where I had played many years ago. There were many Canadian tourists.

After a few years, Marcel and I went on a three weeks tour to the Maritimes. We visited l'Oratoire de St. Joseph, and Ste. Anne de Beaupre. In Indian River, Michigan, we visited the Catholic Shrine where there is the largest wooden and bronze crucifix in the world. When I look back, I feel grateful for the contribution of my efforts during all those past years.

Here I am in my suite at The Parkview Lodge in Dauphin, at the age of eighty-four. I am alone but I was able to enjoy being in Notre Dame De Toutes Aides church for the Christmas service this 1995.



Therese Bretecher family

Alfred Bretecher

I am the youngest child and only son of Marcel and Helen Bretecher. I was born on February 4, 1945. I've always lived on this farm. I attended Micawber School until Grade 8. After that I travelled to Rorketon to finish high school. At eighteen, I left home to seek employment in the big city, but my desire to stay on the farm won over and I was back in six months. Together with Dad, we ran a Hereford cow/calf operation.

On October 11, 1969 I married Violet Ellchuk (daughter of Nick Ellchuk and Mary Kapnitski) of Sandy Lake, Manitoba. She was employed at the Ste. Rose Hospital as an L.P.N. She took her elementary education at Providence School, finished her high school at Sandy Lake, then took her nurse's training at St. Boniface.

We lived in a mobile home on the farm for two years. Mom and Dad retired in June of 1972, in Dauphin. Dad had retired, but was here regularly, every Monday morning to help out and Friday he would go back. In 1982, we switched our cattle herd to Charolais.

Our son, Jeffrey Ryan, was born on February 10, 1972. I thought, oh boy, help on the ranch when he grows up, but Jeff had other plans. He was much more interested in books and the computers. Jeff enjoyed school very much and received the Governor General Medal upon graduating from Grade twelve. In June 1994, he received his B.of Ed. degree and this is his second year teaching at Cross Lake.

Our daughter, Shannon Leigh, was born April 13, 1977. She also enjoyed school very much, excelling in public speaking, writing and Ukrainian dancing. Shannon graduated from Grade 12 in 1995, is taking a year off from classes to work, but will return to University or College. Shannon received an award from Governor General Hnatyshyn for her essay, "The Spirit of Canada", which was published in an anthology for Canada's 125th birthday.

With time so quickly going by, the children on their own, ranching is still a way of life I enjoy (but hoping to retire soon.)

Antoine and Aline Bretecher **submitted by Irene Kustiak**

My father Antoine (Tony) Bretecher was born September 30, 1915, the third eldest son of Francois and Elise (Brichon) Bretecher. On November 15, 1943, he married Aline Reboul, the eldest daughter of Emile and Aldina (Dupas) Reboul at Toutes Aides. They farmed until 1972 at which time they sold their farm and moved to Dauphin. My mother

still resides at 132 Bossons Ave. My father died June 3, 1989.

I was born September 9, 1944 and my brother, Ernest, on October 13, 1951 at Ste. Rose du Lac.

Our parents worked very hard to provide us with the necessities of life. There was always time for recreation, a Saturday night movie in Rorketon, many picnics and local dances.

Both Ernest and I attended the one room school of Micawber for grades one to eight. I also took grade nine by correspondence. We both graduated from Rorketon High School. Ernest pursued employment in carpentry and cement work while I attended Teachers' College.

Ernest married Jean Michaluk and they have three daughters, Carol, 22 years, Diana, 18 years, and Theresa, 14 years. Ernest had worked in various places but presently calls Dauphin home. Jean lives in Brandon.

I married Tony Kustiak and we have two sons, Trevor 25 years and Konrad, 22 years, as well as one daughter, Anilise, 16 years.

Tony's last job took us to Shellbrook, Saskatchewan, twenty-eight miles west of Prince Albert. We live on an acreage, one and one-half miles north of Shellbrook. Tony travelled for eleven years working for Northern Lights School Division. He retired in 1989 as Superintendent of Schools.

Together, in 1984, we started up our own business, K.S. Market Enterprises. Presently, it consists of 12,000 square feet of greenhouses for bedding plant sales and approximately sixty acres of commercial fruits, strawberries, raspberries and saskatoons. The greenhouses are in Shellbrook and the fruit farm is in Prince Albert, so we do lots of commuting.

Trevor, our oldest son, is the lead guitar player in the band "Cool for August" of which he is a founding member. They have a major contract with Warner Bros. and are presently recording their first album which is due to be released this fall.

Konrad, our second son, is pursuing a degree in Criminology.

Anilise is enrolled in Shellbrook High School and is in Grade eleven French Immersion. She is completely bilingual.

In conclusion, Aline, Irene and Ernest would like to express their deepest respect and admiration for the pioneers of Lawrence Municipality.

George and Rose (Bilodeau) Bretecher

George Noel was born March 7, 1913 at the old farmstead in Toutes Aides. He was the youngest child of Martin and Juliette Bretecher (Adam).

Marie Rose Anny was born June 11, 1922, in Toutes Aides. She was the youngest daughter of Joseph and Albina Bilodeau (Recard).

George grew up on the farm in Toutes Aides. His education was limited due to ill health. At the age of seven, he was struck with rheumatic fever, which, in those days, was a serious illness. He had attained a grade three level. Times being hard, George started working around the age of fourteen years, commercial fishing, trapping muskrats, cutting hay, cutting wood and looking after cattle on the ranch.

Rose grew up and went to school in Horyn district. She learned to speak Ukrainian during that time. At the age of twelve years, she moved to Transcona, Manitoba, to live with her sister and father. Rose went to school for a few years in Transcona. Later on, she did various housework to earn a living.

When Rose left Toutes Aides in 1934, George took Rose by horse and buggy to Rorketon Railroad station to catch the train to Transcona. At that time, he told her he would come and marry her when she was old enough. True to his word, he started courting her later in her teens by writing letters. He had to have his mom write his letters.

On May 30, 1942, George and Rose were married at Notre Dame L'Assomption Catholic Church in Transcona. A few days later, they returned to Toutes Aides to settle on the homestead with Grandpa and Grandma.

A few years later, Grandpa became ill. They moved to Winnipeg with their daughter Yvonne. George took over his father's footsteps and Rose, her mother-in-law's footsteps.

In the spring, April 8, 1943, their first daughter, Lorraine, was born. The following summer, June 22,



George & Rose Bretecher

1944, Blanche was born. A few years later on May 5, 1947 Norma was born.

In the evening when George and his hired men got home, Rose would help clean and fillet the fish. Rose suffered many years with eczema until she found out she was allergic to fish. When George was busy, Rose would be the mail carrier from Toutes Aides to Rorketon. The elderly people enjoyed seeing her as she was able to speak Ukrainian to them.

George and Rose's home was open to friends and relatives.

In 1957, Dad left the old farmstead and moved to Waterhen. The first year there, he cleared the land and built a few cabins. He kept operating the farm for a few more years. As the business in Waterhen progressed, he had a cousin looking after his cattle. George loved to visit the farm. George and Rose loved to attend different activities in Toutes Aides.

In 1985, George and Rose sold the tourist business and moved to Dauphin. In 1991, George finally sold all his land to his cousins. January 4, 1992 George passed away. He is resting in peace in Toutes Aides Cemetery.

Bretecher, Jean and Josephine submitted by daughter Marthe Le Gal

My parents came to live in Toutes Aides around 1906-1907. By that time all my dad's brothers had settled there which meant a home for all of them. My mother found it hard at first, but then as she made friends with other women, it made life a little easier. My parents had a family of eight children. Two died in infancy; three girls and three boys survived. The house where I was born, was situated between the road going to Horyn and the creek going north to Lake Manitoba.

Over the years, my dad acquired a small herd of cattle. Of course this demanded a lot of work, such as putting up hay and shelter for the winter.

After a few years, he bought half a section of land on 14-29-15. This meant having to start building again for the family. It was three and a half miles east of Toutes Aides. I can remember how quiet it was, but a lot of noise when it was windy.

Over the years the herd of cattle grew and dad started to open some land for grain farming. My two older brothers were able to help then. This meant that more machinery had to be purchased.

In the 1930's, the "Depression Years", the price of cattle and grain went down. We milked around 27 cows during the summer, shipped cream and sold eggs. Everyone had to work.

My sister Cecile, married in 1930, Helene in 1933, and Marthe (myself) in 1942.

In 1947, my parents decided that they had enough of farming and were also getting older, so they went to stay with my sister Cecile in Ochre River.

Meanwhile, as my brothers were bachelors, they sold the farm, cattle, had an auction sale and moved to Winnipeg.

My brothers John and Raymond married and Frank stayed single. My parents moved to Winnipeg, where they spent the rest of their lives. There are fourteen grandchildren.

My dad Jean (John), was born November 22, 1869, in France. He died April 9, 1955 in St. Boniface.

My mother Josephine, was born Nov. 26, 1871, in France. She died Aug. 29, 1960, in Winnipeg.

My parents are buried in the Toutes Aides Cemetery. My three brothers and my oldest sister have passed away. My sister Helene and I are the two surviving members of the family.

Charles and Mary Bretecher

Charles Edward Bretecher was born in Toutes Aides on November 24, 1919. He grew up on the family farm and attended the one-room school house until 1933. At age fourteen, he quit school to stay home and help with the work.

In 1939, he left home for the first time. Through an employment agency in Brandon, he landed a job working on a farm near Minto, Manitoba. His wages were \$25.00 per month, free board and room, and an extra \$1.00 a day during harvest.

In the fall of 1939, he quit his job to return home for his sister Therese's wedding. After the wedding, he remained at home, helping out until he was called up for military service.

It was the spring of 1941 when he started his basic training at Portage la Prairie. In November, 1941, he enlisted in active service, was transferred to Camp Shilo, and began training in the Transport Battery Division. He later became an instructor. In September, 1943, he was transferred overseas to England, where he underwent further military training. He was stationed in Northwestern Germany when VE was finally declared on May 8, 1945. Unknown to him at the time was that his father had died just four days before. He was then transferred to England to await his final orders to return home. On January 1, 1946, he returned to Canada, sailing into Halifax Harbour, then boarding the train for home.

Charles stayed on the farm until January 1947 when he moved to Chemanius, British Columbia, taking a job in a lumber mill. He came home that

summer to help with the farm, but returned to the job in the fall.

In the spring of 1948, he came home again, this time to be married. On June 26, 1948, he married Mary Stark. Two weeks later they returned to Chemanius.

In April 1951, Charles and Mary decided to move back to Manitoba. In June 1951, they made their permanent home on the shore of Lake Manitoba, just north of the Toutes Aides townsite. When the opportunity presented itself, Charles worked as farm hand, carpenter, electrician, fisherman, trapper, general repair man and fishing guide.

In January 1953, with no prospect of local employment, Charles hired on with the cat trains that moved the townsite of Sheridan to Lynn Lake. The biggest event that winter happened when he put a cat through the ice of the Churchill River, luckily not even getting wet. The job done, he returned home in April 1953 to get ready for fishing season.

In May 1961, Charles once again found employment away from Toutes Aides. This time he hired on with the Canadian National Railway as carpenter on a Bridge and Building gang. In the fall of 1965, he quit CNR to hire on as carpenter with the Department of Tourism and Recreation. In the spring of 1969, Charles returned to his old job with the CNR. He stayed on as foreman of a B & B gang, "North of '53" until his retirement in November, 1984.

Charles and Mary have seven children: Edward, Leonette, Elizabeth, Katherine Louise, Joseph, Emily, and Michael.

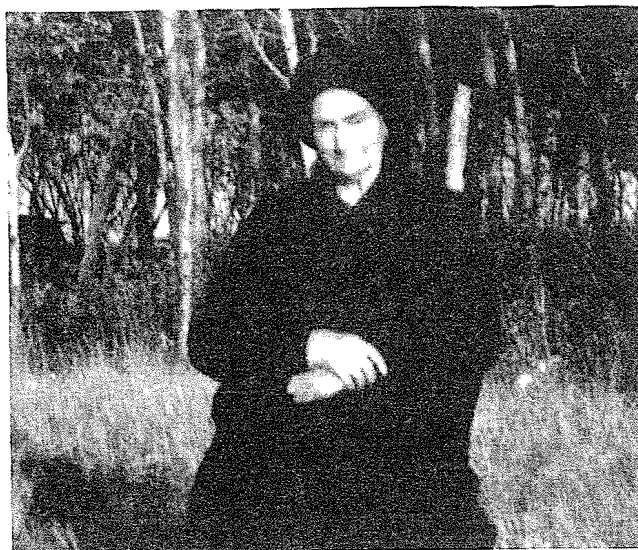
Raphael Brichons' Family and Decendents submitted by Yvonne Grenier (Brichon)

Raphael Jean Brichon, son of Jean and Eugenie (Moisson), was born in France on May 27, 1899. In 1911, he came to Canada with his mother and sister Aimee. A brother Raymond, and sister Elise were to follow.

On February 2, 1910, Elise married Francois Bretecher in St. Boniface, and in 1912 Aimee married Alexander Bretecher. It was the first marriage performed in the Toutes Aides Church.

Raphael lived and worked with his sister until he was old enough to have his own homestead six miles from Crane River.

On April 21, 1931, Raphael married Alberta Fortin, the eldest daughter of Henri and Rebecca Fortin (Rondeau). They lived on their homestead for a few years and later moved to a farm three and a half miles east of Toutes Aides until they retired in Toutes Aides next to the town hall.



Grandmere Eugene Brichon

Raphael and Alberta had seven children, five girls and two boys, Lucienne, Irene, Simone, Yvonne, Claire, Leon, and Andre.

In 1978, they sold their house in Toutes Aides and moved to St. Leon to be near their daughter, Yvonne.

Alberta died on September 20, 1979, in St. Leon.

Raphael died on December 30, 1981 in Winnipeg.

Lucienne (Lucy) married Henry (Bud) Smith in Toutes Aides on October 9, 1954. They live in Brandon and have three children.

Dolores married Gerry Campbell and have two girls, Meghan and Aimee, who live in Winnipeg.

Karl married Natalie Klemchuk. They live in



Raphael Brichon, Granmere Brichon & Aimee (Brichon) Bretecher



Brichon Family: F: Lucy, Raphael, Alberta & Irene. B: Andre, Yvonne, Simone, Claire & Leon.

Robert married Allison Conney. They have two children, Irene and Brian. They live in Winnipeg.

Henry (Bud) Smith died in Brandon on March 25, 1993.

Irene married Charles Smith in Toutes Aides on September 19, 1953. They live in Calgary and have three children.

Claire married Kevin McDougal. They have two children, Jan and Lindsay.

Barbara married Trevor Scott and have one son Taylor. They live in Calgary.

Wesley died accidentally in 1978.

Yvonne married Antonio Grenier in Toutes Aides on June 29, 1953. They have six children; four boys and two girls. They live in St. Leon.

Jules married Charlene Lavesseur and have four boys. They live in Morden.

Vivian married Alcide Boutel and have two children, Christelle and Kelsey. After a divorce, she married Leo Delaquis in September 1994, and now lives in Ste. Rose.

Daniel married Debbie Vandendorpe and they have one daughter, Danielle.

Charles married Barbara Radford; they live in Winnipeg.

Mona married Grant Checkly and have two children, Brittany and Douglas. They live in St. Agathe.

Andre married Teresa de Vloo and have three children; Gislaine, Stephane and Shaylin. They live in St. Leon.

Simone married Louis Beauchemin in Toutes Aides on June 15, 1957. They have two boys, Wayne and Raymond. Louis died on June 4, 1973. On July 28, 1978, Simone married Tom De-Beerf.

Wayne married Charlene O'Donalland. They

have three children, Carly, Chelsey and Casey. Carly died in 1987. They live in White Horse.

Raymond married Karen and have two girls; Tamara and Heidi. They live in Winnipeg.

Leon married Alida Van Buten in Souris on August 11, 1961, and have two children, Michelle and Marcel. They live in Cloverdale, British Columbia.

Andre married Marlene Towns on June 16, 1957 and live in Brandon. They have two boys, Mark and Cameron.

Claire married Bruce Smith on August 4, 1957 and have two children.

Blair married Julie Le Blanc and have three children. One boy, Michael, died at birth.

Roy Budishien History

Roy Budishien married Alice Bzawy in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, on March 29, 1947. They met during the war, in Edmonton, at a service centre for people in the Armed Forces. Roy served in the Canadian Navy in the Air Branch for twenty six years. Alice served during the war in the Canadian Women's Army Corps.

They lived in Dartmouth, New Jersey, Prince Edward Island and Ottawa. In 1969, the family moved to Vancouver Island, where they reside today. Roy worked for British Columbia Ferries for twenty one years and retired in 1990.

They have two daughters:

Valerie was born in Halifax on September 22,



Family of Alice Budesheim (Bzowy)

1956. She went to school in Dartmouth and Ottawa before moving with her family to Vancouver in 1969. She graduated from high school in Sidney. After working for British Columbia Hydro for several years, she moved to Calgary where she worked for a major oil company. This is where she met Jim Holm. They were married on December 31, 1982. In 1984, they moved to Vancouver Island, where they opened up a business in Brentwood, British Columbia. They now live in Nanaimo British Columbia, with the same type of business.

Laura was born on June 6, 1961. She went to high school in Sidney and Business College in Victoria. She worked in the computer field for a major moving company for a number of years.

On December 16, 1991, she married David Shepherd. They lived in Powell River, Nanaimo, and now live in Victoria. David is employed with the Federal Government and Laura works in the Real Estate field.

Emillian and Egripina Cherwak History submitted by Maria Boyechko (Mrs. Alex)

Before the 1900's, my grandparents, Cherwak and Shewchyshyn, lived in the village of Bertniki, Ternopol, and Ukraine, as small farmers. Grandfather Emillian Cherwak and his wife, Egripina Rachkewych, had three sons. The oldest, Michael, who was my father, was born in January 1906. Five years later, Wasil (Bill), was born and another five years passed before Stephan was born.

When war broke out in 1917-18, Grandfather enlisted.

My mother's parents, Michael Shewchyshyn and Anna Shalansky, had four daughters. The oldest Michalena, was born in 1905. At that time, my grandfather's sister, Theodosia Ploschak (Sewchyshyn), was going to America. She was god-mother to her new niece, my mother Theodosia. The two other daughters were Maria and Stephany.

In November 1924, Michael Cherwak and Theodosia Shewchyshyn, were married and lived with mother's family. My father helped with the farm chores and was the village shoemaker. They had two sons, Michael and Wasil (Bill), who died in infancy. In January 1937, a daughter Maria was born.

My mother's aunt in America wrote to my grandparents, advising them that my parents should come to Canada for the possibility of a better life.

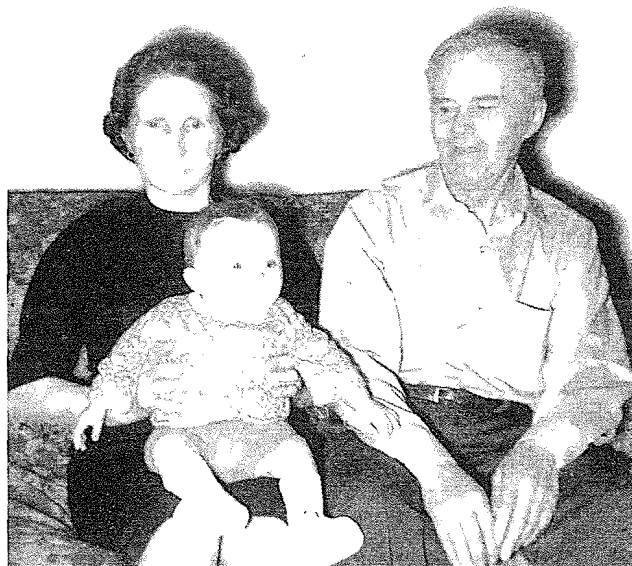
In August 1938, just before the Second World War, Michael Cherwak and his family arrived at East Bay to start a new life in a strange new country.

Mother's aunt, Theodosia Ploschak, was by then widowed and lived with her second oldest daughter, Mary. Mary had married Philip Rehaluk, and lived at East Bay. We stayed with them during the harvest season and then bought land in the R.M. of Lawrence, in the Rorketon area.

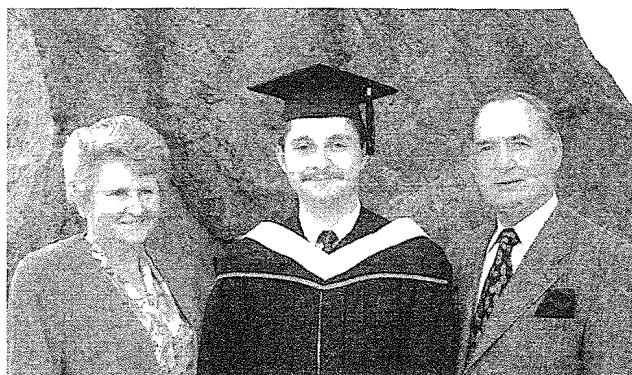
Before snowfall, we bought a pair of horses, a wagon, a cow, a cat and moved our belongings to our new home. The Vedenia school was on our land, so for many years I had a school close to home. When that school closed for lack of students, I attended school at Toutes Aides. I completed my grade eight there, then on to grade nine in Rorketon. It was here in Rorketon that I met Alex Boyechko.

I left for Winnipeg in 1953, and worked for a short time for Eaton's Mail Order, until I got a job in April 1954, with Addressograph-multigraph of Canada Ltd.

In June 1958, I married Alex Boyechko who then worked for Safeway in Winnipeg. Later he worked for an independent store and in 1970 acquired his own meat shop. In March 1971, our son



Alex & Maria with son Zenon



Michael & Theodosia with grandson Zenon

Zenon Emillian was born. At this time, my father was in poor health, so they sold their farm to Fred and Vivian Didychuk, where their son Larry lives now.

Father moved to Winnipeg in the fall of 1966. He died in September 1971, and mother in February 1972.

In 1980, we set up Roblin Choice Meats, in the Charleswood area. We are now in the process of selling the store and retiring.

Cecile (Bretecher) and Robert Coombs submitted by Daughter Jean

Cecile Bretecher was born January 26, 1906 in McCreary, the oldest daughter of Jean and Josephine Bretecher. The family, Jean Josephine and children Jean Jr., Francois and Cecile moved to Toutes Aides and in the early 1920's. She started working out as a housekeeper. She worked in Ste. Rose, Toutes Aides, Makinak, McCreary, Holland and Dauphin.

It was in Dauphin where Cecile met Robert Coombs, who was the oldest son of Albert Edward and Dora (Bayduza) Coombs of Dauphin. Cecile and Bob were married in the St. Viator's Catholic Church in Dauphin, on September 29, 1930 at 7:30 a.m.

Cecile and Bob lived in Ochre River where they engaged in mixed farming. Cecile always had a large garden as well. Later Bob went into ranching, still enjoying his animals.

Cecile and Bob farmed until December 1959, at which time the farm was sold. In 1960, they bought a home in Abbotsford and have resided there ever since.

Their children are:

Leo, who went to school in Micawber, Turtle River and St. Boniface. He has two daughters, Gisele and Shirley. Leo is presently living in Abbotsford.

Lorraine went to school in Micawber, Ochre River, Ste. Rose, and Dauphin. She has four children, Keith, Laurie Ann, Gregory and Mark. Lorraine is presently living in Chilliwack, British Columbia.

Jean, the youngest, worked for the R.M. of Ste. Rose in 1975, and was appointed Secretary Treasurer in 1979 until retirement in December, 1984.

In 1993, Cecile passed away after a lengthy illness. Bob is still living on his own in Abbotsford.

The Story of Mrs. Kate Didychuk submitted by J. Didychuk and P. Korotash

Mrs. Kate Didychuk was born in Weiden. She married Mike Didychuk and they settled in Toutes Aides in 1930.

Her parents' home was built seventy years ago, out of logs; then siding was placed over the logs. The price of the siding was \$35.00 per thousand feet. It is still standing and has been remodeled into an up-to-date home. All of the furniture, table, beds, stoves, cupboards and so on were purchased. Her home was heated with a wood furnace. The barns and shelters on the farm were built of logs.

Her parents made a living off their farm. When she got married she lived with her husband as a regular farm wife. The wages in her youth were from 50 cents to \$1.00 a day.

Her family got their first car in 1927. It was a Ford, squarish looking and high off the ground.

Mrs. Didychuk began her education when she was seven years old. She completed her grade six education and was finished school when she was fifteen years old. She attended Weiden school.

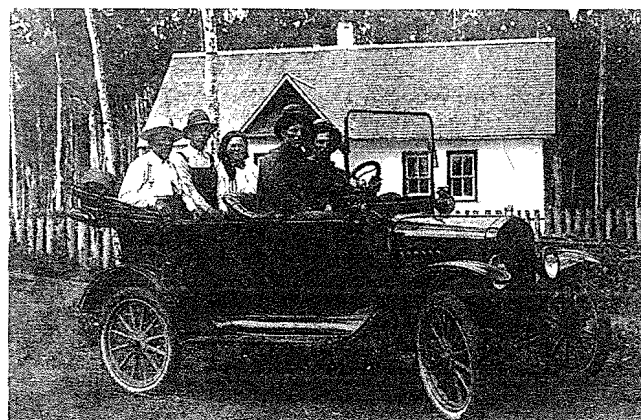
Hydro was installed in Mrs. Didychuk's home in 1951. Their water supply was Lake Manitoba.

Fedor Didychuk Family History

Fedor married Anna Bialkowski in Mielnica, Austria. They came to Canada in 1903 with five children: Nicholas, Marie, Peter, William, and Michael.

They resided in Emerson, then moved to the Toutes Aides area.

Peter Didychuk, born in 1892, moved with his parents to Toutes Aides, where they farmed. In 1921, he married Petrunka Remniak of Horyn, and farmed the quarter section next to his parents. Petrunka died in 1943.



Back seat Fidor Didychuk, middle; Michael, Back Anna (mother) Bailowski, Front: Peter, & William, their house in back 1918-19

Their eldest son, William, completed his education at Vedenia school and ranched in the Toutes Aides area from 1942 to 1967. He was a member of the Community Center, the St. Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Church, and also the Ste. Rose Cattlemen's Association.

He led an active life, raising first sheep, and then cattle, until his illness made him give up the ranch.

In December 1977, he died of cancer.

The eldest daughter, Anna, went to work in Winnipeg after her schooling, where she married William Zadick, who worked for C.N. Rail. They moved to British Columbia, and lived in Surrey.

Their three daughters are:

Margie married Al Abrams who works for British Columbia Ferries. Marge now works in Real Estate. They have two sons, Tyler and Troy, who are still attending school.

Patsy married Brian Payne and lives in Edmonton. They both work for CN Rail. They have a summer business in British Columbia. They have two daughters, Natalie and Kimberly, both still attending school.

Paula, who married Wayne McLeod, lives in Surrey. Paula works for Employment Services. They have one son, Kevin.

William Zadick died in 1992 and Anna worked in the Personal Care Home until she retired.

Peter and Petrunka's second son, Theodore or "Fred", was born in 1926. He attended Vedenia and Toutes Aides Schools, as did his older brother and sister. Then he worked on the family farm, went out one winter to Red Lake to work in a mine, then came home and continued farming. He married Vivian Gray, of Winnipeg, who came to the district in 1948 to teach at Vedenia and Edillen Schools. They settled on the farm.

Their children are:

Laurence "Larry", who was born in 1951, attended Toutes Aides, Micawber, and Rorketon schools, then went on to University of Manitoba in Winnipeg. He went north to Thompson and worked for Manitoba Hydro, then came home to farm. In 1973, Beverly Hiltseger of The Pas, joined the staff of the Manipogo Information Center where Vivian was doing the layouts of the magazine. Larry and Bev became husband and wife. They have three children: Kenneth, Kevin, and Sarah. Beverley worked at the Crane River Sewing Factory, is now on the Recreation Committee, and is a school trustee.

Ronald was born in 1954 and attended the Toutes Aides, Micawber, and Rorketon schools.

Then he went to Thompson, where he became a millwright and worked at Jenpeg, Estavan, Saskatchewan, and other projects. He married Penny Anderson of Thompson and they now reside in Saskatoon with their two sons, John and Richard.

Daughter Natalie was born in 1956, received her earlier education at Toutes Aides, Micawber, Rorketon, and later went to college in Brandon. She is now working at the Dinsdale Home for Seniors in Brandon.

John was born in 1959 and attended Toutes Aides and Rorketon Schools. After graduation, he went to Flin Flon and worked for the Hudson's Bay Mining and Smelting in the tank house for eleven years, then came back to Toutes Aides and bought a ranch.

The youngest daughter, Eva, was born in 1934. She attended Vedenia and Rorketon schools, and the convent in Ste. Rose. She taught at Freedale, Arbog, Mountain Stream, and Keld.

In 1955, she married Paul Trach of Keld. They farmed a while and then Eva taught at the Glencairn school. After that they moved to Dauphin. Paul worked in the Dauphin Hospital and Eva taught at schools in Dauphin.

They have four children: Dale was born while at Keld. He married Carla Munroe who works for the Canadian Airline. They live in British Columbia where Dale works in building renovations and does carpentry. Their three children are Brett Alexander and Jeremy Paul, (twin boys), and daughter, Tessa Michelle.

Adele Marie was born a year after Dale. After high school, she took a dental nurse course and married Roy Jangula who works for Indian Affairs. They reside in Winnipeg with their two sons, Tanner and Daniel.

Gerald was born in 1961 and went to school in Dauphin. He worked at Flin Flon a while, then in Winnipeg as a heavy duty mechanic for Stevenson Supply. He married Lisa Brown, of Winnipeg, who is a hairdresser. They have one daughter, Kaylee Margeurite.

Cheryl Ann completed her schooling in Dauphin, had several jobs. She is now employed by WinServ and works with the mentally challenged people.

Michael Didychuk, youngest son of Fedor and Anna, resided on the family farm with his parents. In 1930, he married Kate Tkach of Weiden, daughter of Safat Tkach and Molly Dmetriew. Michael was a very active member of St. Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Church at Toutes Aides which was near the farm. Michael passed away in 1980.

Their eldest daughter, Mary, was born in 1931 and attended Vedenia and Rorketon schools. She taught at Oak Brae school, Butka(at Glenella) and Alonsa, where she met her future husband, William Trush, a storekeeper. They were married in 1955 and moved to Winnipeg, then on to Ontario at St. Catherine's where William became a welder.

They had three children: Bryan, who worked in a factory, married Judy Foot. Their children are Bryan, Breanna, and Billy.

Brenda became a nurse and married Chuck Milne, who works for the city. Their children are Christie, Jason, and Carrie.

Tracy, who worked for the telephone company, died in a car accident in 1994.

Michael's second daughter Jean, born in 1934, attended Vedenia school, helped on the farm a while after, then went to work in a Winnipeg meat market. She married Scott Hogarth. They moved to Ontario where Scott is a graphic artist. They live in Paris.

Katherine, their eldest, was born in 1956 and is now a registered nurse.

John was born in 1959, and he is a welder. He married Laurie Boaz of Paris. They have two children, Michael and Christopher.

Victoria, born in 1942, attended Vedenia, Toutes Aides, and Rorketon schools. After graduation, she worked for five years in Winnipeg. She married Melvin Pascal of Fork River, son of Joseph Pascal, of Fork River, where they reside on their farm. Victoria also works at the Winnipegosis Hospital and the Care Home.

One son Kelly, born in 1974, is now attending university, taking a commerce course.

Elaine, born in 1946, attended Toutes Aides school until grade five, then went to Dauphin to attend a special school. She graduated and then worked at the King's Hotel, then the Boulevard Hotel. Later she married Victor Medwedchuk, son of Paul Medwechuk, of Sifton. They lived on a farm near Victor's father's farm.

First child Maryann, born in 1977, completed high school and graduated in 1995. She is now taking a Nurse's Aid course.

Second child, Michael, born in 1986, is in grade three at Rorketon School.

Peter, their only son, was born in 1948 and attended Toutes Aides, Micawber, and Rorketon schools. He worked with his father on the farm after graduating from school. He presently resides on the farm when he is not working for Midwest Drilling.

Napoleon (Paul) Dufault History **submitted by Mathilde Weisensel**

Napoleon (Paul) Dufault, was born in Anthony, Rhode Island, U.S. around 1880. He first learned the trade of cabinet making and came to Quebec, where he had relatives. Then in 1904, with his brother Noel, they emigrated to Manitoba and bought a homestead in what used to be the Valpoy area.

They stayed there only three years, then moved to Ste. Rose du Lac. Noel and Paul worked in carpentry in the surrounding area for several years, building houses, barns, garages, and even caskets.

When Noel got married, he decided he was better as a mechanic and would make a living at repairing cars and farm machinery. His brother however, went further north. In 1910, he built a sawmill in Crane River. The enterprise failed as the roads were very poor and they encountered many difficulties. In 1920, Paul moved to Waterhen and started a mink farm, but all I know is that it was not successful. In 1923, still a single man, he built a cheese factory at Toutes Aides, north of the church, on the side of the lake. He again encountered the same problems as he did in his other enterprises, no roads. In 1925, Paul built a cheese factory at Cayer, but it would have been better to build it in Ste. Rose; it failed also.

Finally in 1930, Paul built a fishing camp near Babe's Island, on the point close by, on the east side. On old maps, it is called Dufault Point. The buildings consisted of four shacks, a cook shack, a bunker, a stable, and a fish shed all built of logs. The men working there were Noel Sr., his father, (who had emigrated to Ste. Rose a few years previous to this), his nephew Ovila Dufault, and his friend Fred Marshall. The fishing was a very good enterprise and he remained there until after the war. Ovila took up the mechanic's trade and Fred went into farming. In 1942, Paul Dufault moved back to Ste. Rose and built a large shop where he made kitchen cabinets in the new style. This business was very successful as many were building new houses or renovating old ones. He died in Ste. Rose in 1952.

Robert Dufault History

Robert, the son of Charles and Elvire Dufault, was born in Paris, France. He immigrated to Canada in 1902 and settled in the Toutes Aides area in 1910.

His uncle Alphonse served in the war in France in 1914.

Dan and Rita (Dame) Dumas

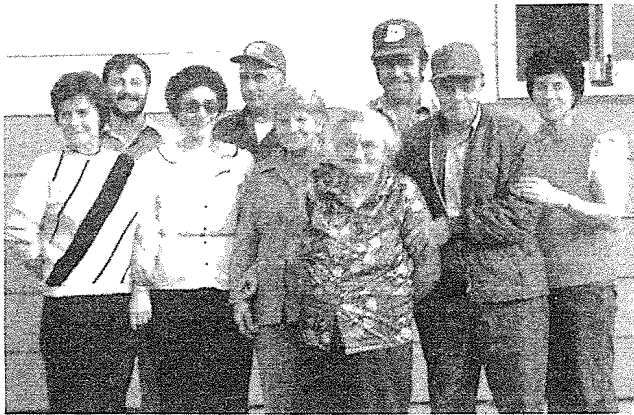
Dan and Rita were long time residents of the district of Toutes Aides.

Dan was born Joseph Daniel Dumas to Patrick

and Clare Dumas on June 27, 1902 at La Salle, Manitoba. To Pat and Clare were born Edward, Joseph, Thomas, Michael, Patrick, Pete, Mary Henriette, Dan, Claire and William. The Dumas family moved from La Salle to Toutes Aides in 1914.

Rita was born Rita Florence Dame to Emery and Olive Dame on November 27, 1910 at Morris, Manitoba. To Emery and Olive were born Ernie, Leo, Arthur, Roy, Ethel, Edith, Charles, Rita, Clifford, Wilford, Joseph, and Jessie. Shortly after Rita's birth, the Dame family moved to the Ste. Rose district.

While Dan was working in Newdale, he met and married Rita on November 3, 1928 at St. Lazare and shortly afterward they moved to Toutes Aides. Here they farmed until they moved to Ste. Rose in 1988 where they lived until their passing, Rita on May 4, 1991 and Dan on October 23, 1992.



Dumas Family

Dan and Rita had a family of seven children, four girls and three boys. Olive married John Kindzerski from Rorketon on November 4, 1950. Rita Jean Dumas born August 24, 1931 married Wilfred Hector Robbins of Rorketon. They had two children; Grant Wilford born April 19, 1954 and Dana Myles born May 27, 1960. Catherine (Katie) married Harvey Spence from Spence Lake. Later she married Lloyd Mailman of Eddystone. Adrienne married Joseph Payne from British Columbia on December 8, 1976. Daniel Cyril Dumas born August 1, 1944 married Marlynn Mavis Elsie Bonnett from Rorketon on February 3, 1960. Michael remains single and lives in the house Dan built in the Toutes Aides area. Joseph Emery Dumas born February 5, 1958 married Carolyn Alvena Lueke from Methley on May 21, 1977. Their children: Keri Lynn born September 20, 1978, Krissy Lee born January 4, 1983, and Joseph Edward born August 3, 1980 and died 1980.

At the time of their passing Dan and Rita had twenty-two grandchildren and twenty-eight great grandchildren.

Rita was interested in gardening and loved her flowers. Dan loved working with wood, trapping and fishing. He was a true perfectionist and was meticulous with his garden and lawn. Dan worked at Manipogo as the grounds keeper from 1957 to 1966 when he retired. Manipogo was always admired for its beauty and tranquility, part of which Dan was responsible for. He did the odd job for the park periodically afterward and some of his grandchildren will always remember or refer to Manipogo as "Grandpa's Park".

Donat and Anne-Marie Fortin History submitted by the family of Donat and Anne-Marie

Donat, the oldest of thirteen children of Henri Fortin and Rebecca Rondeau, was born in St. Leon, Manitoba, on January 15, 1911. When Donat was a young child, the family moved from St. Leon to Meadow Portage, and later to Toutes Aides.

At the age of fourteen, he left home to work on farms in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan. After a few years, he returned to Meadow Portage where he was employed by Edmond Michalot. In the winter months, he freighted fish from Skownan, Waterhen and Meadow Portage to the fish shed in Winnipegosis.

Anne-Marie is the eldest daughter of Pierre Philippot and Julienne Fouillen. She was born on Christmas Eve, 1912 in St. Claude, Manitoba. The Philippot family settled in Toutes Aides in 1919.

Following her schooling, Anne-Marie was employed as a domestic by the Pineau family in Ste. Rose du Lac.

Donat and Anne-Marie met in Toutes Aides and were married on November 3, 1937, in the Toutes Aides Roman Catholic Church.

Following their marriage, Donat continued his employment with Mr. Michalot until 1939, when they moved to a farm west of Toutes Aides. The winter of 1941 was spent at Canoe Lake, thirty miles north-east of Waterhen. There, Donat along with his brother-in-law Henri Philippot, spent the winter trapping. Their determination to make a better living and their deep faith in God, showed when Donat and Anne-Marie took their eighteen month old daughter Irene with them. The nearest doctor being in Ste. Rose was many, many miles away. Anne-Marie remembers the timber wolves that howled and prowled around their little cabin in the wilderness.

In the early forties, the family moved east of

Toutes Aides, where in 1944 they purchased Arthur Gelina's farm, NE 9-29-14W and ranched until 1966 when they moved to the village of Toutes Aides.

Even though ranching and raising a family kept them very busy, both Donat and Anne-Marie, found time to volunteer their help for the church and the community.

After moving to the village of Toutes Aides, Donat was employed by the Parks Branch, cutting the grass at Manipogo, Methley, Waterhen, Rainbow Beach, Broken Pipe Lake and Valley River. Anne-Marie was his constant companion, always ready to help him.

In 1979, Donat retired from the Parks Branch and they spent their time travelling and doing what they both loved, fishing at Waterhen. Their vegetable and flower garden was admired by all.

In June of 1979, they moved their home to Ste. Rose du Lac, where they resided until 1991, when they moved to Les Trois Villas.

Donat and Anne-Marie were blessed with three daughters.

Irene, born August 2, 1940, married Raymond Moffatt of Magnet in July 1959. They have four sons, Randy, Darren, Dwayne, and Neil. Irene and Raymond live on a farm in Magnet.

Lorette, born April 20, 1944, married Mike Tkachyk of Meadowlands, Manitoba in July 1963. They have one son Keith and one daughter Michelle. Lorette and Mike reside in Dauphin.

Evelyn, born October 21, 1948, married Frank Cottyn of Shergrove, Manitoba, in October 1967. They have two sons, Maurice and Daniel. Evelyn and Frank live on a farm in Shergrove.

Donat suffered a stroke on January 9, 1995, and



Donat & Anne Marie Fortin with daughters Evelyn, Lorette and Irene.

passed away on January 24, 1995. He was laid to rest in the Ste. Rose cemetery.

Due to failing health, Anne-Marie had to leave her home at Les Trois Villas and on December 13, 1995, entered the Gendreau Personal Care Home, where she is now a resident.

Gabriel and Eva (Ball) Fortin

The son of Henri Fortin and Rebecca (Rondeau), Gabriel was born in Meadow Portage.

Our family moved several times over the years to Toutes Aides, Micawber and Horyn.

During the depression years, we had no shoes, so we went to school with bare feet. I remember one day, when it started to snow while we were at school and by the time school was out, the snow was about a foot deep. I had no shoes, so I ran the two miles home in bare feet. By the time I got there, my feet were beet red and my mother made me sit with my feet on the open oven door. I did not go back to school until the following spring and again it was barefeet.

Another unpleasant memory I have was when I was about twelve. My brother, Robert, was about 14 at the time and I took our horses with the rack to get a load of hay which was at least eight miles away. The stacks had been built by bucking pole, so they were long stacks that were not too high. The stacks had to be fenced. This particular winter, there was so much snow that we had to pitch the hay from the stack over the fence and then reload. After some of the hay was gone, the stacks were lower and a herd of loose horses would come and walk on the hard snow and over the fence and make themselves at home on the stacks. By the time we went back for another load of hay, there would be about two feet of frozen manure and trampled hay, which had to be chopped up and thrown away before we could reload the rack again. After all that effort, we were only able to go back with half a rack load of hay. We had to walk behind the rack, as the horses were in very poor condition and we didn't want to overburden them.

When I was 16, I went to work haying for Mr. Michalot. In 1937, at the age of 17, I worked for Joe Jeanotte as a farm hand, haying in summer and packing fish in winter. I worked there off and on as needed until the summer of 1945.

In 1946, I married Eva Ball, daughter of Marie Louise (Adam), and Alonson Ball.

submitted by Eva Ball Fortin

I was four years old when my mother passed away in January of 1930, and I went to Toutes Aides



Eva Fortin's parents

to live with my grandparents, Arthur and Eliza Adam. I stayed with my grandparents and aunts and uncles on the homestead about a mile north of the present Manipogo Beach, until I had to move back to Bowsman to start school.

On July 16, 1940, I came from Bowsman to Winnipegosis by train. I had written to Uncle Basil Adam that I would be arriving, but during haying time, they didn't always pick up the mail every week and this was one of those times, so they didn't know to come pick me up. I sat there for several hours. That was pretty traumatic for a fifteen year old girl alone with no food or money. Finally Alex Samatte came and asked me who I was waiting for, then he found Joe Jeanotte in town and he drove me to Uncle Basil's. I made my home there for the next six years.

I took an active interest in the farm and enjoyed keeping records of the cattle.

On a return trip from Winnipegosis we crossed the lake and came upon a large crack in the ice that was at least four feet wide. We were unable to go back to Winnipegosis, so Gabriel was determined that we had to get across that crack. He chopped the ice to level it off from the peak that had formed, leaving loose ice on the open water. Gabriel unhooked his team. He laid his coat on the loose ice (his team would never step on it!). He backed up his team and starting them at a full gallop, drove them straight for his jacket, and together they jumped

right over his jacket and the crack in the ice. Then he tied the double trees to the end of the pole lengthwise and with one horse, pulled the caboose across the crack.

It was dark by the time we got to shore and in the darkness, we missed the trail by one-half to three quarters of a mile. We ended up getting stuck in deep snowdrifts and bull rushes in the swamp. The horses were exhausted and kept falling and eventually got stuck. Gabriel walked a quarter of a mile to Joe Farand's winter residence, who came with a fresh team and pulled the caboose out, then rehooked our team and continued home.

In the summer of 1947, we were to move to six miles east of Toutes Aides, east of the Micawber area, but since I was so close to having my baby, we stayed at Henri and Rebecca Fortin's until August, after Celine was born.

In October of 1947, we went to Proulx's ranch across the lake in Crane River. We spent the winter there and in April of 1948, we moved back to our little place in Toutes Aides (Micawber area). By then, I was expecting Adrienne for September.

In October of 1948, all 15 of our stacks of hay were burned, so Gabriel went to Ontario to work in the logging camps.

While Gabriel was away, I stayed home with my two little girls. Gabriel came back in February of 1949, after being injured by one of the large working horses.

We remained there, ranching and milking cows to ship cream until the fall of 1949.

In October of 1949, that place was sold and we moved to the village of Toutes Aides in the house we bought from Armand Bretecher.

We hauled the mail to Crane River for twenty-two and a half years.

In January of 1957, our house burned down and three days later our sixth child, Eugene, was born. We bought Gabriel's parents' place SW 17-29-15.

Gabriel helped to build Manipogo Park when it was first started around 1957. They hauled rocks with sleigh and horses to drop them into the lake to build a diving board, which the ice took away a few years later and was never replaced.

In 1959, I would take the mail while Gabriel would make hay.

In 1968, we started a herd of registered Guernseys. Gabriel and Henry took an AI course and were able to build top quality milking herd, which was on Record of Production.

At that time, we also started cross breeding our herefords to Simmental on Record of Performance,

one of the first in the area, recording them to pure bred.

In 1971, we graduated from hand milking the cows, to milking machines.

In 1978, we sold the farm and moved to Ste. Rose in semi-retirement. Gabriel worked for Alain Legal as a labourer on his farm for one and a half years. In 1981, we became Shaklee agents. From 1981-1988, Gabriel came back to Manipogo to work during the summers. He then became a caretaker for the seniors Leisure Apartments and Trois Villa for four years. He still keeps himself busy by cutting grass for others and we maintain a large garden every year.

We have a family of eight children, 17 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Celina (Joe Storoziński) had one daughter.

Adrienne (Roger Beaudin) had two daughters and one son, and one great granddaughter.

Henry (Vivian Gamache divorced) had two sons.

Denise (Donald Schurko) had two daughters and one son

Claudette (Ronald Robbins) had three daughters.

Eugene (Eleanor Pahl - separated) had two sons.

Sylvia (Terrance Tucker) had two sons.

Lionel (Carrie Deimouth) had one son.

Henri and Rebecca Fortin Family History

Henri Fortin was born December 29, 1889 in Norbert, son of Mathias Fortin and Marie Louise (Fillion).

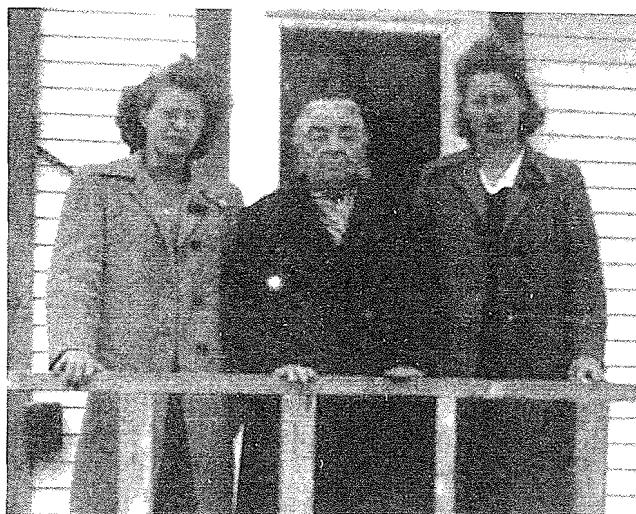
On April 12, 1910, he married Rebecca Rondeau, daughter of Jeremie Rondeau and Melina (Tessier). Rebecca was born February 18, 1890.

They first lived in St. Leon, Manitoba. Then they moved to Meadow Portage, NE 24-31-16, sometime between 1915-1920, with five children; Donat (Anne-Marie Philpott), Alberta (Raphael Brichon), Ovilla (Laurette Lariviere), Helene (Armand Bretecher), and Aurelie (Alva Bretecher).

While on their homestead, they fished and raised cattle and pigs. They remained in Meadow Portage until 1925. During those years they had four more children, Robert, Gabriel (Eva Ball), Aurel (Alice Stammen), and Claire (Albert Grenier).

In approximately 1925, they moved to Toutes Aides on a lot across the bridge and kitty-corner to highway #481. They stayed there for only a short time before they moved to the Micawber area, SE 14-29-15. While there, one daughter, Evelyn (Henri Philpott), was born.

Sometime around 1927, they moved to the



Rebecca Fortin's mother, Melina Tessier Rondeau

Horyn area, NE 12-28-16. They purchased both the house and the quarter of land from a Mr. Ratteo, for the sum of \$500, which was a lot of money in those days. This was a very tall house made from one-ply lumber. The house was not insulated and one could see the stars through the cracks in the roof. When the wind blew, the house would shake and their metal beds used to clink together. It was so cold that the water would be frozen in the water pail when they got up in the morning. Henri tried to insulate the walls with mud and short logs between the 2x4's. There was a huge box stove in the basement, which did not send heat all the way to the upper story.

They survived by fishing on Lake Dauphin and raising cattle, sheep, pigs, and chickens. They grew some of their own grain which was ground into flour and rolled oats.

Henri would walk to Winnipegosis to catch the train to go to Saskatchewan to thresh for other people to earn some extra money.

One of the family jobs was to cut huge piles of wood with the cross-cut saw.

Evenings were spent carding and spinning wool and then knitting sweaters, mittens, and socks.

While in Horyn, three more children were born, Yvette (Albert Bretecher), Steven (Jean McKinnon, then Denise Desrosier), and Muriel (Tony Neault).

Around 1943, they moved to Toutes Aides, SW 17-29-15. In 1947, they built the house that is still there today, which later was sold to Gabriel.

In the fall of 1956, they retired to the village of Toutes Aides.

Rebecca passed away September 10, 1966.

In 1975, Henri moved to the Gendreau Home in Ste. Rose. He was one of the first five residents. He passed away October 18, 1976.

Leflour Family

Charles Leflour was born March 7, 1883, in France. He married Axilda Lemay November 23, 1914 in St. Henri, Montreal. Axilda was born December 1, 1889, in Magog, Quebec. Charles died July 2, 1965 in Sudbury, Ontario and Axilda died July 21, 1968 in Dauphin.

Children:

Joseph Gerard, September 25, 1916 in Radville, Saskatchewan

Henri Joseph, October 5, 1917, in Souris Valley, Saskatchewan

Albert Joseph, October 3, 1918 in Radville

Leo Romeo, March 1, 1924, in Crane River

(Gerry) Joseph Gerard

Married: May 31, 1944 in Dauphin

To: (Mae) Vilborg Sigridur Oliver

Born: May 1 1920 in Winnipegosis

Children:

Josephine, December 9, 1944 in Winnipegosis.

Eugene Oscar, November 14, 1945 in Dauphin.

Gertrude Josephine (Cooky), November 1, 1947 in Winnipegosis.



Charles & Axilda Leflour



Gerry Leflour family



Gerry, Leo, Exieda, Albert & Henry Leflour
 Patricia Leona, March 12, 1947 in Winnipegosis
 Gerald Charles Sigrudur, November 15, 1951 in Winnipegosis.
 Thorstein Kristen Maxwell, October 18, 1953 in Winnipegosis.
 Gudrun Axilda Janet, January 1, 1955 in Winnipegosis.

Josephine was born December 9, 1944 in Winnipegosis, and died the next day.

Eugene Oscar married Lorraine Chamberlain August 24, 1968. They had three children:

Maxine born August 17, 1969 in Dauphin
 Alice born March 24, 1974 in Winnipeg
 Gerri born December 6, 1976 in Thompson

Maxine Janice Cheryl
 married: September 21, 1991 in Winnipeg
 to: Ray Mansfield
 born: December 8, 1965
 Children:

Ryan born February 4, 1992 in Winnipeg

Gertrude Josephine
 married: July 9, 1966 in Camperville
 to: Paul William Warwaruk
 born: December 10, 1939
 died: November 2, 1988
 Children:

Pamela born September 10, 1967 in Dauphin
 Robert born August 8, 1970 in Thompson

Patricia Leona
 married: June 29, 1968 in Camperville
 to: Peter Lafreniere
 born: May 7, 1947
 Children:

Deneen born March 14, 1970 in Winnipeg
 Janine born March 15, 1970 in Winnipeg
 Peter born March 22, 1971 in Swan River

Deneen Eva
 married: August 5, 1989 in Winnipeg
 to: Rene Ratti
 born: March 6, 1968
 Children:

Alyssa born January 30, 1991 in Winnipeg
 Divorced: 1994

Gerald Charles Sigrudur
 married: August 22, 1972 in Winnipegosis
 to: Sharon Poynting
 divorced: April 1992
 married: August 1, 1991 in Dauphin
 to: Marilyn Lena Belhumeur
 born: November 13, 1948
 Stepchildren:

Janice born October 30, 1967 in Swan River
 Shanon born May 9, 1971 in Winnipeg

Henri Joseph
 born: October 5, 1917 in Souris Valley, Saskatchewan
 died: April 9, 1993 in Winnipeg
 married: November 4, 1942
 to: Delphine Lussier
 born: March 6, 1915 in Somerset, Manitoba
 died: May 1964 in Winnipeg
 Children:

Paul born August 18, 1944 in St. Boniface
 Roger born March 17, 1946 in Swan Lake, Manitoba
 Maurice born May 8, 1951 in Sudbury
 Normand born January 15, 1954 in Sudbury
 Lucien born September 13, 1955 in Sudbury

Paul
 married: November 27, 1971 in Winnipeg
 to: Janine Beauchamp
 born: September 15, 1950
 Children:

Tammy born February 25, 1973 in Winnipeg

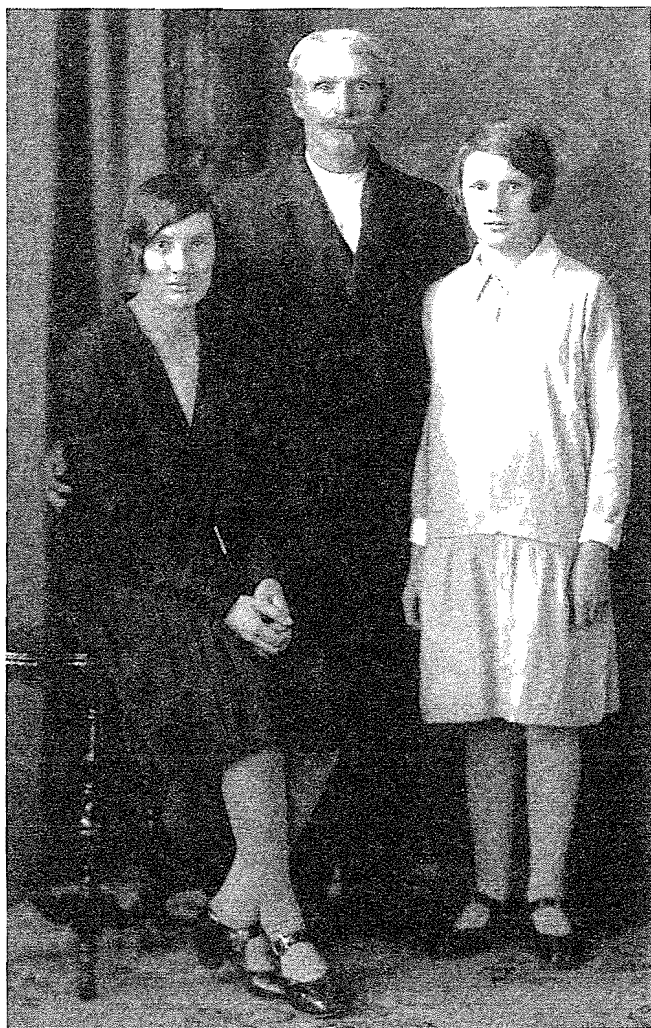
Roger
 married: July 1, 1968 in New Westminster
 to: Diane Mousseau
 born: December 29, 1945
 Children:

Shane born February 18, 1969 in New Westminster
 Charles born January 2, 1972 in New Westminster

Le Roch Family

submitted by Lea Van De Kerckhove (Le Roch)

Jean Marie Le Roch was born in Brittany, France. He left France in 1905 for Haiti, but on



Jean Le Roch with daughters Lea (Van De Kerckove) and Jeanne (Bretecher)

route he met other people from Brittany who were all going to Canada, so he decided to go with them instead.

In 1913, he married Anne Marie Pinsard, who had just arrived from France.

I was born in 1914 at Notre Dame de Lourdes where my parents had settled. Dad was working in the area helping farmers clear land when the First World War broke out. He enlisted and went back to Europe to fight the war. Upon returning from the war, Dad was granted land from the Soldier Settlement Board of Canada. It was far north at a place called Toutes Aides. The quarter of land was the NW 23-29-15.

In 1919, we all moved to Toutes Aides and by then I had a new sister, Jeanne. During that same summer, Dad decided to buy SW 27- 29-15 which was on the shore of Lake Manitoba. A house and barn were built on the new site. The next few years were spent clearing land and raising a herd of cattle.

Mother became very ill during a pregnancy. She died at the age of 32 along with our baby brother. That was a very sad time for my father, Jeanne and I. This was 1922. I was 8 years old and Jeanne was 4.

After many long years without my mother, my dad decided we should move, so in 1936 we sold everything and moved to Notre Dame de Lourdes.

That winter I met a young man by the name of Rene Van De Kerckhove. We got married in the fall of 1937. Rene and I both decided to go back to Toutes Aides that same fall.

Jeanne later married Rene Bretecher in 1942. Dad died in 1950 at the age of 81.

The Louis Gaudry Family History

The Gaudry ancestors came from France in the 17th century. The Dubois family also came from France in 1882.

Louis A. Gaudry was born on February 24, 1884 in St. Norbert. Juliette D. Dubois was born July 24, 1886 in La Broquerie. They married on April 26, 1904.

Louis worked in Winnipeg with his team of horses, hauling bricks for building Eaton's Store and the University of Manitoba.

Towards the end of WWI, during the "big flu", they came to homestead in Meadow Portage in about 1915. He built a log cabin for his wife and three children. Three more children were born later. He worked freighting fish to Winnipegosis and started clearing land and began cattle ranching. They raised their six children in Meadow Portage.

Pierre, was born August 4, 1904, in Bedford, Manitoba. He married Marcelle Rocan, and they have two children.

Blanche, was born on February 19, 1911, also in Bedford. She married Frank Bass, and they have two children.

Grace, was born on September 28, 1912, in St. Boniface. She married Raymond Bass, and they have three children.

Marie, was born on July 27, 1916, in Meadow Portage.

Cecile, was born March 17, 1919, also in Meadow Portage. She married Howard Tiernan and they have six children.

Juliette, was born on September 25, 1925, in Winnipegosis. She married Cornelius Kuyp and they have nine children.

They remained in Meadow Portage until a Prairie fire destroyed their hayland in 1940. They sold the homestead and moved to Toutes Aides, where Louis built and operated Lake View Store and

Cafe. He boarded travellers and ran a livery stable. In 1945, the Gaudrys introduced postal services from the store. The Gaudry left Toutes Aides in 1946 to retire in St. Vital, Winnipeg.

Fred and Maria Hrushka History submitted by Jean Danish and Eileen Ruskin



Mary & Fred Hrushka & Jean

Fred Hrushka and Maria Yaroway were born in Volkvitsi, a village in the Borschiw region of the Ukraine. They were married in Volkvitsi in 1900. In the spring of 1904, they departed from Hamburg, Germany, arriving in Halifax. They then travelled from Halifax by CPR to Winnipeg. In the fall of 1904, they first settled in the Gruber (Winnipegosis) district. In 1907, they moved to the Toutes Aides area and started homesteading on SE 4-29-15w. Fred helped in building St. Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Church near Toutes Aides. He also served as an elder there for some time. He was famous for making his "homebrew" in the area.

Here they raised eight children.

Andrew Ruskin was born in 1903 in Volkvitsi, in the Ukraine. Andrew first married Anna Dyrkach. They had one son Billy, who presently resides in Toronto. Anna passed away in 1947. Andrew later married Kay Maruk of Fork River. They had two children: Ann and husband Craig Richards of Gilbert Plains, and Walter and wife Joanne of Calgary. There are three grandchildren: Cory, Meagan, and Kaylie. Andrew passed away in 1987. His wife Kay lives in Dauphin.



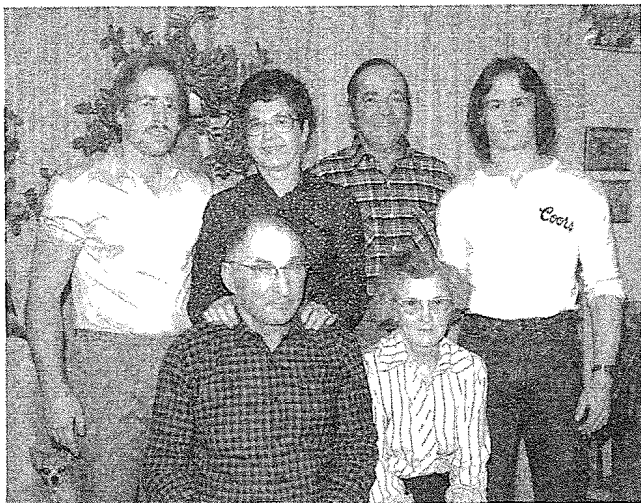
Fred Hrushka with sons Andrew & Pete



F: Peter Ruakin, Eileen Ruskin, B: Lilly Ruskin, Mary Ruskin, Bill, Andrew, John & Harry Ruskin

Peter Ruskin was born in 1905 at Gruber. Peter and his wife Blanche live on a farm at Semens, Saskatchewan. They have one daughter Alice and husband Hughie Sweet of Regina. There are two grandsons; Darryl and Darrin.

Daisy was born in 1907 at Gruber. Daisy married Fred Hucaluk and they farmed in the Moose Bay area. They later moved to the village of Rorketon and lived in the little house that stands abandoned now next to Roy and Carol Laycock's home. Fred passed away soon afterwards, and Daisy and her children moved to St. Catherine's Ontario. There she married Alexander Lischyna. She had



Pete & Blanche Ruskin, Darrin, Alice, Hughie & Darryl Sweet

three children: William Huculak and wife Carol of Uxbridge, Ontario, Irene and husband Cecil Little of Welland and Lucille and husband Frank Panette of Welland. There are six grandchildren: Danny, Laura, Randy, Ken, Shelley, and Tim. There are also five great-grandchildren. Daisy passed away in 1983.

Ann was born in 1909 at Toutes Aides. Ann and her husband had one son, Bill. Ann passed away in 1962 in Winnipeg, as did her husband soon afterwards. Bill was taken by child and family services and given up for adoption.

John Ruskin was born at Toutes Aides in 1912. John married Lily Roowski of Winnipegosis and they farmed on the quarter section SW4-29-15W, next to his parents. Lily passed away in 1993. John is presently a resident of St. Paul's nursing home in Dauphin. They have one son Peter, who is operating the farm now.

Bill Ruskin was born in 1913 at Toutes Aides. Bill married Mary Nakonechny of Pulp River. Bill



Jean Danish, Daisy Lischyna, Irene Little & Anne Antoshko

took over the family farm from his parents. Bill passed away in 1993. His wife Mary continues to reside in the farm. They have one daughter, Eileen, who continues to farm the "Old Homestead".

Harry Ruskin was born in 1915 at Toutes Aides. Harry married Polly Pidhoyecki of Rembrandt. Harry served overseas with the armed forces during WWII. Harry and his wife are retired and are residing in Winnipeg.

Jean was born in 1920 at Toutes Aides. Jean married Edwin Danish of Fork River. Edwin passed away in 1981. Jean is retired and lives in Winnipeg.

Fred Hrushka passed away at the age of 90, in 1962. Maria passed away at the age of 97 in 1972. They are both buried at the ST.'s Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic cemetery near Rorketon, along with their two sons, Andrew and Bill, and daughter-in-law Lily.

Andrew and Nellie Kendzierski

Andrew and Nellie Kendzierski immigrated to Canada from Volkvitsi, a village in the Borschiw region of the Ukraine. Andrew came to Canada first in 1925, and Nellie followed soon after in 1928. They settled in the Toutes Aides area on SW 4-29-15W. They had three children.

Their daughter Anne was born in 1923 in the Ukraine. She married Charlie Kosman. They presently live in St. Adolph. They have five children.

Son Peter passed away at the age of 19 years. He is buried at the All Saints cemetery in Winnipeg.



Charlie & Ann Kosman, Peter Kendzierski, Andrew & Nellie Kendzierski

Son Michael passed away at the age of 9 months. He is buried at St. Mary's Ukrainian Catholic cemetery at Toutes Aides.

Andrew and Nellie retired, sold their farm to John Ruskin and moved to St. Adolph. They both have since passed away. Andrew is buried next to his son Peter. Nellie is buried at St. Adolph near her home. Nellie had a great passion for making flowers, as could be witnessed in her living room. The walls were literally covered with hand-made flowers.

The Kuyp Family History

Juliette Kuyp, daughter of Louis and Juliette Gaudry, married Cornelius Kuyp, whose family immigrated to Canada, from Holland, in 1930.

Cornelius and Juliette farmed near Kelwood from 1946 to 1955. In August 1955, they purchased the Toutes Aides Store and Post Office, which her father built in 1940. The first few years, Cornelius also drove the Ste. Rose Cream Truck. In the early sixties, they had a gas pump installed at the store. They raised their eight children in Toutes Aides.

Denise Judy, was born on June 21, 1947. Her life is devoted to "Sisters of Our Lady of the Missions".

Mary Louise, was born Jan. 26, 1949. She married Lloyd Pakoo in 1972. They reside in Winnipeg.

Adrian Louis, was born on August 8, 1951. He married Phyllis Worman in 1975. They have one child and live in Winnipeg.

Annette Cecile, was born June 22, 1953. She married Paul Gloux in 1974. They have four children and live in Winnipeg.

Dennis Joseph, was born March 12, 1955. He lives in Waterhen and has one child.

Henry Patrick, was born on September 1, 1958. Deceased in 1958.

Francine Ann, was born on March 13, 1961. She married Larry Panagapko in 1982, and have three children. They live in Winnipeg.

Paul Henry, was born April 5, 1962. He lives in Toronto.

Rosalyn Marie, was born on July 16, 1964. She married Raymond Chiupka in 1981. They have two children and live in Toutes Aides.

In 1966, Cornelius's father and mother brought in a ready built home next door to the store. Cornelius and Juliette looked after them until their death.

After 30 years of service to the community, Cornelius and Juliette sold the store to Paul and Dorothy Bilodeau in 1985, and built a retirement home in Ste. Rose du Lac.

Alfred and Barbara Marshall History

Fred Marshall, the seventh born child of Sam and Annie Marshall, was born October 5, 1913 in Ste. Rose du Lac. Fred attended school in Ste. Rose and worked with his dad fishing and with the saw mills. He began carpentry in 1939 in Ste. Rose, and worked in the surrounding area.

In the fall of 1943, he went fishing at Crane River with some friends and met Barbara McKay, the daughter of Ida McKay. On July 17, 1944, they were married in Dauphin and resided there.

Over the years, Fred was called upon many times to build various buildings in the Toutes Aides area. The United Church, Carl Adam's General Store, Alex Bretecher's Garage, the school in Crane River, the Church in Magnet, North Star Cabins, and the store at Meadow Portage, to name a few.

As so much of his work came from here, Fred and Barb, and their first son Carl, moved to Toutes Aides in 1955. They bought two acres along Toutes Aides Bay and built their home there. They had two more sons, Alfred and Vernon.

Fred continued carpentry and went wherever jobs took him. He remembers building different things during the winter such as Bob sleighs, muskrat stretchers, which sold for \$2.50/ doz., and making fish boxes with Fr. Germaine in the basement of the church. During this time, Barbara stayed home to raise her sons and worked for the Bretechers, Fortins and anyone else who asked for her help.

Some of the homes Fred constructed were those belonging to Earl Bass, Norman Harpelle, Tom Sabiston, Nedelec's, Tony Chiupka, Bill Maksymchuk and John Inkster.

In 1962, Fred and Barbara began cabinet building for Maillard's in Ste. Rose. They worked there until 1975. Due to the long commute, every day, they decided to move to Ste. Rose in 1972. During their years in Toutes Aides, many friendships and fond memories were formed.

In 1975, Barbara began working in the kitchen at the Ste. Rose Hospital and Fred opened up Fred's Shoe Repair. He also had Marshall's Western Wear, in the old McLeod's building, for a few years. They retired in 1986.

Carl married Dianne Panagapko on August 1, 1970. They have two sons, Mark and Jason, and live in Regina.

Alf married Marilyn Ives in July 13, 1985. They have one son, Ryan and live in Ste. Rose. Alf is carrying on the carpentry tradition in the Marshall family.

Vernon lives in Winnipeg where he is a painter and a qualified drummer.

Samuel and Annie Marshall 1876-1938, 1876-1920

Samuel Marshall was born in Minnesota. When he and his family first came to Canada, they operated a saw mill at Beaver Dam. He met Annie Neault in Ste. Rose and they were married there. They later moved to Minnedosa, where Sam was a barber. They had eight children, Harvey, Agnes, Sam, Melvina, Yvonne, Fred and Elizabeth. All but Sam, Fred, and Elizabeth died in infancy.

Sam then moved his family to the Toutes Aides area and operated saw mills at Twin Islands and Marshall's Bay. Annie died in 1920. In the early 1920's Sam also operated a cream boat. He would pick up cream from farmers along the lake from Waterhen to Toutes Aides and delivered the cream to the creamery in Toutes Aides. On Sundays, he would use his boat to give tours to Babe Island. He later operated a saw mill between Crane River and Cayer.

Sam then turned his hand to fishing. In 1929, he fished near Million, then later at Toutes Aides.

Around 1935, he moved back to Ste. Rose and was employed at Pinette and Downey's as a mechanic. He suffered ill health and died in 1938. Elizabeth died at the age of 42, and Sam J. R. passed away in 1994.

Moreau Family History submitted by Denise Bilan



Edmond Moreau Family, Paul, Denise, Joe, Rene, Ed, & Marguerite (Pineau)

My paternal grandfather was Napoleon Moreau (Clarice Tremblay), who came from Pointe Gatineau, Quebec, in 1915, and settled in Micawber district, east of Toutes Aides. My father, Edmond, was twelve years old at the time of World War 1. His brother was called to war. Napoleon's children were:

Joseph, who died in World War 1

Noelie, married Albert Lamarche. They lived in Toutes Aides for some years and moved back to Quebec.

Edmond, married Marguerite Pineau. They farmed in Micawber, and later operated a general store in Toutes Aides. Their children were:

Joseph Moreau (Anita Blanchette- Montreal)

Rene (Jaqueline Morelle -Montreal)

Paul Moreau (Lucille Archambault- Ste. Rose)

Denise Bilan (George- Matlock)

Alain Nedelec Sr. History

Alain and his son Vincent came to Canada from Brittany France. They stayed in Mariapolis for awhile before coming to Toutes Aides around 1911. Alain homesteaded SW 15-29-15. The land was cleared with a team of oxen. Vincent homesteaded NE 9-29-15, in 1916. Some large oak trees took up to two days to grub out. Alain, who died in 1933, while walking in a ditch, was hit by a drunk driver.

Alain Nedelec History

Before coming to Canada, Alain was a sailor. A fall from the riggings with several of his mates left him the only survivor of the fall. After recovering from a broken hip, he eventually left Brittany and came to Canada. He married Marie Bourvic in 1915. In 1918, Alain and Marie came to Toutes Aides. His father Alain and brother Vincent were already settled here. Alain and Marie homesteaded on NW 10-29-15. To get the patent on the land he had to open 12 acres. He built a house in 1919. They have eight children.

Annette was born in Port Colborne, Ontario in 1916. She married Raymond Pinette in 1942. They live in Ste. Rose and have two children, Lea and Marcel.

Aline was born in Makinac in 1919. She married Tony Hoffman in 1956. They reside in Dauphin and had three children, Lucille, Louise and Lesley.

Alain was born in 1921 in Toutes Aides and resided on SW 15-29-15.

Marcel was born in 1922 in Toutes Aides. He married Clementine Peeters in 1965. They had three children Andre, Rene, and Dianne.

Louise was born in 1924, in Toutes Aides. She married Paul Tardiff in 1948. They resided in



Alain & Marie Nedelec 1915
Kergwenan and have three children, Jeanette, Marcel, and Germaine.

Rene was born in 1926 in Toutes Aides. He married Martine Blanchard in 1955. They are now living in Quebec and have three children, Gilbert, Denis and Alain.

Louis was born in 1928 in Toutes Aides and is residing on NW 10-29-15.

Rose was born in the 1930's in Toutes Aides. She married Phillipe Michaud in 1954. Living on NE 36-29-15, they had six children; Valerie, Madeleine, Louis, Angele, Clement and Serge.

Alain hauled cream to the Ste. Rose Creamery. While in Ste. Rose he would be invited to dinner at the Chinese Restaurant because he could speak Chinese. Although the trip to Ste. Rose was long, the yearly trip to Sifton was longer. Every year Alain would go to Sifton with a load of wheat to be ground into flour. He was usually accompanied by Pete Didychuk. The trip would take three days.

Before Micawber school was built, there were so many students going to Toutes Aides school, located on NE 9-29-15, that two separate classes were held. One group of children attended in the morning and another in the afternoon.

Marcel Nedelec

Marcel was born on August 12, 1922, to Alain and Marie Nedelec in Toutes Aides. He went to school in Toutes Aides. When he was 12 years old, he and his 13 year old brother Alain were shovelling gravel for the highways Department at 25 cents a day. As he grew up, he became a commercial fisherman and trapper.

In 1943, he was called into the army. He was in three different regiments: the Edmonton Fusilliers, the Regiment de la Chaudiere and finally, The Royal Winnipeg Rifles. He served overseas for a year in Germany, France, and Holland. He was discharged in 1946.

After his discharge, he returned to Toutes Aides and bought SE 9-29-15, from Rene Pineau for \$700.00. He started farming and ranching.

On June 9, 1965, he married Clementine Peeters in Ste. Amelie. They settled on SE 16-29-15 in 1966. This home quarter had several previous owners, Joseph St. Onge and family, the Bernardin family, the Pubbens, Jack Farmer, Rene Nedelec, and finally Marcel.

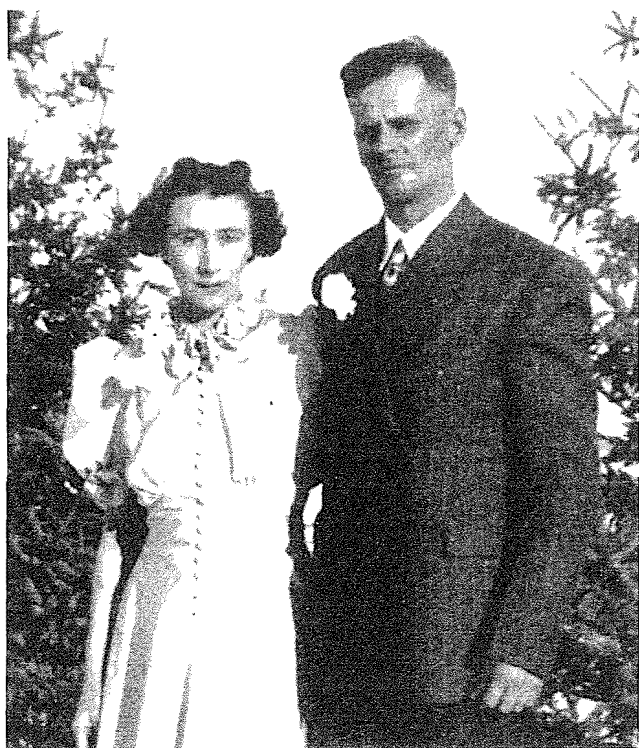
Marcel and Clemetine have three children, Andre in 1966, Rene in 1969, and Dianne in 1972.



L-R: Marcus and mother Dianne, Marcel, Andre, Clementine & Rene

St. Onge Family History submitted by daughter Anne

Our father, Thomas St. Onge, was born August 25, 1903 in St. Denis, Kamouraska, Province of Quebec. He and his family moved here when he was about 10 years old, which dates his arrival before the 1st World War. Thomas was one of the youngest



Thomas & Therese St. Onge

of several children, most of whom died in early childhood. Out of 13 children, only five survived.

The oldest, Denis moved to Alberta as a young man, lived and died there without any offspring. He had a great sense of humor.

Adele lived in the area and married Mr. Fredette, in Laurier. He was a widower with three girls whom she raised as her own. Adele never had biological children and eventually died in Winnipeg in her 80's.

Arthur, the other older boy, grew up and married in the area, to a Nedelec lady and he also did not have children. He was tall and skinny, a sheep farmer, bootlegger and very funny. I have memories of him dancing on the kitchen table in his long johns at Christmas.

Anne Marie lived, married, separated and died in Quebec. She had four children, but they were adopted into the family of her estranged husband and two died in childhood. One of these children, Rita, was a school teacher for a number of years.

Cecile, the youngest girl, lived and married in Manitoba and lived for a number of years in Flin Flon. She had two children, John Alexon and June (now Champagne). June became a nurse and had children who are now grown and married and who live somewhere on the prairies. I never met her, but I heard she had a very sweet nature.

Thomas, our father, remained single for a number of years and lived with and took care of his par-

ents until their death in the 1930's. He lived as a small farmer/rancher and hired hand. He met and married my mother in 1941, in Bruxelles, Manitoba. They lived on the homestead near Spence Lake and another homestead near Toutes Aides.

My brother Leon St. Onge, was born two years before me. He grew up in the area of Toutes Aides and he eventually moved West and became a very competent "faller", a difficult and dangerous job, and which he continues to do today. He has three grown children, the eldest is a teacher (Rene) and the middle child (Jeanette), is in a small business and the youngest, Raymond, is still working in Alberta.



Anne St. Onge

I Anna M. A. St.-Onge, was born in a log cabin near Spence Lake. The foundations are still there today. My mother, Therese (Hacault), was born on December 16, 1914. She became ill with post-partum depression and psychosis shortly after my birth and was taken to the hospital for several months in 1944. She came back home and managed to struggle with her health for about four more years, until she succumbed to the deep poverty, the isolation, and the relentless hard work of pioneer life. She was taken to the hospital when I was about five years old, where she remains to this day. My brother and I were placed with the Van De Kherchoves for a time until I was sent to the convent to be raised by the nuns in the fall of 1949, a couple of months before I became six years of age. My brother eventually returned to the cabin in the woods to live and be raised by my father who remained widowed until the end of his life. He died in Rorketon in 1965, at the age of 62.

Meanwhile, I was raised in convents in Manitoba until I turned 19. I enrolled in a Teachers' College and following completion of my program, during the next twenty years, I taught school for several years, travelled, had a daughter, studied and worked. I eventually acquired four degrees; a Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Social Work, Masters

in Social Work and a Masters in Counseling Psychology.

I moved to British Columbia in 1968, the year that my daughter was born and have lived in the lighthouses along the coast as I raised my daughter with my husband.

I changed careers and became a psychologist and therapist and have worked for several years now in a Mental Health Center and in the prisons facilitating groups and doing individual counseling.

My interests are physically working out in the gym, music, reading, and promoting environmental and health issues. I am now single and live in my home with a cat and dog.

My daughter Mara St-Onge, was born May 26, 1968 and is currently working at four jobs concurrently. She is very talented with her hands and has a small business, "Marvelous Creations", where she creates decor for businesses and homes. She also works full time with autistic and severely emotionally disturbed youth. She works evenings in a respite care center for youth and does contract work with an autistic youngster as well as a disabled adult on the side. She also finds time to volunteer at Special Olympics. She's very sociable and fun to be around and is honest and forthright with everyone and is seen as dependable and strong.



Angele & Joseph St. Onge

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas St. Onge

Thomas and Therese met in 1940. Therese was working in Mariapolis, Manitoba on a farm for Mederie Desrochers when she met Thomas St. Onge who had also come to work in Mariapolis. Thomas and Therese were married December 29, 1941 in Bruxelles. Shortly after, they settled in Toutes Aides. Therese and Thomas had two children: Leon and Anna. Therese is now residing in a lodge in Delta.

Thomas St. Onge, born August 25, 1903, is the tenth child of Joseph and Angele St. Onge who had married February 22, 1892. They lived in Quebec but moved to Manitoba in 1913 with their five surviving children, seven had died in infancy. Thomas was born with poor eyesight and was unable to attend school past grade three. He grew up working for his parents on a hay farm in Toutes Aides. Thomas cared for his parents until they passed away. Of the eight brothers, Thomas, was the only one who had a son. Thomas suffered a fatal heart attack on March 13, 1965.



Rene, Leon, Raymond, Jeanette & Evelyn St. Onge

Leon, born November 14, 1942, is the first child of Thomas and Therese St. Onge. He attended elementary school in the Rorketon area and Toutes Aides. Then he went to a trade school in Winnipeg during 1961 and 1962. In 1963 he worked as an upholsterer at Trans Canada Airlines. In 1964 he took an Industrial Arts Course at a college in Lacombe, Alberta. In March of 1965 he returned home, when his father passed away. He married Evelyn Crombie on January 16, 1966. Leon and Evelyn have three children, Rene, Jeanette and Raymond.

Leon has been working in the logging industry since 1966 and is also a small engine repairman. Evelyn has worked at many jobs. For the last nine years she has been working on a vegetable and fruit

farm, packaging produce which are shipped to various parts of British Columbia.

Rene, first child of Leon and Evelyn was born May 14, 1967. He graduated in 1985 from high school. Then he attended the University of Brandon for his Bachelor of Education. He returned to British Columbia and taught grades 1 to 7 in Grinrod for one year. Now he is teaching grades 8 to 12 Science and English in Sicamous, British Columbia. July 14, 1996 he married Angela Koscielny who is working at the Credit Union at Vernon, British Columbia.

Jeanette, second child of Leon and Evelyn was born April 20, 1969 and graduated in 1988. Since then she has been travelling in the Fiji Islands, then working as a cook at a resort. She also has her own business selling Skin Care Products.

Raymond, third child of Leon and Evelyn, was born December 5, 1971 and graduated in 1990. After taking a machinist course in Brandon, he returned home to work in a machine shop. Now he is working in the logging industry, driving a machine in different parts of Alberta and British Columbia.

Henry Philippot **submitted by H. Philippot**

Henry was born to Pierre and Julienne Philippot in 1919 at Notre Dame de Lourdes. Later his parents purchased a homestead in the Toutes Aides area. His father helped to move an old house which was converted into a school, known as Micawber School, which Henry attended and where he completed grade eight.

Henry's brothers and sisters were; Anne-Marie, Alexandre, Juliette, Andre, and Jeanne.

Alex enlisted in the army and served during World War II. He died in 1954.

Henry married Evelyn Fortin and their children are; Angele, Daniel, and Gilles. They have retired and live in Ste. Rose.

Pierre Philippot History **submitted by H. Philippot**

Pierre Philippot and Julienne Fouillen came to Canada from Brittany France in 1905, to St. Claude, Manitoba. It took 14 days to cross the ocean. They were married in St. Claude and lived there for a few years. Anne Marie was born in 1912. Alexandre was born there in 1915. Then they moved to Notre Dame de Lourdes where Henry was born in 1919.

They purchased a homestead in Toutes Aides for \$10.00 NE 24-29-15. They continued to live there, where the remainder of their children were born.



Pierre Philippot Farm

Anne Marie married Donat Fortin. They lived on a farm in Toutes Aides.

Alex enlisted in the army and served during World War II. After the war was over, he worked in Rorketon for a few years and passed away in 1970.

Henry married Evelyn Fortin and they remained on the homestead and operated the farm after his parents died.

Juliette was born in Toutes Aides in 1922, and married Marcel Mabon from Notre Dame de Lourdes where they farmed.

Andre was born in Toutes Aides in 1925. He also worked on the farm. He died accidentally in 1954.

Pineau Family History **submitted by Denise Bilan**

My maternal grandfather was Augustin Pineau (Marie David), who came from Vande, France. They arrived in Quebec on May 5, 1905. They first came to East Bay, then to Ste. Rose, and finally to Toutes Aides in 1910. Their children were: (First three were born in France)

Marguerite (Edmond Moreau), Auguste (Leonie Fouchard), Rene (Marie Philippot), Eugenie (single, born in East Bay), Antionette (Leopold Laurin) Winnipeg, Eugene, died at three months, Leon (Germaine Legare), Pierre (Louise Bonin), Louis, died at 19 from diptheria, Marie (Julien Philippot), Antoine (Eveline Lapointe), Madeleine (Gerard Gelinas then Hank Knipelberg).

The Proulx Family **Submitted by Alix Harpelle**

Mr. Theopha Proulx was born in Quebec in 1898. Irene Leclair was born in Bensen, Saskatchewan, in 1913. They were married in 1935 in Ste. Rose Du Lac. They had two children, a son, Roland, and a daughter, Bella.

They had a ranch by Lake Dauphin for a few years. In 1946 they moved to Naule-Point. It

became known as Proulx's Ranch. Mr. Proulx and Roland ranched for thirty two years. When Mr. Proulx retired in 1976, Roland kept ranching until 1978.

Bella married John Enderson and they have one daughter, Mona. Roland and his wife, Claudette, have one daughter, Jocelyn.

Roland Proulx and his wife moved back from Proulx's Ranch in 1970.

In the past twenty-six years Claudette and Roland have opened their home to more than ninety children. Some stayed for a few months, but others stayed longer. One in particular, a young man, with a chronic health problem, has been with the family since he was a new born. Now, at seventeen years, he is attending grade ten at Rorketon Collegiate. It takes a special person with a lot of love to care for foster children.

Reboul, Emile-Aldina and Family

Born in 1888 in an isolated village of Valdrome near Lyon, France in the high Alps. Immigrated to Canada at the age of eighteen years. He lived with his sister Lea Foures in Winnipeg.

Aldina Dupas — born in Ste. Anne November 7, 1890. Attended the Grey Nun Convent. At the age of eighteen, health failed her and she returned home to her parents.

Emile and Aldina were married in St. Boniface Basilica on February 19, 1912. They lived in Winnipeg where Emile was a painter. World War I broke out and Emile enlisted. He fought in the front lines until he was captured as a prisoner of war and was in the Nazi concentration camps until his escape to England. He then stowed away to Canada on a ship.

When Emile returned he and Aldina moved to the Toutes Aides district.

Emile contracted a mail route from the government until the Second World War broke out. Emile enlisted again. He was a private with the Veterans Guard of Canada. He worked as a guard on the Bella Bella Islands where Japanese prisoners were kept. Emile was discharged from army duties to return to civilian life on July 31, 1942. They then moved to Rorketon. Upon retirement Emile and Aldina moved to Brandon.

They raised five children:

John — Married Kae Thomas of Acme, AB. Resided at Acme until his passing August 10, 1993. John and Kae have four children:

Bradley — married Cathy Howden of Bieseker, AB. They make their home at Acme on the home farm. Their children are Jamie, Sarah and Bradie.



Reboul family; John, Leo, Emile, Aldina, Lea, Aline, and Roland.

Lea — married Doug Veronelly and they reside in Calgary, AB. Their children are Tyler and Robbie.

Carol — married Leonard Gundlock and they reside at Warner, AB. They have two boys, Ryan and Richard.

John Jr. and fiancée Michelle Wecels reside in Edmonton, AB.

Aline Bretecher — See Antoine Bretecher.

Rolande — Married Bill Mansoft, later divorced. Lived in Red Deer then Ponoka until her passing on April 4, 1994. One daughter, Linda — married Gary Winter, later divorced. Resides in Winnipeg. Has two sons, Trev and Tyler.

Leo — Married Genevieve Chastko of Rackham, MB. They reside in Brandon and have three children:

Darrell — married Janis Davidson of Okotoks, AB. They reside in Aldersyde, AB and have three children — Joleen, Clayton and Noelle.

Sherrill — married Brian Creasy of Carberry, MB where they make their home. They have three children — Riley, Selena and Daylon.

Shennen — married Robin Grisdale of Calgary, AB.

Lea — Married John Sologuk, later divorced. John deceased October, 1994. Lea resides in Sudbury, ON. Their children are:

Rick — accidentally killed at age 20.

Terry — married Kathy Robertson and resides in Sudbury, ON with their children Christopher and Kaitlan.

Brian — resides in Sudbury, ON.

Submitted by Leo Reboul

William and Jean Rosenkranz History

Bill is the son of Max and Tina Rosenkranz, of Ste. Rose. Jean is the youngest daughter of Bob and Cecile (Bretecher) Coombs of Ochre River.

In 1962, Bill and Jean bought the farmland S 14-29-15W and SE 1-30-15W from Raphael Brichon. It was here that sons Curtis and Donald were born. Alan was born in Toutes Aides. Bill and Jean operated a mixed farm with cattle, pigs, chickens, and grain.

Bill worked on road construction in the Yukon and Manitoba. In 1973, Bill purchased a D7E caterpillar and scraper and went into business for himself.

Jean started working for the Village and R.M. of Ste. Rose in 1974 and was appointed Secretary Treasurer in 1979, until retiring in December 1984.

Their home burned to the ground in 1974, losing almost everything. Thanks to the generosity of the people of Toutes Aides and surrounding area, life went on. They purchased a R.T.M. house and with the help of the citizens of Crane River, who made the foundation, their family moved into their new home in 1974.

In 1976, moving the house to Ste. Rose was a big decision. Bill, who was working for Northern Affairs, was under contract with the Department of Highways and his work was in the Alonsa area. Our farmland was leased out.

Due to health reasons, Bill sold his cat and scraper in 1987 to Jim Smith of Magnet. Since then Bill and Jean have travelled across Canada and to the Yukon, Alaska and the Northwest and central U.S.

They get great enjoyment from family and grandchildren.

There children are;

Curtis, who attended school in Micawber, Toutes Aides, and in Rorketon. He later went to Alberta and worked in Fort McMurray. While there, he married Rita Raffray from Ste. Rose. In 1984, Curtis and Rita moved back to Ste. Rose, then to McCreary where Curtis worked for the Department of Highways. They have three children; Amy, Tammy, and Aaron.

Donald went to school in Micawber, Toutes Aides, Rorketon and Ste. Rose. He worked for road construction in Alberta and British Columbia and in 1981, in Manitoba. Don and Christina live in Kleefeld, Manitoba. They have one daughter, Pride.

Alan went to school in Rorketon and Ste. Rose. He worked in Dauphin and Ste. Rose and is presently living in Dauphin.

Mrs. Elsie Spence

submitted by Alix Harpelle

Mrs. Elsie Spence was a pioneer of the district, a remarkable lady who endured a lot of hardship in her life. She was two when her mother died. She was taken to the Camperville Convent where she stayed for the next five years. Then a kind woman, Mrs. Elizabeth Brass, came for her. She stayed with Elizabeth for a few years; then her father came for her. He had remarried. The children were physically abused by the step mother.



Mrs Spence

Mrs. Spence had nine children and was left alone to care for them. They are Charly, Gordon, Ivan, Margaret, Norma, Ernest, Ted, Adolph and Kenny. Her son Gordon who died accidentally was a tremendous blow to her. Her daughter, Margerite, and son, Ernest, pre deceased her.

It did not diminish her love for life; she always looked on the bright side. She had a great sense of humour. She lived in a beautiful spot on the shore of Lake Manitoba. It was always a reminder to her that it had been kind to her family. She told me once, "I have done all kinds of work to make a living for my children. I dug seneca-root, I trapped and mended fish net for 10 cents a net. Sometimes it took all day to mend a badly torn one."

She was a generous person. As soon as we would arrive in the summer, Mrs. Spence was always the first one to come with an arm- full to welcome us back.

One day we were discussing her tribulations, and these few words touched me deeply. With a smile, she said, "My children are my reward." She lived for her children.

Rene and Lea Van De Kerckhove

The Van De Kerckhove family came to Canada in 1913 from Beernan, Belgium. After only a few months in Canada, Rene was born. The family settled in the Saint Alphonse area in southern Manitoba.



Van De Kerckhove Family (Rene & Lea)

In 1936, Rene met Lea Le Roch, and they married in October 1937, in Notre Dame de Lourdes.

Following their marriage, they began ranching in Toutes Aides on the home place where Lea had been raised. My father, Jean, and sister, Jeanne, lived with us until Jeanne got married to Rene Bretecher in 1942.

Their first son, Marcel, was born in July of 1938. He was very small at birth and needed a lot of extra care.

In 1942, Roland was born. These were the war years so in 1944 Rene was called to service. Alex Bretecher and Pete Adam all went together for their physical. But due to their age and marital status, none of them were actually called to serve.

A daughter, Claire, was born in May 1945. This completed our family.

In the late forties, Rene had contacted Undulant fever (Bang's disease). They left Toutes Aides in 1949 and bought a store in Holland, Manitoba. They were not happy with that and returned to Toutes Aides in 1950.

In 1953, they built a new house and Hydro came in. That same year, the rains began and lasted for four summers. It got so bad that Lake Manitoba overflowed right up to the doorsteps of our new house. We lost most of our hay meadows due to flooding and our herd of cattle had to be reduced. Our meadows were full of muskrats, so what was lost in cattle, Rene tried to make up trapping.

Because there was no schooling beyond Grade 8

in our area, both Marcel and Roland had to be boarded out in Rorketon for high school. Claire went to St. Charles Convent in Winnipeg. When the school divisions were created, Roland and Claire were able to take the bus from home.

Marcel married Diane Veinot in 1961 and settled in Sarnia, Ontario. They had four sons, Denis, Robert, Donald and Gerald. Donald died tragically in a swimming accident in 1973.

Roland married Lilliane Pinette in 1966. They have four children, Roger, Paul, Monique and Marc.

Claire married Sylvester Didur in 1963 and are living at Benyk's Point. Syl is superintendent of Duck Mountain School Division. They have three children, Ronald, Lynne and Lawrence.

In 1968, we sold the ranch to Roland and Lilliane and moved to Ste. Rose where we are presently living.

Roland and Lilliane Van De Kerckhove

I was born December 28, 1942. Toutes Aides has always been my home, except for the one year that the family moved to Holland to operate a grocery store. That was also my first year of school.

We returned to Toutes Aides, back to the farm and our home by the shores of Lake Manitoba. I took my elementary school years at a small country school in Toutes Aides. Living four miles from school, we travelled by horse drawn cart in summer - or caboose during winter. I attended high school in Rorketon.

Following high school, I worked at INCO in Thompson. I also taught school in Toutes Aides for one year. I had twenty-eight students, grades 1 to 7.

In 1965 I worked for Malco Farm Manufacturing in Winnipeg from October until April of 1966.

In the spring of 1963, I had met Lilliane Pinette, daughter of Frederic and Alice Pinette of Sainte-Amelie.

Lilliane had completed her training as a Licensed Practical Nurse and was working in Ste. Rose Hospital. She then worked at Mt. Sinai Hospital in Toronto for two years. In the fall of 1965 she worked at St. Boniface Hospital until September of 1966.

On October 1, 1966, Lilliane and I were married in Ste. Amelie. We were blessed with four children: Roger born on July 11, 1967, Paul born October 11, 1968, Monique born February 5, 1971 and Marc born on June 13, 1974. They all attended school in Rorketon and graduated from there.

In the summer of 1969, my parents, Rene and Lea, moved to Ste. Rose and we took over the farm.

In 1975, I worked for Northern Affairs at the Manipogo Information Centre in Toutes Aides, for three years. Lillian worked at the Gendreau Nursing Home in Ste. Rose for five years. Besides bringing up our family of four, we shared our home with foster children over a period of twenty years.

In 1989 I was appointed Councillor for Ward I in the R.M. of Lawrence. The following term I was elected Reeve. With all the other committees to serve, Net Board, Parkland Library, Ambulance, besides operating a ranch, things became too hectic, so I gave up local politics. I do enjoy serving the Knights of Columbus, the church and our local Community Centre.

As for our children, Roger worked in Toronto following Grade 12. Then he took a Sales and Management Course at Red River College in Winnipeg. He worked in the Sales Department for the radio station CKDM in Dauphin for one year. In 1989, he worked in Montreal. He then came back to Winnipeg and worked as a welder for Motor Coach Industries. He is presently working for Smooks Construction in Thompson.

Paul went to work for Smooks Construction. His first job was driving a rock truck in Snow Lake. He still works for that company. Paul married Lori McKinnon (daughter of Tom and Diane McKinnon of Magnet) on July 11, 1994. Lori works in the office for Smooks. They have one daughter, Danielle Renee, born June 14, 1996.

Monique took Hotel and Restaurant Management at Red River College, then went into Education at the University of Manitoba. She is presently teaching in Camperville. She lives in Winnipegosis.

Marc worked in the shop at Smooks for two years, then worked on the oil rigs in Alberta as a tool push for Sedco, for a year. He now lives in Toutes Aides and works on the family farm with his parents. Linda and Marc have a daughter, Kayla Monique, born March 14, 1996.

I give credit to Lillian and my parents for the hard work, the courage and the love they put into the farm which is our home.



Van De Kerckhove Family, Roland, Lillian, Paul, Lori, (McKinnon), Roger, Monique, & Marc

The Woods Family

In 1955, Les Woods retired from the RCMP. He moved with his wife, Mary, and two sons, Ken and Jim, to Meadow Portage. He had looked forward to living a quiet life. Hunting and fishing were his dream. He also started ranching.

For seventeen years they stayed on the ranch. In 1972, they bought the old Dufault house which is near the Dufault Creek. They proceeded to do a lot of repairs to the home and enjoyed the tranquility in his remaining years.

Mary and Les made many lifelong friends while in Toutes Aides. In 1992, Mary moved to St. George Place in Dauphin where she still lives.

Ken and Doreen are still on the ranch with their only son, Chris.

Jim and his wife, Joyce, live in Winnipeg with their one son, Allen, and daughter Jaime.

Everyone remembers the Booker Stove. Mary Wood's father, Walter Booker, invented the Booker Stove in the early 1900's. It was designed to use cheap coal, "Souris Coal." It had two chambers, one for the coal to burn, and the other for the gas. It was a good, cheap stove to operate.

Photos of Interest



Shirley & Frances Barnett & Phillis Strasdin



Diane Stammen, Anna Preston & Dorothy Ackerman



Mrs. G. Stark & Mrs. J. Dutchak



Joan Stammen, Jeneatt Honish, Diane & Mary Ellen Stammen

Weiden

"A German word for Meadow"

A small "Vienna" in the R.M. of Lawrence. The area was settled with people who came mostly from Vienna. The little community was developed by the sweat of the brow. A helping hand was always near by. There was never a question of being paid, the accomplishment was the reward.

In 1905, Mr. Feduik was granted the contract for the first Post Office, which remained in their home until 1923. It was then transferred to Mr. Krawec's home. Later, they built an addition to the house especially for the Post Office and pay phone. Once a week, on Friday night, the mail was picked up in Rorketon.

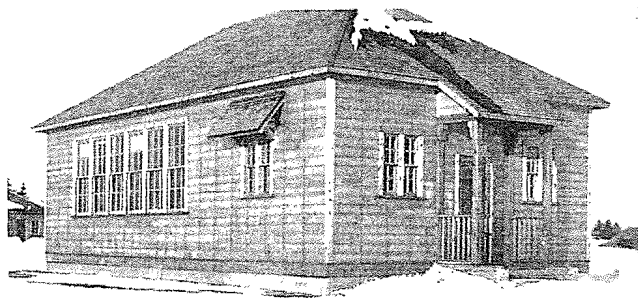
There was one general store owned and operated by Joe and Victoria Halko. Customers bought very little because there was no money. Only the essentials were purchased. Joe sold the business in the mid 1930's to Joe Ladeca who closed the store in the early 1960's.

The water from the wells that were dug was salty. It was suitable for making coffee but didn't make a good cup of tea.

The mainstay of the area is mixed farming. Many milked cows, therefore separated and shipped cream. The cream was taken to Oak Brae. A cream boat that came along the Mossy River to Oak Brae on Lake Dauphin would pick up the cream and transport it to Winnipegosis. This practice was continued until the 1930's when a cream truck would then pick up the cream directly from the farmer's yard.

The first school, #1604, was built 1915. In 1938, it was destroyed by fire and was replaced with another structure on the same site. At one time there were as many as fifty-four students in attendance with only one teacher whose salary was three hundred dollars a year. There was also a teacherage for the teacher.

The hall was built in 1924 on one acre of land, four miles northeast of the church. It was constructed by the Ukrainian Parish with volunteer commu-



Weiden School

nity help. The hall, to this day, is registered with the church. Although the doors are now closed, this hall was once a very active place. Andy Desjarlais and his orchestra played at dances and various community activities.

Although Weiden only had a few business endeavors, it became a very active corner.

Weiden School

Teacher: Daniel J. Reese

Class List

Age	Grade	Name
7	1A	Mary Krawec
8		Mike Fediuk
8		Annie Kolochuk
7		Katy Bily
7		Jessie Galay
7	1B	John Panagapka
8		Philip Panagapka
8		John Tkacs
7		Maxim Boyechko
7		Andrew Fediuk
8		Helen Krawec
10		Mary Duneluk
8		Nellie Galay
8		Mary Bily
11		Mary Kolochuk

10		Frank Panagapka
11		Wasył Panagapka
14		Anna Ruszka
		John Dupley
10	2	Sam Pich
8		Mary Pich
7		Victoria Chornoboy
8		Gena Fediuk
9		Alice Boyechko
10		Andrew Boyechko
10		Nicholas Chuipka
9		Zuska Sklar
10		Petro Bily
9		Billie Tkacz
10		Mike Chornoboy
10	3	Annie Baszizak
9		Jack Baszizak
10		Polly Kolochuk
14		Fred Boyechko
11	4	Annie Galay
10		Annie Fediuk
12		Jennie Chornoboy
11		Mike Sklar
12		Nikolina Chuipka
12		Metro Galay
12	5	Kate Basziziak
13		Annie Chornoboy
12		Kate Tkacz
13		John Boyechko
12		Mary Boyechko
12		Annie Pich
13		Annie Boyechko

June 6/52

The articles listed were at the cottage at the end of the year.

- 1 - frying pan
- 1 - wash basin
- 1 - kettle
- 1 - toaster
- 1 - water pail
- 1 - broom
- 2 - pots
- 1 - porridge pot
- 3 - chairs
- 1 - Aladdin lamp
- 2 - coal oil lamps with globes
- 1 - coal oil can
- 1 - wash board
- 1 - tub
- 1 - water tank
- 1 - mattress and bed
- 3 - dinner plates
- 1 - sugar bowl

- 1 - butter dish
- 2 - cups
- 2 - pie plates
- 2 - window blinds
- 1 - mirror

January 23/1951

It was decided that a straight \$4.00 be paid for a load of wood.

February 15/1953

Agreed that the school be wired.

January 11/1954

The school board requested to have an announcement over the local radio station for the purchase of double seat school desks.

January 15/1955

Decided that the cottage floor be covered by linoleum.

No further records located

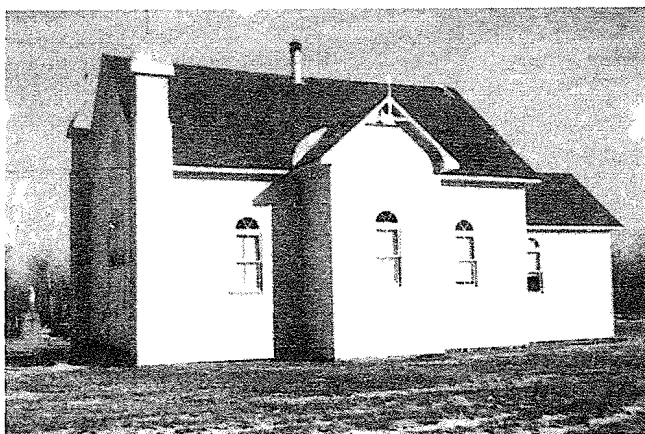
1926	A.M. Jennen
1930	W.I. McGregor
1931	W.I. McGregor
1934-35	M. Talpash
1936-37	F. Zaplitny
1950-51	Betty Ann Cason
1962-63	Lucy McCoun
1957-58	Marie Szport
1958-59	Marie Szport
1959-63	Bernice Zaplitny
1963-64	A.F. Hyde
1964-65	B. Karpluk
1965-66	E. Taylor
1966-67	E. Taylor

Ukrainian Catholic Church

The church of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary is the first church of the parish.

The church was constructed in Weiden in 1919 by Ukrainian settlers who had previously organized themselves into a parish in 1915. Until that time Holy Services had been celebrated by their itinerant pastor Rev. Adonis Sabourin in the homes of the parishioners. The parish was visited in 1916 by Bishop Nykyta Budka, and on the church's feast day in 1933 by Bishop Vasylij Ladyka, and by Metropolitan Maxim Hermaniuk on September 4, 1966, and October 10, 1976.

The wooden cruciform church, constructed upon a concrete base, has two frontal towers apexed by decorative domes. The gabled roof rises high above the central nave, descending in height



Weiden Church

towards the sanctuary and transversal naves. Originally, the church was dominated centrally by a large open dome which was removed during the renovations of 1987, at which time front stairs with wrought-iron railings were added. Entry to the church is under a flat overhang supported by two vertical wooden columns. A choir loft extending above the main entrance is accessed by a stairway originating to the immediate right of the front doors. The sanctuary is located in the eastern portion of the church. A window is built into its right wall. Doors to the left of the main altar lead to a sacristy which exits to the church grounds. The Sacristy was added on in 1952. A window built into the wall behind the main altar is covered with a dark blue drape. Upon this wall hangs a painting of St. Nicholas. Before the main altar and sanctuary walls a lowered triple-arched partial partition resembles an iconostas with its Royal and Deacon's Doors. Above the central arch hangs a painting of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Even though the church was originally under the patronage of St. Nicholas and is presently under the patronage of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, for practical reasons, the church's feast day is celebrated by the parish upon the feast day of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The sanctuary and longitudinal nave are dominated by a vaulted star-studded ceiling; over the transversal naves, the ceiling, supported by reinforcing vertical pillars, is flat. In addition to the two aforementioned paintings are two additional representations of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Jesus Christ adorning the front walls of the transversal naves. They were copied by Hnat Sych from holy images painted by O. Kurylas. Arranged throughout the church are also two banners adorned with holy images painted upon canvas, one processional painting, several crosses and other liturgical requirements of the Ukrainian Catholic Rite. The

painted wooden floor in carpeted up the central aisle and in part of the sanctuary. The church is illuminated by a large electric chandelier and heated by a centrally placed oil-burning stove. Seventeen wooden pews provide seating for approximately seventy worshippers.

Adjacent to the church stand a statue of the Mother of God and a single-bell belfry which was built in 1940 by John Stykalo. The parish cemetery extends beyond the church property. Until 1938 parishioners utilized the Roman Catholic cemetery located two and a half miles west of the church. The parish constructed a Ukrainian National Hall which was built in 1924 upon a one acre site four miles northeast of the church. It is no longer in use.

Ukrainian pioneers that were settling in the Weiden area since before the first World War organized themselves into a parish in 1915. There were many founders of the parish, but too many to name. In 1941 the parish registered thirty-two members with fifty-nine children. Currently, there are fifteen members, none of whom were born in the Ukraine. In 1988 the parish was under the directorship of Rev. James G. Scharinger, pastor, Michael Kolochuk, John Stykalo, Metro Boyechko, Melvin Chuipka, Kate Smadella, Harry Stykalo and Paul Holowachuk.

The Ukrainian Catholic parish of Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Weiden, is under the pastoral charge of Winnipegosis.

Family Histories

Aller Family

Fritz Alfred Aller married Elizabeth Sauka. Fritz Alfred had two brothers, John and Charlie, and one sister, Mrs. Gaulbus. Fritz and Elizabeth had nine children, six sons: Arnold, Wilfred, John, Arthur, Richard and Albert. They also had two daughters Alice and Hermina. The Aller family started off in the Sifton area and moved to the Volga area in 1926. The Aller family got their schooling at Don School. Elizabeth is laid to rest in the Winnipegosis cemetery. Fritz is laid to rest in Vancouver cemetery.

Todozey Boyechko came to Canada as a young man in 1914. He later married Pearl Skrypnik who came to Canada at three years old in 1901. Todozey had four brothers: Antion, Bill, John and Tom. There were also three sisters: Annie, Victoria, and Nellie. Pearl had one brother, Harry, and three sisters: Lena, Mary and Sophie. Todozey and Pearl had eleven children, six sons: Nick, Mike, Tom, Bill, Harry, and Paul. There are five daughters: Lena,

Tillie, Ann, Mary, and Stella. They were born and raised in the Weiden area. Todosey and Pearl later retired to town in Rorketon, Manitoba. Todosey was laid to rest in Rorketon, Manitoba in the year of 1981. Pearl was laid to rest in Rorketon, Manitoba in the year of 1982.

Richard Aller married Lena Boyechko on May 4, 1940, in Weiden, Manitoba. After their marriage, they moved to the North Lake area to farm. They had three children, one daughter, Evelyn and Albert Baschuk and family in the Weiden area. They have two sons: Rudy Aller and wife Linda in Thompson, Manitoba and Randy Aller and wife Karen and family in Oak Brae area. They received their schooling at North Lake until it closed in 1967, then finished their schooling in Winnipegosis, Manitoba.

Randy bought the farm in Oak Brae in 1979. Randy Aller married Karen Johnson in 1983. They had four children, two daughters: Amanda and Tamara. There are two sons: Kyle and Ethan. They live and farm in Oak Brae and also farm in the North Lake area.

George and Mary Bilay Family

George and Mary (Chornoboy) Bilay emigrated to Canada in 1900 from Chehuneh, Ukraine. They settled in the Weiden district where they farmed and raised 12 children: 6 sons; Pete, Metro, Paul, Karl, Walter and Nick; and 6 daughters: Lena (Holms), Ann (Rudkevich), Tina (Berezanski), Kay (Glowa), Mollie (Solomon) and Jean.

In 1932, George and Mary sold their farm to Mike and Ann Tkach. They moved to the Fork River district. There they farmed until retirement, when they moved to the village of Fork River where they resided until they both passed away.

Five of the children are living Karl and Mollie reside in Sarnia, Ontario, Kay and Nick in Winnipeg, and Jean in Brandon.

John and Tekla Bilay

In 1901, George sponsored his brother John and wife Tekla Bilay. They also settled and farmed in the Weiden district. They had three children: Mary (Osadchuk), Nellie (Yurkiw) and Mike. They retired and left the farm to their son Mike and his wife Mary (Kolochuk). John and Tekla lived in Rorketon until John passed away in 1953. Tekla continued living in her home in Rorketon until she was took ill. In 1963 she passed away in Ninette, Manitoba.

Mike and Mary Bilay raised seven children:

John and Nettie work and reside in Dauphin and have two children.

Sylvia and Delbert Hudson live in Winnipeg.

Nellie and Nick Matrueshen reside and work in Dauphin and have two children.

Gary and Margaret reside in Dauphin.

Gloria and Larry Cassidy work and live in Brandon and have three children.

Joan and Michael reside at home in Dauphin.

Due to ill health, Mike and Mary moved to Ste. Rose and then to Dauphin. Mike spent his last fifteen years in St. Paul's Home, where he passed away in January of 1995.

Daughter Nellie married Fred Yurkiw. Fred worked for the CNR, They lived in Morgan, Ontario and raised six children. Later, they moved to Marchand, Manitoba, where the children went to school. In 1966, Nellie and Fred moved to Rorketon where Fred retired. In 1972, Fred passed away. Nellie resided at Rorketon until September 4, 1991. She passed away in Winnipeg.

Their children: John married Nan in Winnipeg and raised four children. John and Nan separated. Now John lives and works in Winnipeg with his friend, Bev John. Her children are Donna, Cindy, Roseanne and Steven.

Olga married Kit Toogood in Winnipeg. They lived in Springfield, Neepawa, Brandon and now work and reside in Portage la Prairie. Kit and Olga raised three children: Jim, Doug and Barbara.

Robert married Valerie. Both work in Winnipeg and reside in Ile des Chenes. They have three children: Shelly, Christine and Ronald.

Ethyl married Harold Denelca. They work and reside in Winnipeg and have two sons, Stanley and Michael.

Ann graduated from Rorketon School and worked in Winnipeg where she met her husband Orlando Zirk. They reside in Stony Mountain and have two children, Richard and Jodi.

Jean also graduated from Rorketon School. She attended Success College in Winnipeg and worked in various jobs. She married Ray Cox and had three children: Christopher, Amber and Dana. Jean resides in Winnipeg with her children since Ray passed away.

Mary Bilay.(See William Osadchuk)

Anton Boyechko History

Anton came to Canada from the village of Germakiwka, Ivano-Frankivska, Ukraine as a young lad in the early 1900's. Here he met Anna Kolokichka who was from the same village as Anton. She had come with her parents, William and Helen Kolokichka, as pioneers to the Oak Brae area to farm. Anton and Ann married, settled in the Weiden district to farm and had ten children.

Their first child, Paul, who at sixteen left for work. He owned a meat shop in Toronto until he retired at sixty-five. He moved home to live with his widowed mother for a time. He married Jean Sereda. They are living in Dauphin. After Paul came John who married Mary Zamrykut, (now deceased). He lives in Hamilton. He has one daughter Florence and a son Larry.

Mary who married Pete Maksymchuk (deceased), lived on the farm in Toutes Aides. She now resides in Rorketon. They had two daughters and a son - Ann, John, and Victoria.

Max (deceased), who married Jean Hafichuk, has two sons, Eddie and Dennis. His wife, Jean, now lives in Dauphin.

Andrew never married and lives in Sifton.

Alice never married.

Jack married Stella Dowhan, he lives in The Pas and has two daughters and a son: Carolin, Perry, and Debbie.

Effie married Nick Kreypch (deceased), she lives in Stoney Creek, Ontario, and has one daughter and a son, Helen and Michael.

Vincent married Eva Sedor, they now live in Dauphin, and has three sons and a daughter: Albin, Archie, Lillian and Barry.

Alexander married Maria Cherwak and lives in Winnipeg and owns Roblin Choice Meats. They have one son, Zenon.

Father, Anton, died at 78 years and mother, Anna, died in 1992 at 100 1/2 years of age.

Nick and Minnie Burchuk

submitted by Mary Stratuliak and Jean Prokopowich

Nick Burchuk was born May 7, 1897 in the region of Bukovina, Austria, now Western Ukraine, to Michael and Anne (Linsky) Burchuk. He had three brothers and three sisters. He served in the First World War.

In 1928, Nick immigrated to Canada. He arrived in Brandon, at his mother's relatives. He met Alex Iwanchysko, who was in Brandon selling some horses. Since both came from the same region, they got to know each other and in 1929, Nick came to the Iwanchysko home in the Moose Bay District. He stayed and did odd jobs. Nick and Frozina (Anne) Pawluk, were close neighbours to Iwanchysko's and Frozina was Alex's sister.

The Pawluks had a daughter Michalena (Minnie). She was born November 22, 1915 at Oak Brae where she later attended school. She got as far as grade six and then left school to help out on the



B: Rosie Swyszcz, Minnie Burchuk, Tena Zayac F: Ken Pawluk, Mary Mussel, Mike Pawluk

farm. She had three brothers, George, Mike and Ken, four sisters, Rosie, Tenie, Mary, and Annie.

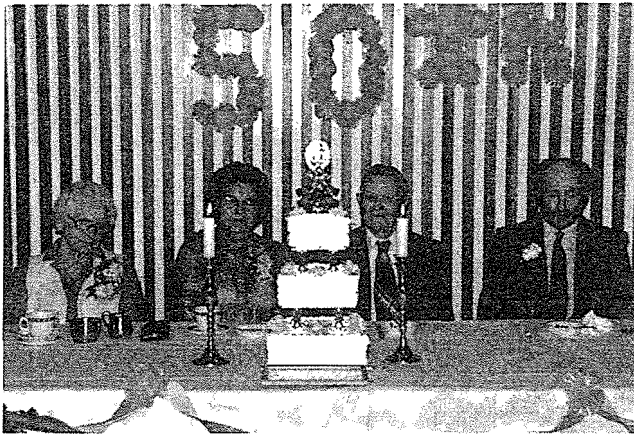
On November 4, 1931, Nick Burchuk and Michalena Pawluk were united in Marriage. Their first homestead was a 160 acre piece of land with a one-room log house, plastered with clay and white-washed, in the Weiden district. Nick was a good hunter and with the garden and berries they survived.



The Nick Burchuk one-room log house in Weiden

To learn English, Nick went on horseback to Oak Brae School for night classes. A diphtheria outbreak in the mid 1940's caused grave concern. Two of Nick and Minnie's children, Peter and Jean contacted the disease. Peter spent some time in Ste. Rose Hospital. The farm was quarantined for 10 days.

Life was hard, Nick and his father-in-law, Nick Pawluk, often told stories about the homeland which they had left behind and which they missed. All children could never attend church service at



Nick & Minnie Burchuk's 50th Wedding Anniversary with Annie Iwanchysko & Mike Werbiski

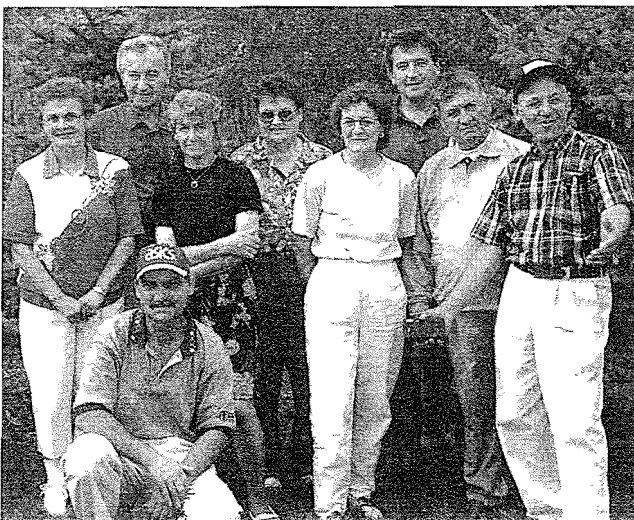
one time because there were not enough shoes for everyone.

Nick and Minnie were devoted members of Weiden Ste. Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Church, which was situated on their farm. Nick was the caretaker of the church and cemetery, served as an elder and a board member. Later, he also served as a trustee on the school board in Weiden.

In 1945, the Burchuks sold their farm and moved one and a half miles north-east where they purchased a farm from John Safiniuk. Their larger two room house was also built of logs plastered with clay and whitewashed.

Fond memories are a legacy from that farm. In 1951 the Burchuks purchased a large house from the airport in Dauphin. They moved it to the farm and remodelled it.

Nick and Minnie were blessed with ten children, Anne, Mary, Jean, Bill, Peter, Alex, Vicki, Olga, Mike and Wally.



The Burchuks 1995, Back L-R: Bill, Mary, Mike. Front L-R: Jean, Olga, Vickie, Alex, Peter & Wally

In 1968 they sold their farm to Hubert and Giesla Rimke, purchased a house in Dauphin and retired. In 1973 Nick travelled to Ukraine to visit relatives. He found the oak tree which he had planted as a boy. The visit moved him deeply and in 1976 he made another trip there, this time with Minnie, who also had relatives in Ukraine.

Nick passed away July 10, 1987 at the age of 90 and Minnie passed away August 27, 1994 at age 78. Both are buried at Riverside Cemetery, Dauphin, Manitoba.

Their loving memories will last forever.

Children of Nick and Minnie Burchuk

Annie Burchuk, born in 1932, passed away at the age of three months.

Mary (Burchuk) Stratuliak was born in Weiden in 1933. She attended school in Oak Brae and Weiden. In 1950 Mary was united in marriage to Anthony (Tony) Stratuliak of Ethelbert. The young couple settled on a farm in the Ethelbert area where they still reside. They are semi-retired and are helping their son with mixed farming. They take an active part in their community and church affairs.

Mary and Tony have four children:

William (Bill) was born in 1952. In 1972 he married Bernice Miller of Togo, Saskatchewan. They reside in Dauphin where they both work. They have been blessed with four children, Jody, Michelle, Jason and Krissy.

Elsie was born in 1955. She married Jim Jorgensen of Winnipeg in 1994. They make their home in Winnipeg, where they are both employed.

Sonia was born in 1959. In 1983 she married Gregory Willems of Winnipeg, Manitoba. They have one son, Curtis. They and reside in Calgary, where both are employed.

Wayne was born in 1971. He lives with his parents on the farm in Ethelbert and rents more land which keeps him busy.

Jean was born in 1934. She attended school in Oak Brae, Weiden, Rorketon and Winnipeg. She graduated from Tuxedo Normal School in 1955. Jean married Boris Prokopowich of Roblin. In 1957 and they spent the next twenty-five years in Ontario where Jean taught school and Boris was involved in the restaurant equipment business. They moved back to Winnipeg in 1982 and retired to Roblin in 1991. Boris and Jean have two daughters: Joanne Campbell (Gord) of Brandon, Manitoba. and Judith Williamson (John) of Winnipeg. Joanne's children are Katie, ten, and Ian, seven. Judith's children are Grant, four and Eric, one and a half.

Bill Burchuk was born in 1936. He attended Weiden School, then worked in Churchill for three years. In 1959 he moved to Winnipeg where he still resides. In 1960 Bill married Anne Biletski of Winnipegosis. Bill and Ann had a daughter, Carol, in 1961. Carol died in infancy. She is buried in Weiden at St. Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Church cemetery. In 1964 Anne was admitted to Riverview Hospital with Multiple Sclerosis. She passed away in October, 1995. Bill is presently married to Ursula Hackert and has five stepchildren and six step-grandchildren. He has been employed by ADT Security Systems since 1960.

Peter Burchuk was born in 1939. He received his education in Weiden and Rorketon. Peter married Marian Balness of Lac du Bonnet. in 1961. They reside on a hobby farm in Gunton, Manitoba. Peter has spent his entire working life in the grocery business. He worked eighteen years for Dominion Stores in Winnipeg. Since 1977 he has owned and operated a store in Stonewall. Marian taught school for several years before joining Peter in the business.

Their three children are Shannon (Winnipeg), Rob and his wife, the former Lisa Diamond (Stonewall) and Elanna (Petersfield, Manitoba).

Alex Burchuk was born in 1941. He received some schooling in Weiden and remained with his parents until the age of 30. He is a resident of the Manitoba Development Centre in Portage La Prairie, Manitoba. Family members visit with him regularly and take him on outings and family gatherings.

Vicki (Burchuk) Kostiuk was born in 1943. She attended school in Weiden and Rorketon. She married Lawrence Kostiuk of Garland in 1966. After spending nine years in Thompson, Vicki and Lawrence moved to Beausejour, Lawrence was employed by Amsco Cast Products Inc. in Selkirk while Vicki spent nine years working at Beausejour Hospital and was an ambulance attendant for ten years. At present Lawrence and Vicki own and operate a restaurant in Stonewall.

Their children are Kim (Stonewall), and Darryl (Winnipeg).

Olga (Burchuk) Kolochuk was born in 1945. She attended school in Weiden and Rorketon, then married John Kolochuk of Weiden in 1962. Olga and John make their home at St. Francois Xavier, Manitoba. Olga had spent many years in the field of child care. She has owned and operated the Charleswood Children's Centre since 1982. John is retired and is now involved in the thoroughbred horse racing industry. Olga and John have one son,

Leonard, and a grandson, Jonathan. Leonard recently married Cathy Kulyk of Winnipeg. Olga and John's younger son, Dale passed away in 1988 at the age of 23 as a result of an automobile accident.

Mike Burchuk was born in 1949. He received his teacher training at the University of Manitoba in 1968-69. After teaching in Winnipeg and Selkirk for eleven years, Mike worked at the University of Winnipeg and coached the Women's Volleyball team. From 1989 to the present, Mike has been head coach of Canada's National Women's Volleyball team.

It may seem a long way from the farm in the Parkland community of Weiden to coaching Canada's national ladies volleyball team. But it doesn't really look that way to Mike Burchuk who grew up on the family farm about 40 miles north-east of Dauphin. In the winter, he would walk miles through the snow to school in Rorketon. In the spring, he would join his four brothers and four sisters in clearing a field filled with "a million rocks". Going out to pick just a hundred rocks from the field in a day was out of the question. But preparing the group to pick the entire million always looked like an impossible task. Somehow they would get the job done.

"Compared to picking rocks and walking to school, coaching was not a very difficult job".

Wally Burchuk was born in 1951. He attended school at Weiden, Rorketon and Dauphin. After spending two years in Thompson, Wally moved to Winnipeg. He has been involved in the grocery business for over twenty years. At present he is employed by Food Fare in Stonewall, where he resides with his friend Jean Bergen and her two sons, Rod and Danny.

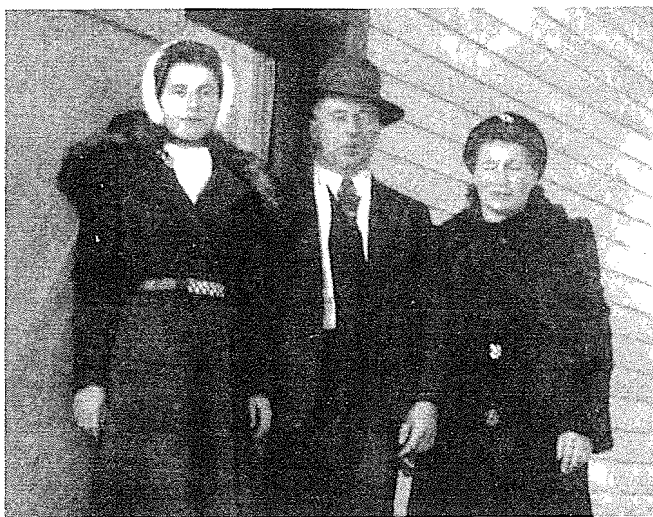
Chuiпка Family History

John Chuiпка came from the Ukraine to Canada in 1906 - 1908, after serving two years in the army. He married Theckla Chuiпchyshyn in 1910. Theckla's family was already in Canada since 1904.

When the war broke out, the army called upon John to return, however, John didn't want to go. By coincidence, Theckla's father had passed away a short time before, and since the last names were quite similar, a death certificate was produced bearing John's name on it. The army took it as such and John was safe!

After John and Theckla's marriage, they lived in the Moose Bay area for approximately three years, then moved to the Weiden area where they made their permanent home.

John took a job working for Hudson Bay



Stella, Peter, and Lillian Chuipka

Railway on the line to The Pas, until 1928. Then, a visiting priest from Saskatchewan told John how rich the soil was there, and all they would need to do is work the soil and seed. The crops would be plentiful and beautiful. So, John left his family on the farm, and together with Jacob Chuipka, loaded their machinery and oxen on the rail boxcars and set out for the rich land. They purchased a piece of land in the southern part of Saskatchewan, worked the soil and sowed it. John went home to his family and later Jacob notified him that the crops had all dried up - there was no rain. The bountiful crops would not be. John never returned to Saskatchewan. Jacob tried seeding again the following year, but the results were the same.

John and Theckla farmed until in 1946, at which time they moved to Rorketon purchasing a livery barn, rooming and boarding house. John was quite lucky, for a few years later, he won a car. But not knowing how to drive, he sold it a while later.

Theckla died in 1951, and John passed away on the family farm in 1956 at the age of 77 years.

They had five children:

Lillian was born in 1912, and married Henry Pereski on September 12, 1938. They had three children, Claudia, Joani, and Wally. Claudia died at the tender age of 2 1/2 years, Lillian passed away in 1950 at 38 years, following gallbladder surgery, and Henry passed away in 1982.

Nick was born in 1914, helped on the farm and moved with his parents when they retired to Rorketon.

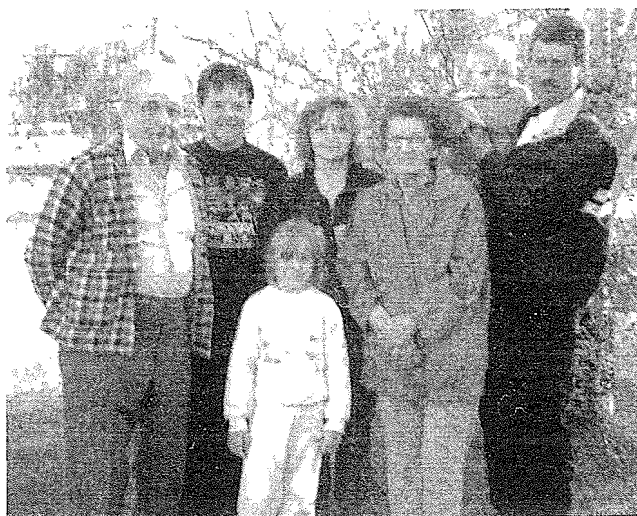
Stella, born in 1926, married Steve Hrushka on February 23, 1946. They had five children, Harry, Leona, Peter, Barbara, and Sharon. Steve passed away in July 1994, and Stella lives in Dauphin and is still very active with family and friends.

Metro was born in 1928 with very minimal eyesight. He underwent surgery when he was quite young to bring his sight to a higher level, but this proved to be futile as it did very little for him. At the age of nine, he went to Winnipeg and attended the CNIB School for the blind. He did very well and was able to land a job which took him to his retirement. He still lives in Winnipeg and is active with family and friends.



Chuiпка Family

Peter was born on May 17, 1919, on the family homestead with a midwife present. He attended Weiden School, beginning when he was 7 and completing when he was 14 years old. He went up to Grade 5. Of course he would have to walk nearly a couple of miles to school, only wearing rubber mocassins for footwear. If they took milk for their school lunch, it would be taken in glass bottles and alot of times the milk would freeze, the bottle would crack and the whole thing would be discarded.



Chuiпка family; Peter, Robert, Donna, Ireno, Bradley, Melvin, and Brittany in front.

Instead of hiring a janitor for the winter months, Miss Mc Gregor, the teacher she would keep two students after school and they would do the clean-up. Then with the money saved, she would buy the sugar and the cocoa for the children.

At the age of nine, Peter was already working the field with a team of horses. Looking for outside jobs, Peter went to Sudbury in 1937, but couldn't find anything there. In 1938, he found a job cutting logs in Sioux Lookout, for a dollar a day. In the summer he was cutting pulp in Longlac. In 1940, he went to Timmins, Ontario working underground in the mine for \$4.64 per eight hour shift.

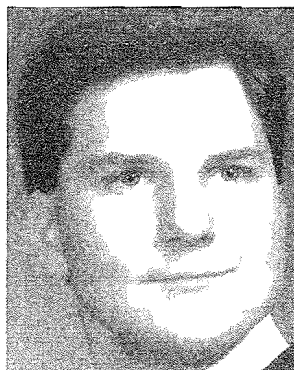
On August 7, 1943, Peter married Irene Solomon, daughter of John and Dora Solomon. They returned to Timmins after their marriage, and Peter continued to work in the mine. They had bought a four room house, but in 1946, they sold it to buy and work the family farm.



Ernie, Melvin, Irvine, and Peter Chuipka

They had two sons; Ernie born October 7, 1946 in the Chuipka boarding house. That morning a 15" snowfall prevented Irene from going to the nearest hospital. The only means of transportation with the snow would be by rail using the jigger. She was advised to stay at Mrs. Chuipka boarding house. Ernie was born in the evening.

Ernie attended Weiden and Rorketon Schools. After completing High School, he went to look for work. He was with the Police Force from 1973 - 1979, as a policeman, then went into partnership manufacturing caskets. Now, he is in the construction business, working in several areas of the province.



Ernie Chuipka's children Jason Chuipka, Shelly and Craig Jessup.

He married Lucille Sudletsky on June 15, 1968. Lucille worked in the casket business, and has been employed with Penner Foods for several years now. They have two children; Shelley, born November 9, 1968, and Jason born August 17, 1972.

After completing her schooling in Winkler, Shelley attended Southern Alberta Institute of Technology. She graduated with honors in 1993, and is a Chemical Technologist working for Baker Hughes. Shelley married Craig Jessop on July 29, 1995, and their home is in Calgary.

Jason attended U. of M. after completing Grade 12 in Winkler School, and majored in Geological Sciences. He is in Farmington, New Mexico at present, uncovering historical remains.

Ernie and Lucille reside in Winkler.

The second son Melvin, was born on August 24, 1951 in Ste. Rose. After completing his schooling at Rorketon, he also went looking for work. He did several jobs, from maintenance to welding, but his lot in life must have been farming, as he purchased the family farm when his parents retired to Rorketon.

On November 10, 1984, he married Donna Stykalo. They have a family of three, Robert, born on July 10, 1980. He is still attending Rorketon School and is in Grade 11. He is very interested in farming. Brittany was born on April 19, 1986. She is in Grade five at the Rorketon School. Bradley was born on October 25, 1990. He is in grade one.

Peter and Irene farmed for 37 years before retiring to Rorketon. They are still active with their family and friends.

Mary Feduik

Mary Feduik's ancestors came to Canada in 1900/1901 from Austria. They settled in North Lake, Manitoba. They did not have much choice as to what location they got.

Mary was born in Weiden in 1911. She married Bill Feduik who was born in 1904. They were married for forty-two years. He died in 1971. She then sold the farm at Weiden to a nearby neighbour and moved to Rorketon where she presently resides.

Mary has seven living children (five sons and two daughters). They reside in Winnipeg, Dauphin, and Sicamous, British Columbia.

Her children started school in 1936. Grade twelve was completed only by the youngest child.

One son was involved in World War II.

She was involved in the Ukrainian Catholic Church. She presently resides in the town of Rorketon.

Galays of Weiden

Dmetro Galay, his wife, Mary, and their family of six, perhaps seven children, emigrated from the Borshchiv area of western Ukraine in 1902. They settled in the Fishing River district, but then moved to NE 6-29-16W in Weiden. Dmetro and Mary had nine children in all: six sons, (see Roman and Margaret [Dubetski] Galay). Bill and wife Anne (Sliworski), Steve and wife Polly (Baschuk). Peter who died at the age of 19 from an appendix surgery and three daughters, Nellie (husband, Harry Kolochuk), Anne (husband, John Yarema) and Jessie who died at age 12 from diphtheria.

Mary died in 1924 and Dmetro married Anne Ryhorchuk in 1927. Anne was previously married to Peter Hryhorchuk and had a family of one daughter and thirteen sons. Dmetro and Anne did not have any children from their union. Dmetro died in 1957.

In 1911, Roman bought SE 7-29-16W for \$10.00. It was just north of his parents' quarter. In 1912 he married Margaret Dubetski. Margaret (Martha) was born in Zhezhava, Zalishchiky district, in south-eastern Ukraine. She immigrated to Canada with her parents, Wasyl and Helena Dubetski and her brother, Nykola c.1900.

Roman and Margaret had a large family; three sons, Metro and wife Mary (Kolochuk), John and wife Sheila (Nadusiak), Nick and wife Victoria (Monchka). There are eight daughters; Anne and husband Bill Papushek, a second husband, John Kostachuk. Nellie and husband Metro Monchka, Jessie and husband Mike Kolochuk, Helen and husband Frank Koshowski, Katie and husband Tom Tunny, Marie and husband Frank Robertson, Eileen and husband Rus Ady, a second husband, Richard Gadfield, and Stephanie and husband Bernard Perry.

Roman was not able to support his family by farming and began working seasonally elsewhere. Roman worked for a paper mill in Ontario. In 1926

he started working for the C.N.R. Eventually became a section foreman. In 1935, he started building a new log house on the farm. 1938 he sold the farm to his son Metro who eventually completed the house.

Since Roman was away most of the time, he and Martha moved to The Pas. Roman was a popular man; very strong and robust. He, alone, could put on the drive belt of a threshing machine. He loved to socialize with family and friends. He died in The Pas in 1942 at the age of 50.

Martha moved back to live on the farm with her son, Metro and his wife, Mary, for a few years. She eventually retired to Winnipegosis where she passed away in 1982.

Metro and Mary (Kolochuk) Galay

Metro's parents were Roman and Margaret Galay. They were both born in Galicia, Ukraine. Roman came to Canada around 1903-1904 and Margaret came in 1900. Metro had two brothers and seven sisters.

Mary's parents were Peter and Annie Kolochuk. They were both born in the Ukraine and came to Canada around 1904. Mary had three sisters and four brothers.

Metro Galay was born on his parent's farm SE 7-29-16 on January 26, 1913. He attended Weiden school from 1920- 1925, and was obliged to give up his elementary education after grade five to work on the family farm.

Metro remembers survey crews working in the bush north of their farm in 1924. The CNR had intended on extending the spur line from Rorketon further northwesterly to Winnipegosis. The survey



Roman & Lily Galay



Roman & Martha Galay

crew lived in tents and bought milk, eggs and feed for their horses from the Galays.

In the summer of 1929, Metro went out to work for the Canadian National Railways on the Hudson Bay rail road as a waterboy on the "extra-gang" around mile 237, north of The Pas. The next year, Metro went out working again for the summer on the CNR, working at Crooked Creek, Saskatchewan. When not working away from home, Metro looked after his father's farm with brothers, John and Nick, and sisters, Stephanie and Eileen.

In 1938, Metro bought his father's farm for \$1.00, along with a few cows, horses and some machinery. He had been managing the family farm for some years now.

Mary Kolochuk was born at home on her parent's farm in Volga on May 17, 1922. She started attending school in 1930.

Metro met Mary when he and his father were building their new log house. Lumber and other building materials were bought in Winnipegosis. Kolochuk's farm was a half-way point between Winnipegosis and Weiden. He would stop there to rest his team.

Metro would pay Nick twenty-five cents to wash the democrat and to keep quiet about where Metro was off to.

Metro and Mary were married on Sunday, November 20, 1938 at the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Weiden.

Metro and Mary received two cows from each of their parents as a wedding gift.

Mary inherited an instant family after her marriage. Metro's sisters, Eileen and Stephanie, and his brothers, John, and Nick, were still on the farm living with Metro. In 1942, Metro's father, Roman, died and his mother came to live with them from time to time.

In 1943, Mary had difficulties delivering her first child, Gloria. Nurse Hill was summoned from Rorketon. The situation became more serious and the doctor was summoned from Ste. Rose du Lac. He arrived in a snowplane which broke down near Krawecs. He then came the rest of the way in a caboose and horses. Gloria was born on February 23.

Metro and Mary saw many changes in their forty years on the farm. In the early 1950's, electricity was introduced to this rural area. In 1952, their house was wired and their first appliance was a toaster. In 1964, Metro bought his first tractor, a second-hand Massey-Harris 30k, from Mr. Maruk for \$400.00.

Metro and Mary retired to Dauphin in 1979. Their son-in-law, Leo Hrushowy, purchased their farm and now operates it along with his teaching responsibilities.

was born on February 23. Gloria attended Weiden school to grade 8, took grade 9 by correspondence, and then completed grades 10, 11 and 12 in Rorketon. She went on to Success Commercial College in Winnipeg. Gloria married Raymond Storozinski and is currently living in Dauphin. Their children are Curtis, Christopher, Calvin, Carey and Melanie.

Sylvia attended Weiden school to grade 8 and then took grades 9 - 12 at Rorketon. She went on to Manitoba Teachers' College and obtained her Teaching Certificate. She then began her teaching career at Coronation School. Sylvia was born March 21, 1945, married Leo Hrushowy, and is currently living in Rorketon. They have three children: Lyle, Shalyn and Marcie.

Stanley attended Weiden school to grades 8 and then went on to Rorketon to complete his grades 9 - 12 inclusive. He then taught at Million School by permit for one year. He then moved to Thompson, to work at the INCO refinery. Stanley, born on September 11, 1946, married Agnes Panagapka. They currently live in Thompson and have two children, Troy and Shawn.

Peter and Natalka Galay Family

Peter was born August 18, 1930 in Weiden, Manitoba. September 3, 1955, he married Natalka Tkach, who was also born in Weiden. They both received their education at the Weiden School.

Peter was employed in Winnipeg and Nataalka was employed in Ninette before their marriage. They lived in Winnipeg from 1954-59. Nataalka was working at a candy factory which was called Marrs Food. There they started their family. Peter moved his family to the family farm in Weiden in October 1959. There he made farming his career.

During the farming years, Peter also had to work at various other jobs in places like Thompson, Dauphin and Winnipeg. Peter and Nataalka raised their family on the farm. They moved back to Winnipeg in 1984. There Peter was employed in construction until his retirement in 1992. Nataalka is employed at St. Boniface General Hospital.

Kenny, oldest child of Peter and Nataalka Galay, was born in Winnipeg, on July 13, 1956. I moved to the family farm in 1959 at Weiden, grew up there and attended Weiden School for six years until it closed. Then I attended Rorketon Collegiate. I left the farm for Rocky Mountain House, Alberta in 1979 and came back to work in Winnipeg in 1985.

I married Dawn Bailey who was from Rocky Mountain House on July 11, 1987, and went back to Alberta in 1988 to run Eckville Arena for the winter months.

In November 1993, we were blessed with twins Jason and Jacinda. They now live just outside of Rocky Mountain House. I am still employed at Eckville Arena. Dawn works at the Walking Eagle Inn, Rocky Mountain House.

Larry Galay, second son of Peter and Nataalka Galay. I was born on September 8, 1957 in Winnipeg. We moved to Weiden district in 1959 and started school in 1963. After four years, he was transferred to Rorketon. I graduated in June of 1975. I then moved to Winnipeg where I worked. In July of 1979 I met my future wife Ann Harris, we were married in Swan River and moved to Dauphin in October. Our son, Michael, was born in Dauphin in November, 1982.

We moved to Alberta in 1984 where I was employed at a construction firm. Due to lack of work, we returned to Swan River in 1985. I went to college in The Pas for a year taking a mechanics course. After college, I was employed in Manitou at an auto dealership. After a few years, I was laid off. We moved back to Swan River and I began working for a farmer.

As of this date, January 1996, we still reside in Swan River where I am employed by a fuel company.

My name is Sharon Harris (Galay), daughter of Peter and Nataalka. I was born September 2, 1958 in Winnipeg. I got my education at the Weiden School

until grade 4, then, I attended the Rorketon Collegiate Institute. I graduated in June of 1976. My first job was in The Pas as a telephone operator. There I married David Harris on June 24, 1978.

We lived in Swan River, where I was employed at the Swan Valley Hospital, moved to Rocky Mountain House, Alberta, in 1979, where my husband was employed for Hi-Tower Drilling.

There we were blessed with our first daughter, Cheryl, who was born in Red Deer, on August 5, 1980. Four years later on July 11, 1984, my other daughter, Michele, was born in Rocky Mountain House. We moved back to Manitoba in 1984 where we lived at my dad's farm for a brief period, then moved to Swan River for a couple of years. We decided to move one more time. This time we made our home in Flin Flon, where we have been since 1986. I am employed at the Bargain Shop and David is employed through Midwest Drilling, where he works underground. My girls both attend school here.

Sherry Robinson, daughter of Peter and Nataalka Galay, was born and raised in the Weiden district. She attended school in Rorketon where she graduated in 1981. After trying her hand at various jobs, she decided to move onward. In 1984, she moved to Rocky Mountain House, where she worked at a private camping country club. In 1986, the big city lights called her, so off to Calgary she went. She landed a job in a travel agency and still is employed there. Calgary is where Sherry met her husband and on May 11, 1996, became the bride of Stephen Robinson. The Robinsons presently live in Calgary and in their spare time enjoy camping and travelling.

I am Lorraine Cronklite, I am the youngest child of Peter and Nataalka Galay. I was born and raised in the Weiden district. I attended Rorketon Collegiate Institute and graduated from there in June of 1984. Following my schooling in Rorketon, I enrolled at Success Angus Business College in Winnipeg. I graduated from there in March of 1985 with a business diploma. I moved to Alberta following my post secondary education and have resided here ever since. I lived in Rocky Mountain House for seven years and here is where I met my husband, Jamie. We exchanged wedding vows in June of 1988. Two years later, in April 1990 we had our first child, Ethan. In October of 1992, we moved to Lloydminster, Alberta. Here we were blessed to have another child, our daughter, Dana. She was born in August of 1993.

Paul and Nellie (Zopotochney) Luckow

Paul was born in 1876 and Nellie was born in 1882. They came from Trembolia, Austria to Sifton in 1907, where Nellie's sister Mrs. John Yarish had settled. She gave them a chicken and some eggs to hatch, and in 1908 they moved to Moose Bay and built a house on the shores of Lake Dauphin. Nellie was a great gardener and grew and sold a lot of cucumbers. They homesteaded and farmed until Paul died in 1943 and Nellie in 1960. They had two daughters; Annie born in 1910 and Mary born in 1914.

Mary started school when she was 10 years old, in Oak Brae, as it was almost four miles and would have been too far for her to walk at a younger age. She went for three years. She helped her parents on the farm until she met and married Peter Heykin in 1932.

Peter was born in Russia in 1894. He came to Canada in 1920 and lived in Montreal when he first arrived. He worked in Eastern Canada, Churchill, The Pas and Cold Lake, where he operated a butcher shop until 1932. Then he moved to the Weiden area where and married Mary Heykin in 1932. They ran a mixed farming operation. They only had 14 acres of field cleared, so they hired help and had 50 acres opened then they could grow a little grain. It was very wet in the early years and hard to get around.

Mary and Peter had 8 children. Claire was born in 1933. She went to school in Weiden, married Bob Maughan and lives in Sault St. Marie. She has four children.

Nellie was born in 1936. She went to school in Weiden, married Bob Hamerton in Victoria, British Columbia and has one daughter.

Annie was born in 1938. She went to school in Weiden and Winnipeg, and became a Registered

Nurse. She worked in Winnipeg, Vancouver, Bermuda and England, and now resides in Peterborough, Ontario. She is married to Jim McCallum and has three daughters.

Katie was born in 1941. She went to school in Weiden, worked in Winnipeg, married Len Parkant, and has four children.

Vera was born in 1943 and went to school in Weiden, Winnipeg and Rorketon until she completed Grade 12. She went to Teachers' College in Winnipeg and is still teaching in Winnipeg. She was married to George Shupenia who passed away a few years ago. She has five children.

Millie was born in 1946. She went to school in Weiden and then Rorketon until Grade 12. Then she trained in Winnipeg for a Registered Nurse. She worked in Winnipeg and Vancouver and is presently working in Winnipeg. She married Pat McAllister and has four children.

John was born in 1949. He went to school in Weiden and Rorketon until Grade 12. He went to University in Winnipeg. Presently his job takes him all over and he is in British Columbia. now, married to Ann Richardson and has 4 children.

Willie was born in 1955. He went to school in Rorketon until Grade 12. Then for two years he worked in the bush during the winter, and helped at home in the summer. He is presently working in Edmonton, married to Brenda and has three children.

Peter died at age 81 in 1975. Mary stayed on the farm until the house burnt down. She moved into Rorketon in 1991, and rents a Seniors' Housing Apartment. She went to the Weiden Church all her life, but also enjoys going to all the other churches in the area.

Presently she enjoys a good healthy life, visiting the other ladies close by, knitting and crocheting and helping to make perogies for the Community Club or whoever asks for help.

She especially enjoys her visits with her eight children, twenty eight grandchildren, eleven great grandchildren and one great great grandchild. She misses the many flowers that she had on the farm, but does have a little garden by her apartment.

I, Annie Puga, was born in 1910 at home in Moose Bay. My parents, Paul and Nellie Luckow (nee Zapotochney), came to Canada from Trembolia, Ukraine in 1908. They came to Sifton where Nellie's sister Mrs. John Yarash lived. She gave them a little heifer and they settled in Moose Bay. Dad went to work for a few months, but there was no money in it, so they started farming. I did not go to school, because Mother had an accident. The



Mary Heykin & Family (missing Nellie & John)



Peter & Annie Puga, Nick, Paul, Mary & Pearl

oxen that Mother was driving went over some rocks and tipped the wagon of hay over, and Mother flew onto the rocks and cut her head above her eye. She could not see much after that. I stayed home to help Mother. At age 21, I married Joe Widomski, and three years later he was killed at work. Then I married Peter Puga. We lived in Pine Falls for six years, where Pete ran a poolroom. Then we came back to my father's farm. I had seven children: Lily, Emily, Mike, Nick, Mary, Paul and Pearl. Lily was born in 1931. She went to school in Moose Bay, married Roman Galay in 1951 (see Roman Galay). Emily went to school in Moose Bay and Pine Falls to Grade 10 and married Conrad Knott in 1952. They have five children: Rick and wife, Colette, with two children in Nanimo, British Columbia. Michaela and husband, Larry, with three children in Brandon; Debra and husband, Neil, with two children live in Creston British Columbia. Derrich unmarried in Edmonton; Jeff and wife, Leana, with two children in Winnipeg. Emily and Conrad moved to the family farm in 1974 and are presently farming and planning on retiring soon. Mike was killed in a car accident in Pine Falls, at age 19. Nick lives in Prince George. He's married with a son and a daughter. Mary died of Multiple Sclerosis, Paul and wife, Barbara, have two girls and one boy, and live in Merritt, British Columbia. Pearl lives in Dauphin.

I lived on the farm. When Pete died of cancer, the children helped me. I had a raspberry patch that a U-pick many people came and picked every summer.

I went to the Weiden Church all my life. Sometimes I walked the five miles and sometimes

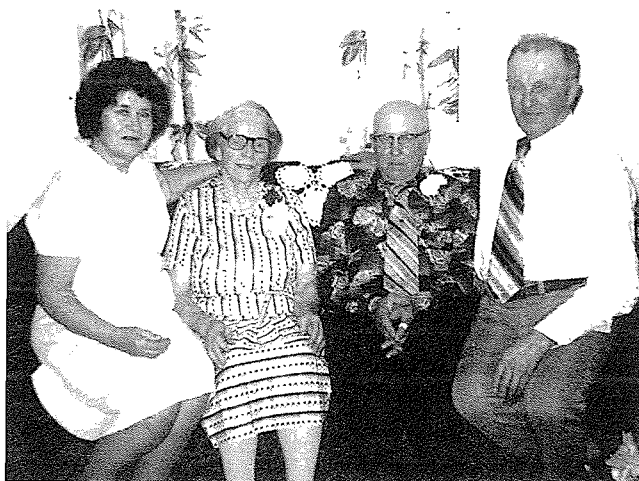
someone picked me up. I always helped clean the church. In 1993 just before Christmas I broke my leg and spent 3-4 months in the hospital. Then I came to Rorketon and am presently living in the Senior Housing. As a passtime I knit for anyone who brings me the wool. I look forward to my children's and grandchildren's visits, and still have a small garden every summer.

The Sklar Family

Michael and Katherine Sklar settled in the Weiden District shortly after their marriage in Winnipeg in 1913. They had both just emigrated from the Ukraine and Poland respectively. Later on, his father, Dan, brothers Sawko and Roman, and his sister Barbara, (married to John Stykalo), also emigrated to the area. They searched for the dreams of freedom, prosperity of having their own land and home, and finding a job. An avid hunter, the standing story was that Michael followed trails and pathways of the wild game (moose, elk, deer) to their feeding grounds. This led him to settle on NW 2-29-13. Work on the homestead was labour intensive as the land had to be cleared by hand and all buildings erected. Oxen and horses provided the source of power for work and transportation. Numerous trips were made to the flour mill at Sifton.

Michael and Katherine raised a family of five children: son Mike, and daughters, Sophie, Stella, Helen, and Jean. Sophie, who lives in Winnipeg, married Bill Shemanski. They had two children: Olga and Bernice. Bernice married Al Dowie. They and their two children, Bill and Donna, live in Winnipeg.

Stella married John Carlash and lives in Toronto. Their only daughter, Janice, husband John, and children, Shannon and Ashleigh, reside in Toronto. Helen married Ronald Addison in Toronto.



66th Anniversary L-R: Annie Tasherine, Michael & Mike Sklar

Jean married Dick Jones and resides in Ottawa. They had twin daughters, Leslie married Albert Cardarelli and Susan married Mark Wigle.

Need and opportunity drew Michael to the North where he was employed by the Canadian National Railway from about 1924 until his retirement. Following retirement, Katherine and Michael continued to reside in The Pas until their passing in 1985 and 1986 respectively.

Their son, Mike, took over the family farming responsibilities at a very young age. In 1936, he married Annie Maksymchuk of Toutes Aides. They raised four children: Edward (Eddie), Florence, Katherine (Katie), and Antony (Tony). Like most young people of the district, the children pursued education and job training which drew them to larger centres. Presently, Ed and his wife Alice reside in Gladstone. They have two children: Brenda in Winnipeg and Grant in Philadelphia. Florence and her husband Allan Rebenchuk, along with their children, Ryan and Michelle, live in Winnipeg. Katie and her partner, Don Turner, and Tony also work in Winnipeg.

Mike and Annie continued to run a mixed farming operation for many years. As well, custom work in breaking new land, threshing, and sawing logs were just a few of Mike's endeavours through which a much needed service was provided to many residents of Weiden and surrounding districts. Annie enjoyed her large vegetable gardens, flowers, involvement with the church, needlework, and cooking. She also spent long hours working in the fields during harvesting and haying.

In 1975, Mike and Annie entered their pre-retirement phase by purchasing a home in Dauphin. Following a gradual orientation to total retirement, they moved to Dauphin in 1978. Shortly thereafter they sold their farm to Ron Lodge.

Annie passed away in December 1989. Mike continues to reside in his home and maintaining the traditional large garden as well as enjoying the daily coffee meetings, card playing, church, and the support of his family and friends.

Stykalo History

submitted by Donna Chuipka

John Stykalo married Barbara (Sklar), in 1923 in Svitazew, near Sokal, Poland. With the help of John's father-in-law, Michael Sklar, John was able to immigrate to Canada in 1927. Michael had already immigrated to Canada in 1913, with the help of his son, Dan Sklar who had come to Canada earlier, and knew of the Weiden district from a friend.

John worked for the C.N. line to Churchill for a

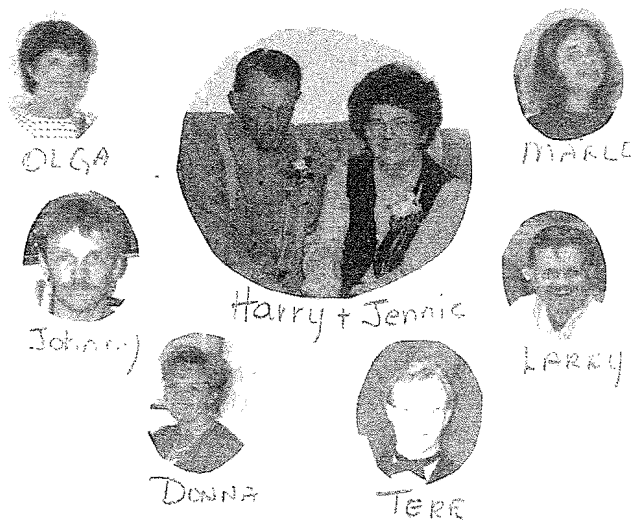


John & Barbara's 50th Anniversary

period of time, as did his father-in-law, Michael. When John was able to acquire some oxen and some heifers, he quit working and began farming. He farmed on his father-in-law's land, which was situated next to Danyluk's farm. When Mr. Danyluk was retiring, Michael and John bought him out and moved there. The family farm is still there today.

Barbara made her journey to Canada on April 29, 1929, with their three children, Harry age 5, Russ age 4, and Mary 9 months of age. Their journey began by boarding a train in Poland. They trav-

STYKALO Family



Harry & Jennie Stykalo family; Olga, Johnny, Donna, Tere, Larry & Marlene

elled to a port in Germany where they boarded a ship, which took them to Halifax seven days later. Harry recalls his mother being quite sick on sea. She could not sleep or eat, and would always be carrying Mary with her. From Halifax, they boarded another train, which took them to Fork River. From there, friends took them to Weiden, by horse and buggy. It took a total of one month from the time they boarded their first train in Poland, to the end of their buggy ride. Harry remembers when they finally reached their grandfather's "two room mansion". Russ and he were very intrigued by the numerous pictures on the walls.

John and Barbara had two more children in Canada, Mike and Dan. The children attended Weiden School. When Harry started school at the age of 6, he did not know a word of English. Needless to say, he was poked fun at, being called "immigrant" by children already more knowledgeable. He quit when he was 14 years of age, to help on the farm. Russ also quit at age 14, Mary went on to Grade 8, Mike to Grade 10, Dan finished school and went on to become a teacher. Harry's first teacher was Mrs. McGregor, then Miss Talpash, then Fred Zaplitny.

The Stykalo family was very musical. At the ages of 11 and 12, Russ and Harry were anxious to learn to play an instrument. Harry adored the cymbalay and Russ the violin. A resident from the district, Mr. Makowski, taught them how to play. Harry remembers that every chance he got, he would be practicing on them. His first set of cymbalay were made by his father. The only material purchased were the numerous strings and tuning plates. The wood was their own, so it cost about \$50.00. Russ's first violin was purchased from the Eaton's catalogue for \$60.00. It was the finest they had. Later on Mike learned to play the violin and some time later played on the accordion. The accordion cost \$150.00 at the time.

By the ages of 15 and 16, Russ and Harry played at their first wedding for Michalena Paradski, (Chuiipka). The wedding would begin Saturday afternoon and end Sunday afternoon. They were payed was \$7.50, which was divided between the band members, Russ and Harry. The year was 1938.

The band continued to play and were getting quite popular. They would play at dances, weddings, and frolics. Dances paid a hefty \$0.50 per musician per night. Nights were long! Tickets to the dances were ten to fifteen cents a person. At times, this band would have up to three weddings a week.

The band members either walked to the halls, or later used their bikes. They would tie their instru-

ments to the handlebars or just carried them. Harry would have to tie the cymbalay to his back when he walked to their destination. When they were asked to play further than walking distance, people who hired them, would come and pick them up with their vehicles, and bring them back. At times the band would rent the P.A. system from Zabayaka's for a day.

Mike joined the band when he was around 16, playing the accordion. Later, he went on to record his violin music. Mary played the guitar and Dan, the piano. When the family would get together, the day could not end without a few tunes. The tradition still continues with Harry, his son Tere, granddaughter Camille, and now his grandson Ryan. Tere plays the violin, cymbalay, and guitar. Camille plays the cymbalay and the violin, and Ryan is on the electric guitar.

Money was saved up in jars from playing, and buried in the cellar. At one point there was \$1800.00 saved up and their father bought a brand new '45 International truck with it, and some of his own. An auger was also purchased at that time. They hauled grain from other farmers, at about seven or eight dollars a load. John's first tractor was a Massey 44, bought in 1950, and then in '52, he bought a "Cat."

In 1940, Harry and Russ bought a 1929 Model-A Ford, for about \$275.00 Later on they bought a 1934 V8 for \$475.00.

The main road was near the post office, which was operated by Krawecs', in their home. The road also extended to the local grocery store owned by Joe Halko. Harry's parents would send him to the store with money or eggs for payment of groceries. Eggs would sell for five cents a dozen. A package of tobacco would sell at ten cents, while a package of Zig Zag papers were five cents. Peanuts for Christmas would be around five cents for a five pound bag.

John and Barbara retired to Dauphin in 1964, and lived there until their passing, John in 1973, at the age of 71 and Barbara in 1994 at the age of 93. She was only a couple weeks short of celebrating her 94th birthday.

Russ married Susan (Huzey) in 1952, and have one son, Dennis. Dennis lives in Dauphin with his wife Joanne and their family. Russ passed away in 1974. Susan continues to live in Dauphin. Mary married Emil Monita in 1948 and had three children. Eunice and husband Pete Petkivius live in Marathon, Ontario with their family, and Janice and Gary live in Winnipeg. Mary and Emil retired to Dauphin from Thompson until their passing, Mary in 1993, and Emil in 1994.

Mike married Lillian (Kruzenowsky) in 1958. They have two sons, Dwayne and wife Jackie, and Kelvin and wife Deness and daughter Theresa. They all reside in Edmonton.

Dan lives in Dauphin and has four children, Tyson, Tanya, Deanna, and Devon.

Harry married Jennie (Boyechko) in 1950. Together they had six children.

Olga and husband Allan Sliworsky farmed in the rural Winnipegosis area. They have four children, Jennifer, Derek, Candace, and Camille.

Marlene who lives in Winnipeg is working as a secretary for a fire extinguisher company.

John and wife Geraldine (Tkach) farm with his parents on the family farm. They have two children, Nicole and Trevor.

Larry and wife Patsy (Mulholland) live in Dauphin with their three children, Ryan, Jason, and Kayla. Larry runs Stykalo Auto Repair.

Donna and husband Melvin Chuipka, farm in the Weiden area. They have three children, Robert, Brittany and Bradley. Donna is a nurse employed at the Winnipegosis Hospital/Care Home.

Terance (Tere) and wife Tracy (Batho) live in Dauphin. Tere is employed with an accounting firm as an accountant.

Times were hard, money scarce, so Harry left the farm to work. In 1941, before he was married, he went to Pickle Crow, Ontario. His job was working in the stopes, blasting. The wage was a meagre sixty five cents an hour for beginners. He worked only a couple of months, then had to come and help on the farm. Already married, in 1955, he went to work again, this time to Eldorado Mines, near Uranium City, Saskatchewan, where he worked for a few months diamond drilling. The wage here would be \$1.25 per hour and a bonus of twenty-five cents per foot after thirty feet. In 1956, a friend was travelling to British Columbia and Harry went with him. He worked in the foundry, mixing sand. The work was very strenuous, so he went back to the Eldorado Mine again. When he came home, it was to stay.

The family was very talented in carpentry as well. John built his retirement home on the farm, which was later moved to Dauphin. Russ was a well known carpenter in his day. A while after Harry and Jennie were married, Harry built their first home. It was made of 2x4s and blocks of wood between. The insulation was of homemade material ... clay. It was their two room mansion - 20'x16'. This mansion was situated on the north quarter known as "Harisems", and the quarter is still referenced to that today. In 1972, Harry built another new home. His brother Russ was the main carpenter, and even their father

John, was able to come and help. Harry cut logs and took them to Sklar's to get cut into 2x4s which were used for the house. There were many other buildings that Harry built in his day, and everything had to be square.

Harry and Jennie still live on the family farm today. This year, they celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary.

Tkach History

In the years 1890 to 1920, there was an enormous influx of immigrants to Canada from the Asian and European countries. A tremendous number of Ukrainians, during this period, migrated from the Ukraine, which was then part of Russia and Austria. A young couple, Safat and Malanka Tkach (Dymtrew) were part of this migration. They left their homeland, Borstchevich Provista, West Ukraine, Austria, and arrived in Canada in 1902, to explore new horizons in the new world. Their destination was Humboldt, Saskatchewan, where they homesteaded for three years.



1955, Malanka & Safat Tkach

Safat worked at his trades, which he brought with him, such as shoemaker, carpentry, and farming, while Malanka went about her household chores. In 1905, they moved to Sifton, where they worked for a farmer. In 1906, they bought a farm in the R.M. of Mossey River in the community of Weiden. They were one of the first few settlers to homestead in the area. Here they cleared, broke and tilled land with a team of oxen and settled down with mixed farming.

The community was slowly growing. Safat helped in constructing a local school, a hall and a church which was completed in 1918. During these

hardships, along came their offspring: Pearl, Anne, Mike, Pete, Kate, Bill, John, and Fred. These were the rough and hard times.

Safat and Malanka prospered and stayed on the farm until the spring of 1948. They bought a piece of property in the village of Rorketon, Man., and moved their summer house here for their retirement. They participated in certain community activities and had made several friends. Safat passed away in 1955 at the age of 80 years and Malanka in 1957 at the age of 78.

Their son Mike Tkach, born in 1907, also made his homestead at Weiden. Mike went to school at Weiden and finished grade eight at age 14. A couple of years later he was anxious to earn a wage, so he went out harvesting for a few years in the Neepawa area.

In 1926, he went to The Pas, and was fortunate to get hired on the railway gang. He stayed on until 1932, participating in the construction of the rail line to Churchill. But before this, in 1931, he went back home and married Anna Kendzierski. Coincidentally, Anna's father (Peter) also worked on the rail line. This was how the relationship had begun. In 1932, Mike and Anna decided that maybe farming was their career, so they purchased a quarter section at Weiden. These were the depression years, but Mike had earned good money and saved it, and even bought a car. He was the second person in the district to own a car, and a radio in the house.

They continued farming.

In the next few years the children were born: Peter, John, Nataalka, Albert, and Sonia.

Mike was involved in many aspects of the com-

munity, having served as secretary of the school, church and the hall. He was involved with the provincial and federal elections at the polls, enumerating and taking census. He also was member of the Farmers' Union and Poultry and Co-op Association.

After World War II, they bought quarter section of crown land. This land had to be cleared. During this period, they also had leased a number of quarter sections of land. Cattle was what their venture was for the future.

Besides always being busy on the farm, Mike found time for hunting and fishing.

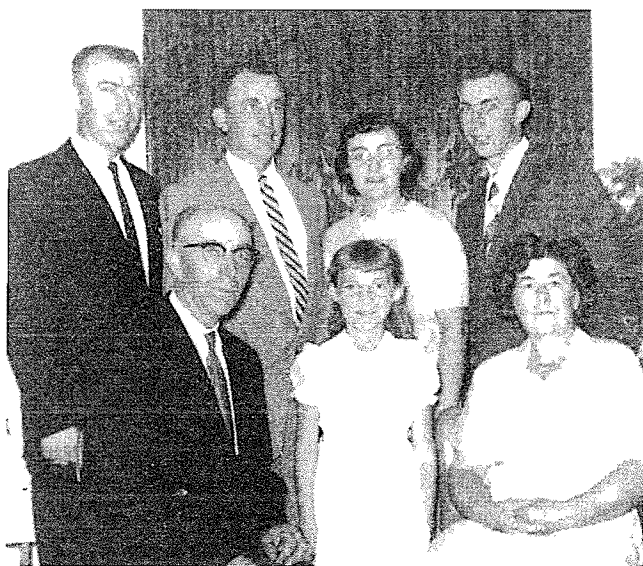
Mike and Anna prospered on the farm until retiring in 1973. They sold the farms and moved to their new home in Rorketon. It was difficult for them to adjust to the new life in the village after being so active on the farm.

Mike would not sit still, he was known as the village handyman, while Anna worked around the yard.

Mike was one of the founders of the Lawrence Knights of Columbus Council and held various positions on the council, secretary of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, and Seniors Drop-in-Centre. Anna was involved with the Women's Church League and Drop-in-Centre.

Suddenly on October 16, 1995, Mike passed away while working in the yard, at the age of 87 years. Anna wants live in the community with her relatives and friends.

Peter, Anna and Mike's eldest, was born in Weiden, in 1932. He had his early education, Grades



1959 F: Mike Tkach, Sonia, & Anna B: Peter, John, Nataalka & Albert



Peter Tkach Family 1995: Front Row: Gordon & Andrew Alton, John Trevor & Nicole Stykalo Second Row: Geraldine Stykalo, Judy Tkach Back Row: Darlene and Kyle Alton, Peter & Angulla Tkach

1 to 7, at Weiden. At the age of ten, he had that instinct for trapping and hunting. He started a Lone Scout Troop in 1944 which had only a membership of 6. He took his grades 8 to 11 at the Rorketon High School while staying at his Kendzeirski grandparents' place.

In 1950 - 51, Peter took his grade 12 at St. John's College in Yorkton. In 1951 - 52, he did some permit teaching, at Edillen School. In 1952, he decided to pursue a teaching career and took a one-year teachers' course at Normal School at Tuxedo in Winnipeg.

In the spring of 1957, he married Angulla Fediuk, also from Weiden. In 1963, he had a home built in Fort Garry near the U. of M.

Peter's and Angulla's eldest, Judy was born in 1957. She is single and lives in Charleswood. Judy attended schools at St. Avila, Acadia and graduated at Fort Richmond Collegiate in Fort Garry. Living at home next to U. of M., instead of pursuing her education, she decided to work for a few years. She worked with the Conklin shows travelling across the country. She worked for a year at Dryden, Ontario. After this in 1978, she got employment at Sperry Univoc (Paramax)- UNISYS AND LORAL. Judy was laid off her job and is taking her second year in Agriculture at the University of Manitoba.

Geraldine Tkach was born in 1960. She took her education at St. Avila, Acadia and graduated at Fort Richmond Collegiate in Fort Garry. She was musically involved with the Ft. Richmond band, which was very competitive with other collegiates in the country and won several awards. She had part time employment while attending school. After finishing Grade 12, she got a full-time job at an optical firm which manufactures eye glasses and lenses.

In 1985, Geraldine married Johnny Stykalo and they settled on his family farm at Weiden. Their main source of income is from cattle and grain farming. They have two children, Nicole, 9 and Trevor, 6. Both are going to school at Rorketon. Geraldine has been working at the Rorketon Credit Union for the past year. Johnny has also taken a casual job in the area in the past few years. Both are involved with community activities throughout the year.

Darlene Tkach, born in 1963, went to school at St. Avila, Acadia, and graduated at the Ft. Richmond Collegiate in Fort Garry. She worked at part-time jobs during high school.

In 1988, she married Gordon Alton after a lengthy friendship. They bought a home at St. Adolphe and are residing there today. Darlene was employed at Westfair Foods (Western Grocers).



Front: Jesslyn, Joyce, Albert & Colter Back: Chantel, Todd & Tanya

They have two sons, Kyle, 5 years, and Andrew, 2 years.

Albert Tkach was born at Rorketon on November 11, 1941 to Mike and Anna Tkach. He received his education at Weiden and Rorketon Schools. In 1959, he joined the R.C.A.F. After his discharge, he worked in Winnipeg, building houses. In March, 1965, he signed with the Federal Grain Co. and worked there until it was sold to the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool. At present he is working for the Wheat Pool as foreman of the maintenance department.

On July 4, 1969, he married Joyce Nesdoly at Cando, Saskatchewan. This marriage was blessed with two children.

Todd married Chantel Treleven in 1987. They have two children, Jesslyn and Colter. At present Todd is a helicopter pilot and manager of a base station at Rainbow Lake, Alberta.

Tanya, who is a travel consultant, works for a firm in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan.

At present Albert and Joyce reside at Carrot River, Sask., where Joyce works as a hair stylist and Albert for the Wheat Pool.

Sonia was born on April 7, 1952 at Dauphin General Hospital. She resided at Weiden until 1969. She attended Weiden School up to Grade 6 and then finished her education at Rorketon Collegiate in 1969. Then she moved to Winnipeg and went on to Success Business College. After graduation from the Data Entry Operator program, she worked for a variety of companies: The Canadian Wheat Board,

Manitoba Data Services, Investors Syndicate, Comtech, Manitoba Department of Education, Dominion Bridge, St. Vital School Division and the Winnipeg School Division No. 1.

While employed at Manitoba Data Services, Sonia met Bill McWilliams and they married in Rorketon, September 1, 1973. They became proud parents of Kirk on May 7, 1975 and then Sandra on November 4, 1979.

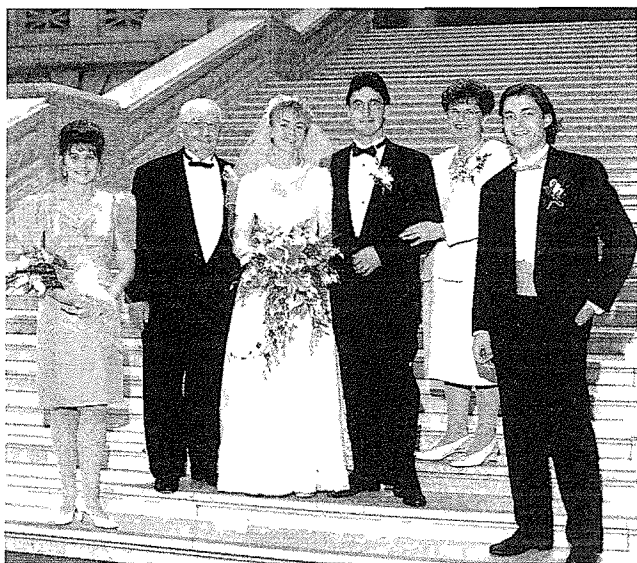
After Sandra was born, Sonia decided to stay at home and devote all of her time to raising the children.

In 1987, Sonia once again changed her career path and became the data entry supervisor for the Winnipeg School Division Number 1 Information Systems department where she is still employed.

Kirk is now enrolled in the Business Administration program at Red River Community College.

Sandra is currently attending Glenlawn Collegiate and is in Senior 3 (Grade 11).

In 1993, Bill opted for an early retirement and started his own home based computer consulting company.



L-R: Carol, John, Deanna, Douglas, Nadia and Robert

John was born at Fork River on May 5, 1934. He attended Weiden School for his early education and Rorketon, then High School. Following his graduation he entered the teacher training program at the Normal School. Upon receiving his teaching certificate, he taught at Crane River, Pine River and Winnipegosis, the last year as principal.

In 1970, his teaching career continued at Dauphin until his retirement.

In 1964, he married Nadia Urbanowski of Pine River. Her teaching career started in 1960 and she

continued to teach until the first of the three children arrived.

Douglas, the eldest, graduated as a Chartered Accountant from the University of Manitoba Commerce Honors Program, placing fifth in the province. He currently serves as the Chief Financial Officer at Burrows Lumber Inc. He is also a Manitoba representative of the National Council of Chartered Accounting.

In 1995, he married Deanna Felbel of Winnipeg; she is currently employed at Canadian Linens as administrative assistant.

Robert graduated with a Civil Engineering degree from the faculty of the University of Manitoba, placing first in the faculty and thus winning the gold medal for his efforts. He is currently completing his Master's program in Civil Engineering at the University of Manitoba.

Carol is currently in her third year in the faculty of Pharmacy at the University of Manitoba. She is employed, part time, at the Pharmacy in the St. Boniface Hospital.

Fred and Nellie Yurkiw

Fred and Nellie lived in Morgan, Ontario. They moved to Marchand, Manitoba and retired in Rorketon. Fred passed away in 1972.

They had six children.

John and Nan have four children, Donna, Cindy, Roseanne and Steven. They live in Winnipeg.

Robert and Val had three children, Shelly, Christeen, and Ronald.

Olga and Kit Toogood had three children, Jim, Doug and Barbara. They live in Portage La Prairie.

Eiliyl and Harold Deneba have two sons, Stanley and Michael. They live in Winnipeg.

Ann and Orlando Zirk have two children, Richard and Jodi. They live in Stoney Mountain.

Jeanne and Ray Cox (deceased) had three children, Christopher, Amber and Deanna. They live in Winnipeg.

Nellie passed away in September, 1991.

Nick Zroback

Nick Zroback was born in Gonor, Manitoba, in 1919. My dad, Harry Zroback, and his brothers and sisters immigrated to Canada from Bordulaky, Austria, in the Ukraine in 1906. My father was employed in Kenora, Ontario, in a paper mill. His parents did not come to Canada. Like the Zroback family, my maternal family immigrated to Canada from Roduluby. They settled on a homestead around Moose Bay and Lake Dauphin. My mother's parents passed away when I was small, so I never knew them.



Harry Zroback Sr.



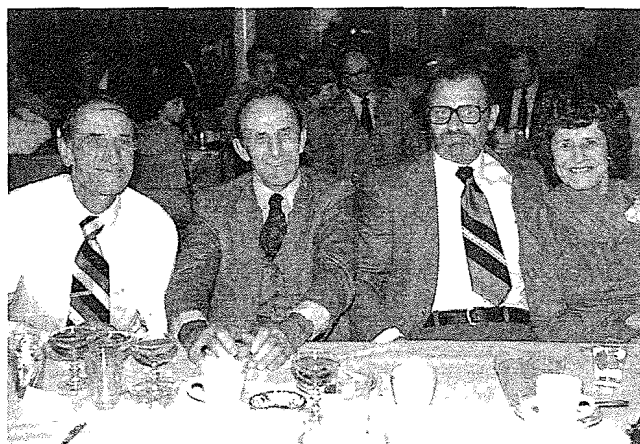
Hnat & Pearl Korotash & Family

Dad met my mother in Canada. They were married in Kenora, Ontario in 1910. My mother's maiden name was Pearl Szmaudalo. In 1918, my mother decided to reside close to her family so dad moved her to a homestead at Weiden, Manitoba, to raise their family of six: Frank, Peter, Steve, Nick, Alex and Sophie.

In 1930 Frank and Peter went to work on the farm around Dauphin. Frank played a fiddle and Peter played a guitar. They played at the dances to make extra money.

My mother died of pneumonia when I was 11 years old. Frank died of asthma in 1939. Steve died in 1983.

I attended school at Moose Bay and Oak Brae, Manitoba. At age 17 I went to work around Dauphin, on the farms. My wages were \$5.00 a month, government subsidized, in the winter. In the summer, farmers paid \$15.00 a month.



L-R: Peter, Nick, Alen & Sophie Zroback

In January, 1942, I was drafted. I enlisted with the Winnipeg Grenadiers Second Battalion. I had my basic training in Winnipeg. In March, 1942, my battalion was transported to British Columbia where I finished my advance training. In 1943 our battalion and U.S.A. Army were transported from Victoria, on a U.S. troop freighter ship overseas to Japan for special duty to occupy Kiska Island. We arrived back in Victoria ten months later. I met my wife, Eleja Dubois, in Vancouver, in 1945. We were married at Prince George. We now have three children, a son Garry, and daughters Darleen and Pearl. We have three grandsons: Terry, Max and Andy; three granddaughters: Sherry, Haylee and Marnie. All reside in British Columbia I was a commercial salmon fisherman on the west coast on my forty-foot trawler "Viking IV" for twenty-one years. I retired from fishing in 1973 after all my children were married. Now we live in Abbotsford, close to my family.

A Collection of Local Anecdotes

We played a few friendly pranks on one another, all in fun, no harm done. One that comes to mind was the "Black Ham Caper". A friend of mine had purchased a live pig and kept it at another friend's farm just out of town. When it was time to butcher the pig, a few of the boys volunteered, along with a few pints of the bubbly. When it was time to singe the porker, the boys were slightly chemically inconvenienced, let the fire get out of hand and poor porky ended up quite black. After getting the carcass cleaned up, they took it to the local IHC dealers garage to cool for a few days before cutting and wrapping. When I found this out I got hold of another buddy on mine and together we snuck in to the garage, picked up the carcass and put in a heated refrigerator car at the station. On Saturday morning my friend and helper had to come to the garage to pick up the pig to cut up. No pig. They sat around the pub for several hours, thinking someone would own up as to where the pig had disappeared. No luck. However, the joke sort of backfired on us, as I had to keep the charcoal burner fired up on the weekend, so that the meat wouldn't freeze. My buddy didn't come to pick up his meat until Monday afternoon, just prior to the train leaving town with the refrigerator car. Oh what fun, there was roast pork on the table Monday night.

submitted by Eric J. Ball

"I recall many tales of the early days at Freedale. Dad tells of a big gala and dance at some hall or home where he called the square dances and where there was plenty of white lightning. He also tells how they got the local Mountie (a young man) stoned and locked him up in the Post Office until the next forenoon. Those were the good old days!

As well, he tells of a neighbour (straight from Jolly Olde England) called Benny Hill, a bachelor, living in a one room cabin, who was forever calling on Dad. This one beautiful Sunday morning, Ben had been out hunting with his .22 and called on my dad. He apparently knocked on the door - no answer - so, he opened the door, stepped in, and shouted "Hey!! ABE, are you home?" Hearing no answer, he shot a couple of rounds up through the ceiling. The bullets went up through the kitchen ceiling, through my father's suitcase that was under his bed, up through the mattress and exited through the roof - both rounds. He would also shoot flies off his own kitchen table while reclining on his bunk bed. Father also tells of rigging up the shotgun to shoot the

moose who forced their way into the fenced yard around the sheaf stack. It worked."

At a barn dance, a fellow who was preoccupied with a new step, did not judge the distance and danced right out of the loft door, leaving his partner standing. Fortunately a pile of hay cushioned his landing and was not hurt.

A smoke gadget was planted in a brand new truck, when the owner lifted the hood all he could see was smoke and he thought his new truck was on fire.

Who, when working on the roof tied a rope around his waist to the car bumper, then request his wife to go to town for "refreshments" and did not untie the rope.

Someone was beating up on his car cause it ran in the ditch. A rifle was used to shoot the mice in the car.

Remember when one cold winter day when some young men, who were going to a dance, made a caboose out of a cutter cardboard and burlap bages were used to cover the top with a woodstove inside. How cozy it was until a spark flew from the stove and started a fire.

Someone set forth to playfully frighten some children, so he dressed in a bear's skin and plodded through the bush. Everything was going as planned until he heard the words "I said the flashlight, not the 22". No one had ever seen a bear move so fast on his hind legs.

Admission to a dance was 25 cents. If you played an instrument it was free. If you didn't have 25 cents and could not play an instrument you had to "play smart", which was done by taking a neighbors lady into town and she, in return, would produce the 25 cents.

The new Credit Union installed a new "state of the art" vault. It appeared very impressive, there was only one hitch, when it was first tested they were unable to get the door open, that was when "plan B" came into effect. The outside wall was torn down in order to gain entrance to the vault. This only happened the one time, since then the walls have remained in tact.

A young lad, after purchasing a new hockey

stick, was practising his slap shot on his way home. Instead of hockey pucks he used the first available substitute, a "fozen apple" that was dopped by a passing horse. He was astonished at how effective the new stick was. The "frozen apple" went through Dan Rehaluk's store window, landing on his counter. It was from this incident he got his nickname (?).

There was a young lady who was unable to start her car. Her husband, being the gentlemen he was offered to pull the car during his lunch break. After a two mile hike the car still would not start. He decided to size up the situation and to his amazement he discovered the key was not turned on. Their was a black streak of smoke and it was not coming from the exhaust pipe.

If anyone owned an automobile in the 1920's and drove it in the winter months, they would make sure to carry a pail. When reaching their destination, it was necessary to drain the radiator to prevent it from freezing. Upon leaving, the water was then returned to the radiator and the automobile was once again ready to travel.

Mother and son had no previous experience playing music for public dances. Alice played guitar and Norman the violin, as there were no pianos in that pioneer country. What music to play for the young to dance to was a problem. They soon found out that the old Salvationist hymns played at certain a tempo lent themselves admirably to the waltz and the one-step. Many a young immigrant couple danced the night away to the sacred strains of "Shall We Gather at the River" or "Nearer My God to Thee", quite oblivious to the fact that, to the God-

fearing disciples of these hymns, all dancing was considered sinful. One can only imagine their horror had they known of this abomination of their sacred music!

No telephone, radio and all but impassable roads should have made their lives that of isolation. They arrived with a large Studebaker touring car, which was so frequently mired in the gumbo that they traded it to a school-inspector for his buggy and team of light driving horses. One mare they named "Stude" and the other "Baker". This solved the problem of getting from here to there and provided transportation for the family, especially Alice, who was an excellent horse-woman, and knew how to "hitch- up" and "unhitch". She was famous for her equipage, and her boast was that Stude and Baker could take her the three and a half mile to Rorketon in less than 17 minutes.

T'was two weeks before Christmas
Christmas lights were to be strung.
Getting ready for Santa
was oh so much fun.

An idea came O'ver me
To my delight.
I'd tie a rope from my tractor to the chimney
So I could hold on tight.

The job being finished
I jumped on my tractor with glee.
But my tractor kept stalling
I knew it couldn't be.

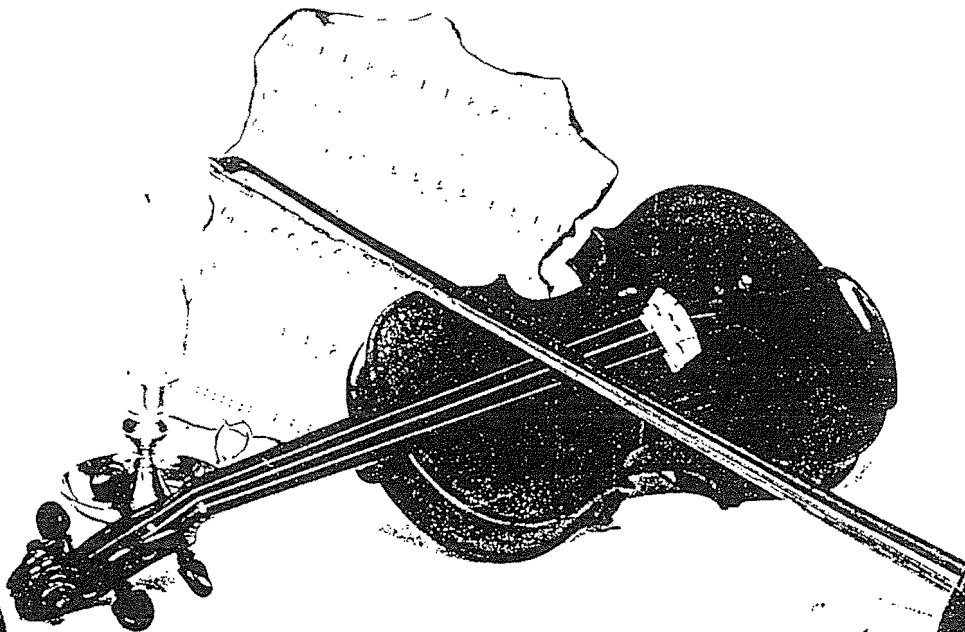
So I opened the throttle
And to my surprise
The chimney came down
Right before my eyes.

The Touch of the Master's Hand

by Myra Brooks Welch

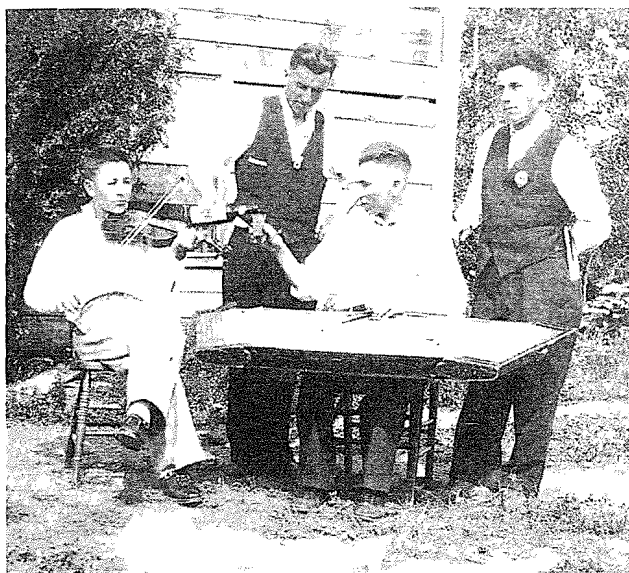
'Twas battered and scarred, and the auctioneer thought it scarcely worth his while to waste much time on the old violin, but held it up with a smile. "What am I bidden, good folks," he cried, "Who'll start the bidding for me?" "A dollar, a dollar"; then, "Two! Only two? Two dollars, and who'll make it three? Three dollars, once; three dollars, twice; going for three —" but no, from the room, far back, a gray-haired man came forward and picked up the bow; then, wiping the dust from the old violin, and tightening the loose strings, he played a melody pure and sweet as a caroling angel sings.

The music ceased, and the auctioneer, with a voice that was quiet and low, said: "What am I bid for the old violin?" and he held it up with the bow. "A thousand dollars, and who'll make it two? Two thousand! And who'll make it three? Three thousand, once; three thousand, twice, and going, and gone," said he. The people cheered, but some of them cried, "We do not quite understand what changed its worth." Swift came the reply: "The touch of a master's hand."





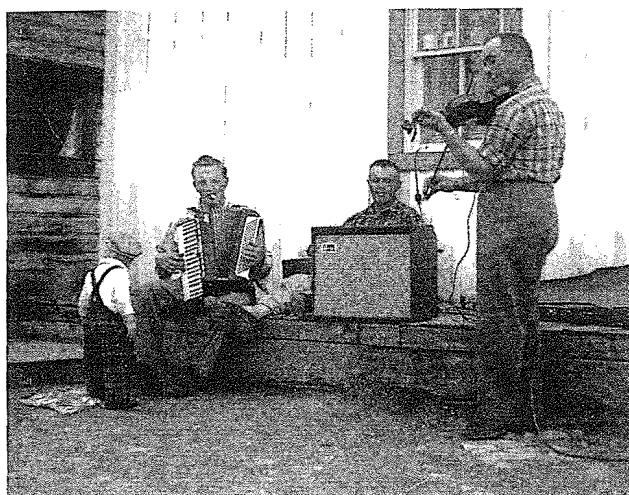
Harry Stykalo



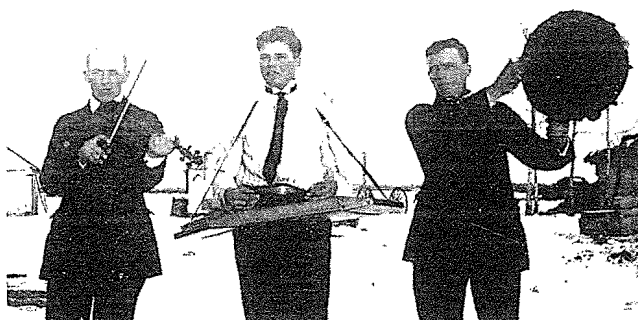
Paul Sydor's Violin & Maksymchuk



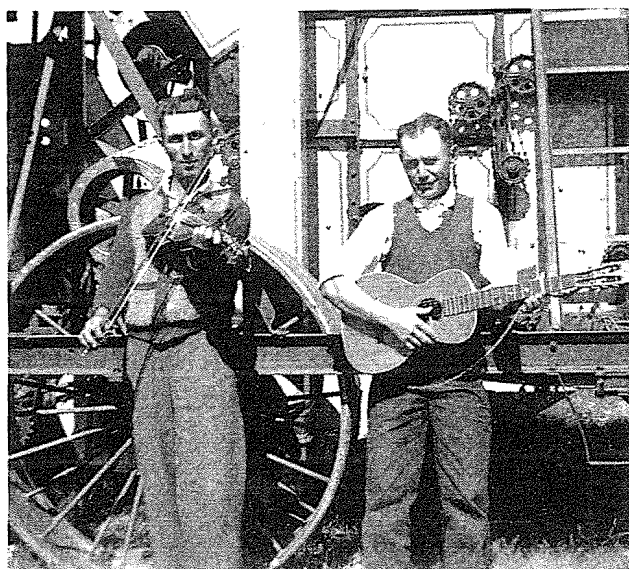
Norman Murray



Stykalo brothers; Russ, Harry and Mike

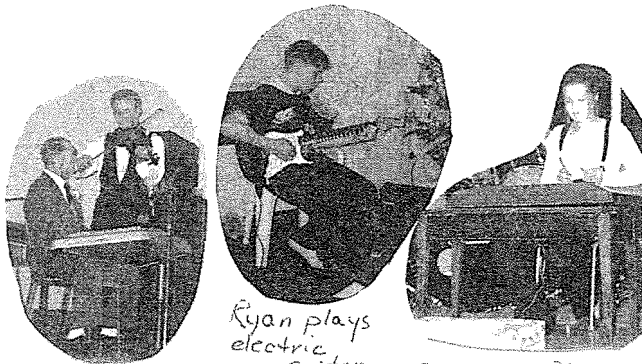


The Didychuk's



Holowachuk & Schurko

Family Musicians



Tere plays Violin
+ cymbals
pictured with Harry

Ryan plays
electric
guitar

CAMILLE Plays
Cymbals + Violin

Stykalo family musicians; L: Tere plays vilin and cymbaly-
pictured with Harry. C: Ryan plays electric guitar. R:
Camielle plays cymbaly and violin.



Joe & Mike Smigelski



Wilf Honish



Kindzerski



Mazier



Honish Brothers



Raymond Chiupka



Paul Pich



Alex & Peter Zamrykut

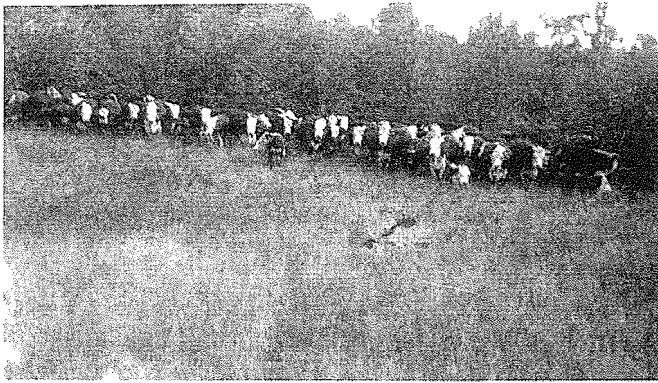


Tony & Nick Maksymchuk

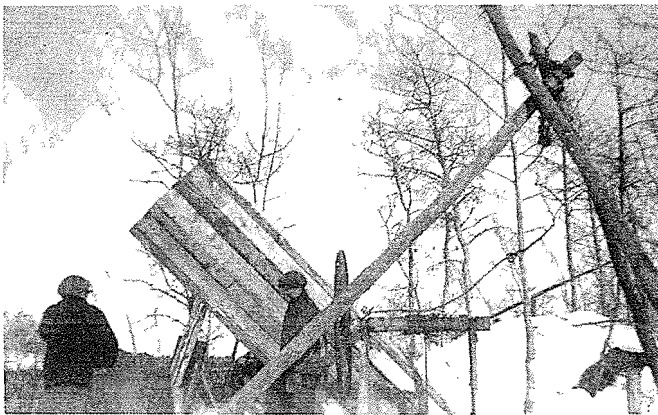
Photos of Interest



Winter Feed lot



Fred's Cattle



Lowering well cribbing



Ralph Stacey making butter - 1930



Common scene on the farm



Irene & Metro Mandybour and children Fred & Evelyn



Fred Parish



Rebecca Parish



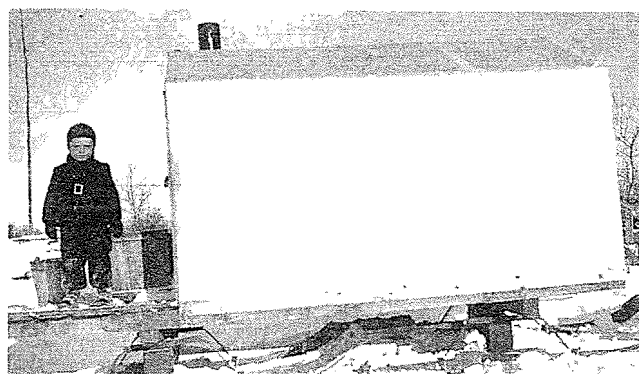
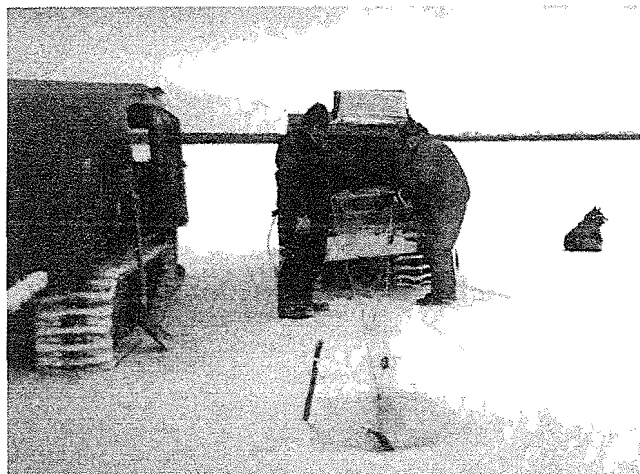
Mrs. Bednarz fishing



Huhutala's fishing



Smadella's fishing



Fishing camp



Burnside Children. Alice, Lily, Betty with mother, Maria

UNORGANIZED

RECLAMATION BRANCH
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
Jan. 1930.

MOSSY RIVER-55

A map of Moose Bay, N.S., showing the coastline of Lake Dauphin. The map includes a north arrow pointing upwards. A grid of numbers is overlaid on the land area, with coordinates ranging from 14 to 31 horizontally and 18 to 35 vertically. The label 'LAKE DAUPHIN' is written along the coastline. The label 'MOOSE BAY P.O.' is located near the top right. The label 'MILL' is located near the bottom right. The map also shows a road and a river.

RURAL MUNICIPALITY
OF

LAWRENCE

— Plan Scale-0.3"=1 mi. —

Disorganized
(under Administrator)

STE. ROSE - 93

Photos of Interest



Mrs. Stark milking cows with Mary looking on



Gordon, Melvin, Norman & Harold in tub - Elaine looking on



Inside Werbiski's Garage



Raymond & Barry Inkster

EAST BAY	WARD 1		Eardley, Esther	S.E. 3	26 15	Robinson, D.R.	S.E. 4	26 15
Burnett, J.T.	N.W. 34	25 15	Fox, Frank	N.E. 35	26 15	Robinson, J.H.	S.W. 15	26 15
Burns, J.J.	S.W. 5	26 14	Frowen, W.E.	N.E. 36	26 15	Robinson, J.F.	N.W. 15	20 15
Brantrock, Fred	S.W. 7	26 14	Gordon, W.L.	N.E. 36	25 15	Robinson, J.A.	S.E. 12	26 15
Bishop, M.E.	N.W. 7	26 14	Gronbeck, A.	N.W. 10	26 15	Robinson, E.J.	N.E. 12	26 16
Balfour, John	N.E. 7	26 14	Gore, George	N.W. 30	25 15	Robinson, Hugh	N.E. 1	26 15
Barker, Anna	S.E. 2	26 15	Gronbeck, Mrs. O.	N.W. 10	26 15	Robinson, Mrs. W.	N.E. 1	26 15
Barker, Maurice	S.W. 2	26 15	Hutchison, J.	N.W. 18	26 15	Robinson, Fred	N.W. 25	26 16
Brown, Louis	N.W. 3	26 15	Hawksworth, H.	N.E. 2	26 15	Robinson, Mrs. E.	N.E. 25	26 16
Bell, W.A.	S.E.21	26 15	Hardie, John	S.E. 13	26 15	Radley, James	N.E. 21	26 16
Brown, F.H.	N.E. 21	26 15	Hermiston, J.R.	S.W. 18	26 15	Roberts, E.D.	N.E. 15	26 15
Bodd, William	S.E. 27	26 15	Hermiston, Mark	N.W. 18	26 15	Rehaluk, Mike	S.E. 19	26 15
Bodd, George	N.W. 27	26 15	Hermiston, Mrs. M.	N.E. 18	26 15	Rehaluk, Mrs. M.	S.E. 19	26 15
Barton, Everett	S.W. 29	26 15	Hermiston, W.J.	S.E. 22	26 15	Rehaluk, M.	S.E. 19	26 15
Botfield, George	N.E. 30	26 15	Hudson, A.E.	N.E. 13	26 15	Robinson, Mary	N.E. 12	26 16
Bowbrick, George	N.W. 32	26 15	Hutchison	S.W. 6	26 15	Radley, Mrs. J.	N.E. 21	26 16
Barron, James	N.W. 34	26 15	Hermiston, Mrs. C.	N.E. 18	26 15	Robinson, Fred	N.E. 30	26 15
Budd, Charles	S.W. 35	26 15	Hermiston, Thos.	N.W. 18	26 15	Robinson, Howard	S.E. 31	26 15
Bellingham, A.F.	S.W. 1	26 16	Hermiston, Mrs. A.	S.E. 22	26 15	Swears, Alfred	S.W. 16	26 15
Booth, T.W.	N.W. 1	26 16	Hudson, Mrs. V.	N.E. 13	26 16	Swears, Mrs. M.	S.W. 16	26 15
Brooks, C.H.	N.W. 13	26 16	James, W.H.	S.E. 17	26 14	Sinclair, D.S.	S.E. 17	26 15
Booth, Arthur	S.W. 23	26 16	James, A.J.	N.E. 27	26 15	Sinclair, Mrs. E.E.	S.E. 17	26 15
Booth, M.J. Mrs.	S.E. 24	26 16	Johnson, S.J.	N.E. 17	26 15	Sampson, P.	S.W. 6	26 14
Booth, W.J	S.W. 24	26 16	Kirton, G.B.	S.W. 20	26 14	Stady, F.F.S.	S.E. 18	26 14
Booth, G.A.	N.W. 24	26 16	Lane, W.F.	S.W. 27	26 15	Stady, W.I.A.	S.W. 18	26 14
Booth, W.J. Mrs.	N.E. 24	26 16	Lane, E.A.	S.E. 23	26 16	Stady, G.H.	N.E. 18	26 14
Brunel, Mat	S.E. 27	25 15	La Plante, M.	S.W. 27	26 16	Scott, Alfred	N.E. 19	26 14
Brunel, Aug.	N.W. 27	25 15	La Plante, W.	N.W. 27	26 16	Scott, Samuel	S.W. 6	26 15
Brown, Lewis	N.W. 3	26 15	McKinnon, Mrs. M.	N.E. 31	25 15	Schemock, W.	N.W. 13	26 15
Brown, Mrs. E.N.	N.W. 3	26 15	McDonald, A.	N.E. 36	25 15	Stacey, H.S.	S.W. 25	26 16
Barker, H.	S.E. 8	26 15	McGeorge, E.	N.W. 33	25 15	Terry, H.W.	N.E. 12	26 15
Blackmon, C.R.	N.E. 8	26 15	McKinnon, D.A.	S.W. 32	26 15	Thomas, J. SR.	S.W. 30	26 15
Blackmon, Mrs. A.	N.E. 8	26 15	McElligot, A.	S.E. 1	26 15	Thomas, J. JR.	N.W. 30	26 15
Boxell, E.A.	N.E. 12	16 15	Maynard, R.	S.E. 27	25 15	Vickerman, Walter	N.W. 12	26 16
Boxell, Mrs. E.	N.E. 12	26 15	Meckley, H.C.	S.W. 3	26 15	Vickerman, Mrs. A.	N.W. 12	26 16
Baran, Harry	N.W. 20	26 15	Madson, Neils	N.E. 22	26 15	Wilson, A.	S.E. 30	26 14
Bell, Mrs. E.	S.E. 21	26 15	Middleton, H.S.	N.E. 1	26 16	Wise, W.A.	N.E. 24	26 15
Brown, Mrs. M.	N.W. 21	26 15	Middleton, Mrs. H.S.	S.W. 13	26 16	Walker, J.	S.E. 32	26 15
Barker, M.	S.W. 1	26 16	Mellow, Fred	S.E. 28	25 15	Warren, C.J.	N.E. 14	26 16
Brooks, Mrs. A.	N.W. 13	26 16	Marchand, Emile	N.W. 36	25 16	Zalucki, John	N.E. 6	26 14
Copier, Louis	S.W. 27	25 15	Marchand, Mrs. M.	N.W. 36	25 16			
Clifford, Corn	N.W. 6	26 15	Moore, E.R.	S.E. 6	26 14	McDonald	N.W. 31	26 14
Coutts, Robert	N.E. 6	26 15	Modeking, H.W.	S.E. 7	26 14	McDonald	S.E. 31	26 14
Cuner, H.	S.E. 9	26 15	Millions, Arley	S.E. 18	26 14	Barnett, C.B.	S.E. 32	26 15
Christenson, C.	N.W. 16	26 15	Marsart, Jules	N.W. 19	26 14	Barnett, Mrs.	S.E. 32	26 15
Coste, Numa	S.E. 15	26 15	Miller, F.A.	S.W. 17	26 15	Hindle, H.	S.W. 18	27 16
Coste, James	S.W. 20	26 15	Nevill, S.A.	S.W. 17	26 14	Hindle, Mrs. A.	S.W. 18	27 16
Christenson, A.	N.W. 24	26 15	O'Bree	N.E. 30	26 14	McKinnon, Mrs. N.	S.W. 32	26 15
Clegg, E.	S.E. 34	26 15	O'Beirne, Chas	N.E. 2	26 16	Benett, Frank	S.E. 34	26 14
Cameron, Allan	N.W. 35	26 16	Pickup, J.	S.E. 19	26 14			
Crawford, J.G.	N.W. 14	26 16	Parsons, A.A.	S.W. 19	26 14	MAGNET	WARD 2	
Crawford, A.	S.W. 22	26 16	Peel, G.L.	S.W. 9	26 15	Askenw, Louis	S.E. 15	27 15
Cornell, J.W.	N.W. 23	26 16	Parker, A.J.	N.E. 13	26 15	Ackerman, W.H.	S.W. 27	27 15
Coppier, Mrs. S.	S.W. 27	25 15	Patterson, R.H.	N.W. 22	26 15	Ackerman, Ada	S.W. 27	27 15
Coppier, Albert	S.W. 27	25 15	Price, J.M.	S.W. 28	26 15	Alexander, Walter	S.E. 34	27 15
Charlesworth, Jos.	S.E. 3	26 15	Parsons, J.	S.E. 22	26 15	Ackerman, Fred	N.E. 2	28 15
Charlesworth, Mrs.	S.E. 3	26 15	Parish, Fred	S.W. 5	26 14	Ackerman, Mrs. M.	N.E. 2	28 15
Carver, A.S.	S.W. 24	26 15	Pierre, Albert	N.E. 16	26 14	Ackerman, Ed	S.W. 3	28 15
Carver, Mrs. J.	S.W. 24	26 15	Peters, George	S.W. 2	26 15	Ackerman, Mrs.	S.W. 3	28 15
Coutts, Mrs. E.	N.E. 6	26 15	Peel, Chas	N.E. 2	26 15	Ackerman, Geo.	S.E. 10	28 15
Connor, Harry	S.E. 9	26 15	Ploshczak, S.	N.E. 19	26 15	Ackerman, Mrs. E.	S.E. 10	28 15
Connor, Mrs. H.	S.E. 9	26 15	Ploshczak, Mrs.	N.E. 19	26 15	Ackerman, W.S.	N.W. 35	27 15
Coutts, Mrs. M.	S.W. 20	26 15	Ploshczak, Joe	N.E. 19	26 15	Ackerman Ralph	N.W. 2	28 15
Coste, Mrs. J.	S.E. 15	26 16	Ploshczak, M.	N.E. 19	26 15	Adam, John	S.W. 24	27 15
Crawford, James	S.E. 21	26 16	Patterson, William	N.E. 23	26 15	Budd, William	S.E. 27	26 15
Crawford, Mrs. M.	S.W. 22	26 16	Parsons, T.A.	S.E. 22	26 16	Budd, Geo.	N.W. 27	26 15
Durie, Peter	S.E. 27	25 14	Parsons, T.	S.E. 22	26 16	Budd, Mrs. F.	N.E. 27	26 15
Debunne, Jos.	N.W. 6	26 14	Reid, Samuel	N.E. 1	26 14	Barron, Jas	N.W. 34	26 15
Davis, Fred P.	S.W. 17	26 14	Robinson, H.C.	N.E. 1	26 15	Barron, Mrs. Jessie	N.W. 34	26 15

Burdeaux, J.D.	N.E. 25	27 14	Hay, James	N.E. 6	28 15	Orchard, Mrs. M.A.	N.W. 35	27 15
Bulot, Leon	S.W. 13	27 15	Houstan, Robt.	N.E. 31	26 14	Preston, Alfred	S.W. 16	27 15
Bulot, M.	N.W. 13	27 15	Halberg, Chas.	N.E. 14	27 15	Peinter, C.F.	S.W. 25	27 15
Brough, William	S.E. 30	28 14	Houstan, Robt.	S.E. 15	27 15	Phillips, R.W.	S.E. 28	27 15
Burns, M.T.	S.W. 35	28 14	Houstan, Mrs. M.	S.E. 15	27 15	Pastchuck	S.E. 1	28 16
Barron, H.	S.E. 22	27 15	Hayes, Leo	S.E. 6	28 14	Phillips, Geo.	N.E. 27	27 15
Barron, J.	N.W. 22	27 15	Hayes, T.J.	N.W. 6	28 14	Pearson, A.	N.E. 1	28 15
Breese, E.C.	N.W. 30	27 15	Hayes, Mrs. B.	N.W. 6	28 14	Pesha, Henry	S.W. 12	28 15
Breese, F.	S.E. 25	27 15	Hayes, Mrs. M.	N.E. 6	28 14	Runnings, G.M.	S.E. 31	27 15
Burndt, William	N.W. 25	27 16	Ilott, A.E.	N.E. 20	28 15	Rodway, F.	N.E. 23	27 16
Cull, William	S.W. 23	27 15	Inkster, William	N.E. 10	28 15	Robertson, C.	S.E. 30	27 15
Cull, Mrs. E.	S.W. 23	27 15	Johnson, John	S.E. 32	28 15	Robertson, G.	N.E. 30	27 15
Cooper, John A.	S.W. 35	26 14	Jopson, William	S.E. 19	28 15	Robertson, Mrs. A.		
Crompton, H.	S.W. 24	27 15	James, W.H.	S.E. 34	27 15	Robinson, Ben	N.W. 3	28 15
Coleman, John	N.E. 35	27 15	Johnson, R.	S.E. 35	27 15	Robinson, Theo.	S.E. 12	28 15
Coleman, Mrs. C.	N.E. 35	27 15	Johnson, Mrs. A.	S.E. 35	27 15	Sanford, Geo.	S.W. 30	27 14
Campbell, J.A.	S.W. 36	27 15	Jones, S.P.	S.W. 34	27 15	Strong, R.S.	N.W. 33	27 14
Carter, John	N.W. 36	27 15	Kearney, T.J.	N.W. 34	27 15	Strong, A.J.	S.W. 34	27 14
Campbell, M.	S.W. 1	28 15	Kennedy, John	N.W. 18	27 14	Savoy, R.	S.W. 31	27 15
Coleman, J.C.	S.W. 2	28 15	Kearney, Mrs. A.	N.W. 34	27 15	Seifert, P.	N.E. 32	27 15
Coleman, Mrs. L.	S.W. 2	28 15	Kinley, M.H.	N.W. 12	28 15	Stratford, E.	N.E. 33	27 15
Chambers, T.B.	S.W. 13	28 14	Kinley, Mrs. I.	N.W. 12	28 15	Strang, S.C.	N.W. 4	28 14
Chambers, Mrs.	S.W. 13	28 14	Kavanough, J.	N.W. 14	28 14	Simpson, R.	S.E. 3	28 14
Caithness, J.H.	N.W. 31	27 14	Lewis, V.H.	N.E. 31	27 14	Seifert, E.	S.E. 5	28 15
Coates, A.A.	S.E. 17	27 15	Lloy, E.J.	N.W. 23	27 15	Steel, Leonard	N.W. 30	28 14
Curran, G.B.	N.W. 19	27 15	Lloy, Murray	N.E. 23	27 15	Tomalin, H.	N.E. 24	27 15
Curran, F.E.	N.E. 19	27 15	Lincoln, J.G.	N.E. 26	27 15	Tomalin, W.	S.E. 25	27 15
Curran, H.C.	N.W. 20	27 15	Little, A.	S.E. 31	27 15	Turner, R.B.S.	S.E. 33	27 15
Coulton, J.	S.W. 33	27 15	Lang, S.E.	S.E. 2	28 14	Timmons, R.	N.E. 36	27 15
Chambers, W.H.	S.E. 22	27 16	Lillygreen, Z.	N.W. 13	27 15	Williams, E.T.	N.E. 33	27 15
Deans, D.	S.W. 19	27 16	Lillygreen, B.	N.W. 13	27 15	Wrenshall, B. JR.	N.W. 14	27 15
Darroch, W.	S.E. 27	27 15	Lincoln, John	N.E. 26	27 15	Wrenshall, B. SR.	S.W. 15	27 15
Diehl, C.H.	S.W. 3	28 14	Lincoln, Mrs.	N.E. 26	27 15	Wrenshall, T.J.	N.W. 15	27 15
Di Sandro, Vincent	S.E. 18	27 14	Lewis, V.W.	S.E. 34	27 15	Wrenshall, R.	S.E. 16	27 15
Di Sandro, Mrs.	S.E. 18	27 14	Murdock, D.B.	S.E. 34	27 14	Wilson, John	S.E. 18	27 15
Darra, Mrs. M.	S.E. 27	27 15	Murdock, G.C.	N.W. 34	27 14	Wilson, James	N.E. 18	27 15
Dixon, Robert	N.E. 34	27 15	Murdock, B.M.	N.E. 34	27 14	Wishart, E.	N.E. 21	18 15
Dixon, Mrs. C.	N.E. 34	27 15	Moffat, Thos.	N.W. 17	27 15	Waters, H.	N.E. 28	27 15
Elliot, C.	N.W. 24	27 15	Murphy, J.T.	N.W. 21	27 15	Watson, W.H.	S.W. 32	27 15
Elliot, Mrs. B.	N.W. 24	27 15	Murray, John	S.W. 22	27 15	Weaver, G.B.	N.E. 24	27 16
Edgley, John	S.E. 1	28 15	Mason, Richard	N.E. 22	27 15	Wade, L.P.	S.W. 25	27 16
Edgley, Mrs.	S.E. 1	28 15	Meekel, A.F.F.	S.W. 30	27 15	Whittle, G.	N.W. 1	28 15
Farewell, T.G.	N.W. 32	27 15	Moffat, G.R.	S.E. 36	27 15	Warnell, F.W.	S.W. 20	28 14
Forbes, J.C.	S.W. 7	28 15	Matheson, W.M.C.	S.E. 5	38 14	Brusseau, J.	S.W. 28	27 15
Flanagan, J.	S.E. 9	28 15	Miller, William	S.W. 7	28 14	Brusseau, Mrs.	S.W. 28	27 15
Forbes, R.E.	N.E. 1	28 15	McKay, James	S.W. 14	27 15	Whittel, W.H.	N.E. 1	28 15
Forbes, J.T.	S.E. 12	28 15	McKinnon, J.A.	S.W. 17	27 15	Baran, Harry	S.E. 30	26 15
Fox, Frank	N.E. 35	26 15	McKinnon, Di	S.W. 21	27 15	Baran, Mrs. K.	S.E. 30	26 15
Fair, William L.	N.W. 12	28 14	McKinnon, Mrs.	S.W. 21	27 15	Crompton, Mrs. A.	N.W. 21	27 15
Gill, J.C.L.	N.E. 13	27 15	McGirr, J.	S.W. 6	28 15	Harms, C.	N.W. 28	27 15
Gill, G.A.	S.E. 35	27 15	McDougall, N.D.	S.E. 7	28 15	McKinnon, Mrs. M.A.	N.W. 28	27 15
Gillan, James	N.E. 25	27 16	McDonald, R.T.	N.E. 3	28 15	McKinnon, J.A.	S.W. 17	27 15
Garrioch, James	N.E. 7	27 14	McKenzie, G.R.	S.E. 3	28 15	McKinnon, Mrs. E.	S.W. 17	27 15
Garrioch, Mrs. A.	N.E. 7	27 14	Mason, Mrs.	N.E. 22	27 15	Moffat, Mrs. E.	N.W. 28	27 18
Highfield, T.S.	S.E. 14	27 15	Murray, J.L.	N.W. 36	26 15	Moffat, B.	S.W. 20	27 15
Highfield, Mrs. C.	S.E. 14	27 15	Moffat, G.K.	S.W. 31	27 14	Rushton, Thos.	N.W. 18	27 15
Highfield, J.W.	N.E. 14	27 15	Meaney, James	N.W. 31	27 14	Rushton, Mrs. M.	S.W. 20	27 15
Hindle, G.H.	N.E. 28	27 15	Murray, William	S.E. 36	27 14	Robertson, Bert	S.W. 20	27 15
Hay, John	N.W. 31	27 15	Murray, Mrs. C.	S.E. 36	27 14	Reed, John	S.E. 21	27 15
Howell, M.	N.W. 36	27 15	Moffat, J.S.			Reed, Mrs. E.	S.E. 21	27 15
Harris, Fred	S.W. 13	27 16	Miller, Mrs. B.	S.W. 7	28 14	Taylor, E.P.	S.W. 19	27 15
Howlett, S.	N.W. 24	27 16	McDonald, Mrs. M.	N.E. 3	28 15	Turner, R.S.	S.E. 33	27 15
Hutchison, A.	N.E. 26	27 16	Meehan, Hugh	S.E. 13	28 14	Weaver, Mrs. A.	S.E. 24	27 16
Hay, Andrew	N.W. 36	27 16	McDougall, Mrs. I.	S.E. 7	28 14			
Herchmer, Fred	S.E. 4	28 14	Newman, G.L.	N.W. 3	28 15	MILLION		
Herchmer, W.R.	S.W. 4	28 14	Niddery, Robt.	N.W. 31	26 14	Coutts, George	N.W. 33	26 16
Hay, George	S.E. 6	28 15	Niddery, Mrs. A.	N.W. 31	26 14	Cooper, William	N.E. 34	26 16
Hay, Robert	S.W. 6	28 15	O'Brien, P.P.	S.W. 35	27 15	Cooper, Mrs. M.	N.E. 34	26 16
Hay, Alfred	N.W. 6	28 15	O'Brien, Mrs. E.	S.W. 35	27 15	Cooper, Ivy	N.E. 34	26 16

Cooper, William JR.	N.E. 34	26 16	Malt, William	S.E. 10	29 15	Delorma, A.	N.W. 18	29 15
Green, William	N.E. 30	27 16	Morison, Evg.	S.W. 12	29 15	Dupas, H.	S.E. 19	29 15
Graham, Thos.	S.E. 31	27 16	Nedelec, A.	N.W. 10	29 15	Dupas, Mrs.	S.E. 19	29 15
Greetham, F.H.	N.E. 24	27 17	Nedelec, Mrs. M.	N.W. 10	29 15	Dupas, O.	S.W. 19	29 15
Gallop, W.J.	S.W. 19	27 16	O'Donnell, William	S.E. 12	29 15	Dupas, Mrs.	S.W. 19	29 15
Gallop, W.C.	N.E. 19	27 16	O'Donnell, Mrs.	S.E. 12	29 15	Defaut, A.	N.E. 16	29 15
Greetham, Mrs. A.	S.W. 26	27 17	Patient, F.	S.E. 3	29 15	Ducharme, I.	S.E. 13	29 15
Hargrave, Henry	N.W. 23	27 16	Phillipott, M.	S.W. 10	29 15	Dumas, C.	N.E. 6	30 15
Holtham, N.V.	S.W. 25	27 16	Phillipott, Mrs.	S.W. 10	29 15	Dumas, Chas.	S.W. 18	30 15
Heesaker, J.W.	S.W. 25	27 16	Relaitten, Alex	N.W. 2	29 15	Dumas, Mrs. G.	S.W. 18	30 15
Heesaker, Alb.	S.W. 36	27 16	Rene, Omer	N.E. 12	29 15	Dumas, Patrick	S.E. 1	30 16
Irving, R.W.	S.W. 16	27 16	St. Onge, O.	N.E. 10	29 15	Dumas, Mrs. C.	S.E. 1	30 16
Irving, Mrs. M.	S.W. 16	27 16	Thereot, J.W.	N.E. 3	29 15	Dumas, Harriet	S.E. 1	30 16
Irving, John	N.W. 18	27 16				Dumas, Dan	S.E. 1	30 16
Jones, Thomas	S.E. 14	28 16	TOUTES AIDES	WARD 3		Dumas, M.	S.E. 12	31 16
Jowlett, Samuel	S.W. 17	28 16	Bretecher, Frank	N.E. 8	29 15	Dumas, Ed	N.E. 12	31 16
Mitchell, D.R.	S.E. 25	27 16	Bretecher, P.M.	N.W. 9	29 15	Dumas, Thos	S.E. 13	30 16
Masters, David	N.E. 27	26 16	Dzniba, A.	S.W. 4	29 15	Dumas, Michel	N.E. 13	30 16
McDonald, John	S.W. 21	27 16	Dzniba, Mrs. F.	S.W. 4	29 15	Dumas, Patrick	S.E. 24	30 16
McDonald, Mrs. A.	S.W. 21	27 16	Didyczuk, F.	N.E. 5	29 15	Dumas, Peter	N.W. 24	30 16
Radley, W.	S.W. 33	26 16	Didyczuk, Mrs. A.	N.E. 5	29 15	Dumas, Dan	S.W. 25	30 16
Radley, Mrs. W.	S.W. 33	26 16	Didyczuk, Peter	N.W. 5	29 15	French, W.S.	N.W. 19	29 15
Rollings, Jos.	S.E. 13	27 16	Didyczuk, Mrs.	N.W. 5	29 15	French, G.L.	S.W. 30	29 15
Rollings, Mrs. E.	S.E. 13	27 16	Didyczuk, P.	N.E. 5	29 15	Gaudry, J.L.	17	29 15
Rodway, F.H.	N.E. 23	27 16	Dupas, D.	S.E. 7	29 15	Gaudry, Mrs.	17	29 15
Rodway, Mrs. E.	N.E. 23	27 16	David, Rene	S.E. 9	29 15	Grummett, W.W.	N.W. 30	29 15
Robinson, T.	S.E. 12	28 16	Ducharme, J.	N.E. 12	29 16	Kindersky, W.	N.E. 15	29 16
Scott, R.	N.W. 28	26 16	Gilinas, J.A.	S.E. 12	29 16	Kindersky, Mrs.	N.E. 15	29 16
Scott, Mrs.	N.W. 28	26 16	Gilinas, Mrs. F.	S.E. 12	29 16	Korotasz, D.	N.W. 27	29 16
Scott, W.R.	S.E. 31	26 16	Hruszka, Fred	S.E. 4	29 15	Korotasz, Mrs.	N.W. 27	29 16
Scott, S.	N.E. 7	27 16	Hruszka, Mrs.	S.E. 4	29 15	Kiszczyk, John	S.E. 22	29 16
Scott, Thos.	S.E. 32	26 16	Hrycyszyn, F.	N.E. 4	29 15	Kiszczyk, Mrs.	S.E. 22	29 16
Scott, Mrs. S.	S.E. 32	26 16	Hrycyszyn, Mrs.	N.E. 4	29 15	Lawrence, William	N.E. 13	29 16
Sanders, G.U.	N.W. 23	27 17	Pineau, Aug.	S.W. 9	29 15	Melrose, R.	S.W. 31	29 15
Sowness, J.	N.E. 25	27 17	Pineau, Mrs. M.	S.W. 9	29 15	Mandybura, M.	S.W. 14	29 16
Sanders, J.E.	N.W. 27	27 17	Pineau, Aug. J.	S.W. 9	29 15	Mandybura, Mrs.	S.W. 14	29 16
Turner, William	N.W. 20	27 16	Pineau, Rene	S.W. 9	29 15	Morson, P.	S.E. 25	29 16
Thompson, D.	N.E. 28	26 16	Pineau, Margaret	S.W. 9	29 15	Mauran, Angela	S.W. 25	29 16
Thompson, Mrs. L.	N.E. 28	26 16	Ricard, F.	N.E. 1	29 16	Maksymczuk, J.W.	S.W. 27	29 16
Williams, R.T.	S.W. 14	27 16	Skorpak, G.	N.E. 10	29 16	Mckenzie, Joe	S.E. 28	29 16
Williams, Mrs. E.	S.W. 14	27 16	Skorpak, Mrs.	N.E. 10	29 16	Marchuk, S.	N.E. 31	29 16
Wilson, J.L.	S.E. 23	27 16	Theoret, A.	S.W. 6	29 15	Marchuk, Mrs. M.	N.E. 31	29 16
Rasmusson, A.			Van Veerson	N.E. 6	29 15	McKenzie, Alex	S.E. 34	29 16
Whalen, Mrs. Jessie	S.E. 18	27 16	Wizniuk, J.	N.W. 4	29 15	McKenzie, John	S.W. 34	29 16
Warren, R.	S.E. 18	27 16	Wizniuk, Mrs.	N.W. 4	29 15	Morrisseau, A.	N.E. 34	29 16
Wheale, H.	S.E. 23	27 16	Zamrykut, Mike	S.W. 10	29 16	Neault, D.	S.E. 36	29 16
Woodhall, J.	N.E. 26	27 17	Zamrykut, Mrs.	S.W. 10	29 16	Patient, Frank	S.W. 17	29 15
			Horyn, A.	N.W. 15	29 15	Patient, Mrs.	S.W. 17	29 15
			Horyn, Mrs. P.	N.W. 15	29 15	Reboul, E.	N.E. 18	29 15
TOUTES AIDES	WARD 2		TOUTES AIDES	WARD 5		Reboul, Mrs.	N.E. 18	29 15
Barbour, J.F.	S.W. 1	29 15	Adam, Wilfred	S.E. 17	29 15	Richard, T.M.	S.E. 30	29 15
Bahkala, Jacob	N.E. 1	29 15	Adam, Mrs. K.	S.E. 17	29 15	Rimniak, A.	S.E. 30	29 15
Bzowy, John	S.E. 2	29 15	Adam, Carl	N.E. 30	29 15	Rimniak, Mrs.	S.E. 14	29 16
Bzowy, Mrs. A.	S.E. 2	29 15	Adam, F.	S.E. 31	29 15	Rimniak, M.	N.W. 20	29 16
Cunningham, J.	S.W. 31	28 14	Adam, Raoul	N.E. 31	29 15	St. Onge, J.	S.E. 16	29 15
Cunningham, Mrs. A.	S.W. 31	28 14	Adam, Mrs. A.	N.E. 31	29 15	St. Onge, Mrs.	S.E. 16	29 15
Didyczuk, William	S.W. 12	29 15	Adam, Flora	N.E. 31	29 15	St. Onge, Arthur	S.E. 16	29 15
Didyczuk, Mrs.	S.W. 12	29 15	Bretecher, P.B.	S.W. 16	29 15	Southard, F.	S.W. 16	29 15
Hrycyszyn, Stef.	S.W. 3	29 15	Bretecher, John	S.E. 17	29 15	Solomon, J.	S.W. 13	29 16
Lamarche, A.	N.E. 7	29 14	Bretecher, Mrs. J.	S.E. 17	29 15	Solomon, Mrs. D.	S.W. 13	29 16
Matysczuk, J.	N.W. 34	28 15	Brichon, Mrs. E.	N.E. 19	29 15	Solomon, S.	N.W. 13	29 16
Matysczuk, Mrs.	N.W. 34	28 15	Bretecher, F.	N.E. 19	29 15	Solomon, Mrs. K.	N.W. 13	29 16
Maksymczuk, J.	N.W. 35	28 15	Bretecher, M.	S.E. 20	29 15	Solomon, W.	N.W. 14	29 16
Maksymczuk, Mrs.	N.W. 35	28 15	Bretecher, Mrs.	S.E. 20	29 15	Solomon, Mrs. P.	N.W. 14	29 16
Mackay, Gilbert	N.W. 1	29 15	Bretecher, Mrs. J.	N.W. 20	29 15	Solomon, A.	S.W. 23	29 16
Mackay, Mrs. M.	N.W. 1	29 15	Ball, A.L.	N.W. 6	30 15	Solomon, Mrs. A.	S.W. 23	29 16
Matyszuk, N.	S.W. 2	29 15	Carrier, William	N.E. 25	29 15	Srazlah, D.	N.W. 32	29 16
Matyszuk, Mrs. M.	S.W. 2	29 15	Carrier, Mrs.	N.E. 25	29 16	Srazlah, Mrs.	N.W. 32	29 16
Maksymczuk, M.	N.E. 2	29 15				Spence, A.	S.W. 6	30 15
Maksymczuk, Mrs. M.	N.E. 2	29 15						

Spence, Mrs. L.	S.W. 6	30 15	Webster, Mrs.	S.E. 6	29 14	Corden, Mrs. M.	N.E. 35	27 17
St. Germaine, P.	N.W. 25	30 16	Deighton, C.G.	S.E. 16	29 14	Chita, Roman	N.W. 36	27 17
Tymczuk, J.	S.W. 15	29 16	Deighton, Mrs.	S.E. 16	29 14	Chita, Mrs. A.	N.W. 36	27 17
Tymczuk, Mrs.	S.W. 15	29 16	Gladdish, J.	S.W. 27	29 14	Chita, John	N.E. 36	27 17
Tanchyk, P.	N.E. 32	29 16	Gladdish, Mrs.	S.W. 27	29 14	Chita, Mrs. N.	N.E. 36	27 17
Terrail, R.	N.W. 7	30 15	Horsfield, E.	S.W. 28	29 14	Cuipka, N.	S.W. 3	28 17
Terrail, Mrs. S.	N.W. 7	30 15	Johnston, S.R.	N.W. 21	29 14	Cuipka, Mrs. N.	S.W. 3	28 17
Utick, William	S.W. 7	30 15	Johnston, Mrs.	N.W. 21	29 14	Cuipka, J.	S.E. 4	28 17
Van Veerson, L.	N.W. 16	29 16	Johnston, T.H.	N.E. 21	29 14	Cuipka, Mrs. P.	S.E. 4	28 17
Wetaszyn, P.	S.W. 22	29 16	Janson, W.J.	S.W. 22	29 14	Cuipka, Wasyl	N.W. 3	28 17
Wetaszyn, Mrs.	S.W. 22	29 16	Popple, W.G.	N.E. 20	29 14	Cuipka, Mrs. A.	N.W. 3	28 17
Wetaszyn, John	N.E. 27	26 16	Pitt, W.M.G.	S.E. 21	29 14	Glina, John	S.E. 9	28 17
Wauhkonen, H.	S.W. 13	31 16	Robbins, W.A.	N.E. 13	29 14	Glina, Mrs. M.	S.E. 9	28 17
Zamrykut, P.	S.E. 15	29 16	Steel, J.C.	S.W. 20	29 14	Hruszowy, Fred	N.W. 34	27 17
Zamrykut, Mrs.	S.E. 15	29 16	Stevens, E.	S.E. 30	29 14	Hruszowy, Mrs.	N.W. 34	27 17
			Stevens, H.	N.E. 30	29 14	Holowaczuk, M.	N.W. 35	27 17
TOUTES AIDES						Holowaczuk, Mrs. A.	N.W. 35	27 17
Bretecher, John	N1/2 14	29 15	FREEDALE			Hirney, W.	N.E. 1	28 17
Bretecher, Alex	N.W. 22	29 15	Chambers, W.H.	S.E. 22	27 16	Hirney, Mrs. A.	N.E. 1	28 17
Bretecher, Mrs.	N.W. 22	29 15	Chambers, Mrs. E.	S.E. 22	27 16	Huculak, N.	N.W. 2	28 17
Bretecher, J. JR.	S.E. 23	29 15	Calder, Mrs. F.	N.W. 27	27 16	Huculak, Mrs.	N.W. 2	28 17
Default, C.	S.E. 27	29 15	Danby, W.	N.E. 21	27 16	Holowczuk, P.	N.W. 12	28 17
Default, Mrs.	S.E. 27	29 15	Evans, Frank	S.E. 27	27 16	Holowczuk, Mrs.	N.W. 12	28 17
Default, A.	N.E. 27	29 15	Evans, Granville	N.E. 27	27 16	Holowczuk, Metro	S.W. 13	28 17
Drapeau, L.	N.E. 34	29 15	Fawthorp, E.	N.E. 22	27 16	Iwanczycki, A.	N.W. 15	27 17
Fouillen, A.	N.E. 23	29 15	Fawthorp, Mrs. Kate	N.E. 22	27 16	Iwanczycki, Mrs.	N.W. 15	27 17
Fouillen, J.P.	N.W. 24	29 15	Freed, Alex	S.E. 34	27 16	Jager, Peter	S.W. 17	28 17
Fouillen, Mrs.	N.W. 24	29 15	Freed, Isaac	S.W. 34	27 16	Jager, Mrs. L.	S.W. 17	28 17
Guichard, J.	N.E. 10	30 15	Freed, Mrs. E.	S.W. 34	27 16	Jager, Chris	N.W. 17	28 17
Howe, William S.	N.W. 15	29 15	Gilbert, William	S.W. 27	27 16	Kishymski, W.	N.W. 9	28 17
Howe, W.P.	S.E. 25	29 15	Gilbert, Mrs. E.	S.W. 27	27 16	Kishymski, Mrs.	N.W. 9	28 17
Hill, J.E.	N.W. 12	30 15	Goffard, L.	S.E. 32	27 16	Kalaczak, M.	N.W. 4	28 17
Jacobson, Ed	N.E. 15	29 15	Goffard, Z.	N.W. 32	27 16	Koloczuk, H.	S.W. 16	28 17
Lamarche, A.	N.W. 18	29 14	Goffard, John	S.W. 33	27 16	Koloczuk, Mrs. M.	S.W. 16	28 17
Lamarche, Mrs.	N.W. 18	29 14	Hales, B.	N.E. 33	27 16	Luckiw, P.	S.W. 9	28 17
Laberge, A.	N.W. 19	29 14	Hales, Mrs. Maude	N.E. 33	27 16	Luckiw, Mrs.	S.W. 9	28 17
Lansard, C.	S.E. 13	29 15	Mulford, F.W.	N.W. 22	27 16	Linski, Peter	N.W. 13	28 17
Laberge, P.	S.W. 13	29 15	McKone, W.	N.W. 5	28 15	Litywin, I.	N.W. 10	29 17
Laberge, Mrs.	S.W. 13	29 15	McKone, Mrs. E.	N.W. 5	28 15	Pich, Pawle	N.W. 7	28 17
Laberge, O.	S.W. 24	29 15	Swaenepoel, R.	N.W. 35	27 16	Pich, Michel	N.E. 7	28 17
La Roche, Mary	S.W. 27	29 15	Swaenepoel, Mrs.	N.W. 35	27 16	Pich, Jarko	S.E. 2	28 17
Lansard, Jos.	N.W. 36	29 15	Wilson, J.B.	N.W. 32	27 16	Pich, Peter	S.W. 2	28 17
Lansard, Mrs.	N.W. 36	29 15	Wilson, Mrs.	N.E. 32	27 16	Pich, Mrs. P.	S.W. 2	28 17
Lansard, John	N.E. 36	29 15	Alder, W.R.	S.E. 21	27 16	Pich, Paul	S.W. 10	28 17
Lagier, U.	S.E. 10	30 15	Armson, William	N.E. 9	28 16	Pich, Mike	S.E. 12	28 17
Morcan, N.	N.W. 18	29 14	Bowie, T.R.	S.E. 35	27 15	Pich, Mrs. M.	S.E. 12	28 17
Morcan, Mrs.	N.W. 18	29 14	Bowie, Neil	N.E. 35	27 16	Pich, Andrew	N.E. 12	28 17
McArthur, A.G.	S.W. 23	29 15	Burndt, G.H.	S.W. 36	27 16	Pich, Mrs. P.	N.E. 12	28 17
McArthur, C.W.	S.W. 25	29 15	Bugg, Stanley	N.E. 36	27 16	Parahzyn, J.	N.W. 16	28 17
McArthur, D.J.	N.W. 35	29 15	Ball, Albert	S.E. 3	27 16	Parahzyn, Mrs.	N.W. 16	28 17
McArthur, J.A.	N.W. 35	29 15	Ball, Sidney	S.W. 3	27 16	Pich, Mrs. K.	N.E. 16	28 17
McArthur, Mrs.	N.W. 35	29 15	Burton, E.A.	S.W. 12	28 16	Pulak, Fred	N.W. 20	28 17
McArthur, Rose	N.W. 35	29 15	Dandy, W.	S.E. 27	27 15	Pulak, Mrs. A.	N.W. 20	28 17
Nuttall, A.H.B.	S.E. 14	29 15	Hukkanen, I.	S.E. 10	28 16	Pich, Paul	S.E. 22	28 17
Nuttall, Mrs.	S.E. 14	29 15	Lawson, P.	N.W. 28	27 16	Szpot, W.	S.E. 3	28 17
Nedelec, A. SR.	S.W. 15	29 15	Lacey, Charles	S.W. 10	28 16	Smadylo, M.	N.E. 4	28 17
Phillipott, P.	N.E. 24	29 15	Lacey, W.G.	N.W. 10	28 16	Smadylo, Mrs.	N.E. 4	28 17
Phillipott, Mrs.	N.E. 24	25 15	Olford, F.	N.E. 34	27 16	Sczmko, A.	S.W. 34	27 17
Scutt, C.	S.E. 3	30 15	Schmaus, A.J.	S.W. 21	27 16	Szwedoski, F.	N.E. 34	27 17
			Schmaus, E.A.	S.E. 28	27 16	Szminski, Mrs. M.	N.W. 9	28 17
MICAWBER						Szminski, Mike	N.W. 9	28 17
Kerclation, H.	N.W. 6	29 14	MOOSE BAY			Smydello, H.	N.E. 9	28 17
Parkhill, W.J.	N.W. 10	29 14	Beletski, Tom	S.E. 34	27 17	Smydello, Mrs.	N.E. 9	28 17
Ross, D.D.	S.W. 3	29 14	Beletski, Mrs. L.	S.E. 34	27 17	Swedeski, J.	S.E. 10	28 17
Ross, A.E.	N.E. 3	29 14	Bodnar, H.	S.E. 35	27 17	Swedeski, Mrs.	S.E. 10	28 17
Robinson, Jas.	N.E. 9	29 14	Bodnar, Mrs.	S.E. 35	27 17	Smydello, P.	N.E. 14	28 17
Turnbull, William	N.W. 9	29 14	Belitski, M.	S.W. 35	27 17	Stefanuk, S.	N.E. 16	28 17
Turnbull, Mrs. J.	N.W. 9	29 14	Belitski, Mrs. M.	S.W. 35	27 17	Stefanuk, Mrs. A.	N.E. 16	28 17
Webster, William	S.E. 6	29 14	Corden, J.	N.E. 35	27 17	Strasdin, C.	S.E. 17	28 17

Strasdin, Mrs.	S.E. 17	28 17	Shfianuk, William	N.W. 23	28 17	Stevens, F.	N.W. 25	28 15
Tolpash, W.	N.W. 1	28 17	Skrypnuk, W.	N.W. 36	28 17	Stevens, C.	S.W. 36	28 15
Tolpash, B.	S.W. 12	28 17	Skrypnuk, Mrs.	N.W. 36	27 17	Wood, Robt.	N.W. 24	28 15
Tolpash, Mrs. P.	S.W. 12	28 17	Zrohak, H.	S.W. 23	28 17	West, Thos. SR.	N.E. 26	28 15
Werbiski, Peter	S.W. 14	28 17	Zrohak, Mrs.	S.W. 23	28 17	West, Mrs. A.	N.E. 26	28 15
Werbiski, Mrs.	S.W. 14	28 17	Zaplitny, D.	S.E. 36	28 17	West, Thos.	S.W. 36	28 15
Werbiski, L.	S.W. 15	28 17	Zaplitny, Mrs.	S.E. 36	28 17	West, Mrs. L.	S.W. 36	28 15
Werbiski, Mrs.	S.W. 15	28 17						
Werbiski, W.	S.E. 16	28 17	RORKETON	WARD 2		RORKETON	WARD 3	
Werbiski, Mrs.	S.E. 16	28 17	Angus, Geo	S.W. 15	28 15	Armson, William	N.E. 9	28 16
Zondle, J.	N.E. 2	28 17	Angus, Mrs. B.	S.W. 15	28 15	Armson, Mrs. M.	N.E. 9	28 16
Zondle, Mrs.	N.E. 2	28 17	Anderson, Thos.	S.E. 23	28 15	Antonyzyn, M.	S.W. 31	28 15
Zywina, M.	N.E. 10	28 17	Bednoz, J.	N.E. 9	28 14	Armson, A.	S.W. 14	28 16
Zywina, Mrs.	N.E. 10	28 17	Bednoz, Mrs. A.	N.E. 9	28 14	Armson, H.A.	S.E. 15	28 16
			Cameron, Jas.	S.W. 18	28 14	Armson, Mrs. S.	S.E. 15	28 16
WEIDEN			Cameron, William	S.W. 18	28 14	Armson, John	N.E. 15	28 16
Boszczak, T.	N.E. 18	28 17	Cameron, Thos.	N.E. 18	28 14	Antilla, Aug.	N.E. 28	28 16
Berkis, W.	N.W. 31	28 17	Cornell, G.A.	S.W. 27	28 14	Aho, Ed	S.W. 34	28 16
Berkis, Mrs. S.	N.W. 31	28 17	Cornell, W.E.	S.W. 27	28 14	Aho, Mrs. B.	S.W. 34	28 16
Boythco, W.	S.E. 34	18 17	Coutts, Alex	S.E. 28	28 14	Ahonen, John	N.W. 34	28 16
Boythco, Mrs. M.	S.E. 34	18 17	Cummings, Arthur	S.E. 13	28 15	Ahonen, Mrs. E.	N.W. 34	28 16
Baszczuk, M.	S.W. 36	28 17	Cummings, Andrew	S.E. 13	28 15	Ahonpaa, T.	N.W. 3	29 15
Baszczuk, Mrs.	S.W. 36	28 17	Cummings, Jack	N.E. 22	28 15	Aho, Gust	N.E. 3	29 15
Bilij, J.	N.E. 36	28 17	Cummings, Ed	S.W. 23	28 15	Aho, Mrs. M.	N.E. 3	29 15
Bilij, Mrs. T.	N.E. 36	28 17	Cummings, Mrs.	S.W. 23	28 15	Bruce, E.A.	S.E. 25	27 16
Bilij, G.	S.W. 6	29 16	Dalla, J.P.	S.E. 27	28 15	Burndt, William	N.W. 25	27 16
Bilij, Mrs. N.	S.W. 6	29 1	Frazier, William	N.W. 23	25 15	Burndt, H.	S.E. 35	27 16
Fedkiw, M.	N.E. 20	28 17	Frazier, Mrs. L.	N.W. 23	25 15	Bowie, Richard	S.W. 35	27 16
Fediuk, Max	N.E. 35	28 17	Gill, G.A.	S.E. 35	27 15	Bowie, Neil	N.E. 35	27 16
Galij, Metro	N.E. 6	29 16	Gill, Mrs. Annie	S.E. 35	27 15	Bowie, Mrs. I.	N.E. 35	27 16
Galij, D.	S.E. 6	29 16	Gubbins, Thos.	N.E. 21	28 14	Bzowy, Stef.	N.E. 7	28 15
Galij, Roman	S.E. 7	29 16	Garrioch, John	N.W. 13	28 15	Bzowy, Mrs. M.	N.E. 7	28 15
Galij, Mrs. M.	S.E. 7	29 16	Garrioch, Jas.	N.E. 7	28 14	Burton, C.	N.W. 1	28 16
Hilash, John	N1/2 19	28 17	Garrioch, Mrs. A.	N.E. 7	28 14	Ball, A.J.	S.E. 3	28 16
Hilash, Mrs.	N1/2 19	28 17	Howard, J.A.	N.W. 25	28 14	Ball, Mrs. M.	S.E. 3	28 16
Holowenka, M.	S.E. 21	28 17	Howard, Mrs.	N.W. 25	28 14	Burdyny, J.	S.E. 30	28 15
Holowenka, Mrs.	S.E. 21	28 17	Harcus, J.M.	N.W. 14	28 15	Burdyny, Mrs. M.	S.E. 30	28 15
Ilkiw, M.	N.W. 10	29 16	Harcus, Mrs. B.	N.W. 14	28 15	Bonnett, H.C.	S.E. 14	28 16
Ilkiw, Mrs. A.	N.W. 10	29 16	Holden, John	S.W. 22	28 15	Bonnett, Mrs. E.	S.E. 14	28 16
Jastremski, F.	N.E. 17	28 17	Holden, Mrs. J.	S.W. 22	28 15	Cunningham, D.H.	S.W. 9	28 15
Jastremski, Mrs. K.	N.E. 17	28 17	Inkster, William	N.E. 10	28 15	Cunningham, Mrs.	S.W. 9	28 15
Jaurisz, Paul	N.W. 20	28 17	Inkster, C.J.	N.E. 13	28 14	Clark, H.	S.W. 22	28 16
Jaurisz, Mrs. D.	N.W. 20	28 17	Inkster, D.C.	N.W. 21	28 14	Czkiorda, J.	N.E. 9	28 15
Jaurisz, Mrs.	S.W. 30	27 17	Inkster, Jas	N.W. 21	28 14	Czkiorda, Mrs. R.	N.E. 9	28 15
Jaurisz, Alex	S.W. 30	27 17	Inkster, Albert	N.E. 14	28 15	Duncan, A.	N.E. 5	28 16
Krawec, M.	N.W. 31	28 16	Inkster, Mrs. E.	N.E. 14	28 15	Dove, D.	N.E. 17	28 16
Krawec, Mrs.	N.W. 31	28 16	Irvn, Andy	S.E. 25	28 15	Dove, Mrs.	N.E. 17	28 16
Koloczuk, H.	N.E. 26	28 17	Kelley, William	N.E. 23	28 15	Dutczuk, William	S.E. 20	28 15
Koloczuk, Mrs. M.	N.E. 26	28 17	Kelley, Mrs. G.	N.E. 23	28 15	Dutczuk, Mrs. A.	S.E. 20	28 15
Kolocoza, W.	N.E. 36	28 18	Leaver, Dan	S.W. 7	28 14	Dutczuk, P.	N.W. 20	28 15
Kolocoza, Mrs.	N.E. 36	28 18	Meehan, Hugh	S.E. 19	28 14	Dutczuk, T.	N.W. 20	28 15
Kolocoza, Henry	N.W. 36	28 18	Mitchelson, H.G.	N.E. 19	28 14	Dutczuk, J.	N.E. 20	28 15
Muzeyk, Mrs.	N.W. 30	28 17	Mitchelson, T.S.	S.W. 19	28 14	Dutczuk, Mrs. A.	N.E. 20	28 15
Muzeyk, John	N.W. 30	28 17	Mitchelson, H.G.	N.W. 19	28 14	Dwyer, Rod	S.E. 35	28 15
Matweysczyn, N.	S.W. 31	28 17	Meehan, A.S.	W1/2 20	28 14	Didyczuk, N.	N.E. 18	28 15
Matweysczyn, Mrs.	S.W. 31	28 17	Mannix, C.H.	N.E. 23	28 14	Didyczuk, Mrs. N.	N.E. 18	28 15
Pawluk, N.	S.W. 22	28 17	Meehan, W.H.	N.W. 28	28 14	Dowaniuk, V.	S.E. 13	28 16
Pawluk, Mrs. A.	S.W. 22	28 17	McNaughton, J.	S.E. 34	28 14	Dowaniuk, John	S.E. 13	28 16
Panagapka, W.	N.W. 25	28 17	McDonald, C.R.	S.W. 14	28 14	Forbes, J.T.	S.E. 12	28 16
Panagapka, J.	N.W. 25	28 17	Mitchell, W.J.	N.W. 15	28 15	Forbes, Mrs.	S.E. 12	28 16
Panagapka, P.	N.E. 25	28 17	Mitchell, Mrs. K.	N.W. 15	28 15	Farewell, Fred	N.E. 36	27 16
Panagapka, Mrs.	N.E. 25	28 17	McKenzie, D.	S.E. 24	28 15	Farewell, Mrs. A.H.	N.W. 9	28 15
Przysluk, K.	S.W. 28	28 17	Morris, A.	S.E. 22	28 15	Forbes, J.C.	S.W. 7	28 15
Przysluk, Mrs.	S.W. 28	28 17	O'Neil, Thos.	N.E. 14	28 14	Forbes, Mrs. J.	S.W. 7	28 15
Pytryszyn, G.	S.E. 36	28 17	Prescott, M.R.	N.W. 26	28 14	Forbes, R.C.	N.E. 1	28 16
Pytryszyn, Mrs.	S.E. 36	28 17	Prescott, W.	S.E. 27	28 14	Forbes, Mrs.	N.E. 1	28 16
Sloboda, M.	N.E. 19	28 17	Prescott, Mrs. B.	S.E. 27	28 14	Gillan, John	S.W. 30	27 16
Sloboda, Mrs.	N.E. 19	28 17	Stewart, Alex	N.E. 24	28 15	Gillan, Mrs.	S.W. 30	27 16
Sloboda, Peter	N.E. 19	28 17	Stewart, W.	S.W. 24	28 15	Gillan, James	N.E. 25	27 16

Gillan, Mrs. J.	N.E. 25	27 16	Kaminski, Mrs. E.	N.W. 18	28 15	Niemi, Mrs.	S.E. 1	29 16
Gill, G.L.	N.E. 28	28 15	Keetch, C.M.	N.W. 21	28 16	Oga, Lase	N.E. 19	28 15
Hay, John	N.W. 31	27 15	Keetch, Mrs.	N.W. 21	28 16	Papuga, G.	N.W. 33	27 15
Hutchison, A.	N.E. 26	27 16	Komukainen, H.	N.W. 36	28 16	Papuga, Mrs.	N.W. 33	27 15
Hutchison, Mrs. I.	N.E. 26	27 16	Kuffell, Matt	S.W. 1	29 16	Procuik, S.	S.E. 7	28 15
Hay, Andrew	S.W. 36	27 16	Kuffell, Warne	N.W. 1	29 16	Payne, D.H.	N.E. 4	28 16
Holden, John	N.W. 4	28 15	Kuffell, Mrs. H.	N.W. 1	29 16	Payne, Mrs. G.H.	N.E. 4	28 16
Holden, Mrs. M.	N.W. 4	28 15	Huffell, Katie	N.W. 1	29 16	Peltogangas, J.	S.E. 15	28 16
Hay, George	S.E. 6	28 15	Komukainen, K.	N.E. 2	29 16	Rorke, G.H.	N.W. 12	28 16
Hay, Mrs. E.	S.E. 6	28 15	Kujanpaa, E.	S.W. 23	28 16	Rorke, Mrs. E.	N.W. 12	28 16
Hay, Robert	S.W. 6	28 15	Kachm, A.	S.W. 32	28 15	Rolla, Mike	S.W. 20	28 15
Hay, Alfred	N.W. 6	28 15	Kachm, Mrs. M.	S.W. 32	28 15	Rolla, Mrs. P.	S.W. 20	28 15
Hay, James	N.E. 6	28 15	Little, Andrew	S.E. 31	27 15	Rankinen, H.	N.W. 33	28 15
Huddlestone, Mrs. V.			Lacey, Chas	S.W. 10	28 16	Radcliffe, I.	S.W. 21	28 16
Huddlestone, N.D.			Lacy, W.G.	N.W. 10	28 16	Radcliffe, Mrs. M.	S.W. 21	28 16
Hay, Richard	N.E. 17	28 15	Lacy, Mrs. E.	N.W. 10	28 16	Rappana, P.	S.E. 27	28 16
Hill, Nick	N.W. 19	28 15	Lawrence, J.D.	S.E. 16	28 15	Rappana, Mrs.	S.E. 27	28 16
Hruszka, P.	S.E. 33	28 15	Lawrence, Mrs. B.	S.E. 16	28 15	Savoy, R.	S.W. 31	27 15
Hill, J.S.	N.W. 14	28 16	Leinonen, J.	S.W. 18	28 15	Seifert, P.	N.E. 32	27 15
Hill, Mrs. M.	N.W. 14	28 16	Laitinen, J.	N.E. 33	28 16	Seifert, E.	S.E. 5	28 15
Husa, I.	S.E. 22	28 16	Leaver, Dan	N.W. 32	27 15	Starzynski, F.	S.W. 16	28 15
Hill, John	S.E. 23	28 16	Mazier, Stef.	S.W. 21	28 15	Storke, G.	S.W. 19	28 15
Hill, Mrs. E.	S.E. 23	28 16	Mazier, Mrs. K.	S.W. 21	28 15	Storke, Mrs. E	S.W. 19	28 15
Hill, Frank	S.E. 24	28 16	Michaluski	N.W. 21	28 15	Starzynski, G.	N.W. 28	28 15
Hill, Mrs. H.	S.E. 24	28 16	Michaluski, Mrs.	N.W. 21	28 15	Starzynski, Mrs.	N.W. 28	28 15
Hatt, Mike JR.	S.W. 27	28 16	Maksymczuk	S.E. 31	28 15	Sihvonan, I.	S.W. 30	28 15
Hatt, Mike SR.	N.W. 27	28 16	McKay, A.	S.E. 16	28 16	Saari, John	S.E. 32	28 15
Huhtala, S.	S.E. 34	28 16	McMillan, M.	N.E. 21	28 16	Saari, Mrs.	S.E. 32	28 15
Hill, Mike	S.E. 2	29 16	McMillan, Mrs. M.	N.E. 21	28 16	Szmiglski, D.	S.W. 32	28 15
Husa, Dan	S.E. 10	29 16	Miller, A.	N.E. 23	28 16	Sharp, Jos.	N.E. 16	28 16
Husa, Mrs. S.	S.E. 10	29 16	Miller, Mrs.	N.E. 23	28 16	Saari, F.	S.E. 3	29 16
Hudsley, E.	N.E. 26	28 16	Macki, Eric	N.W. 24	28 16	Saari, Mrs.	S.E. 3	29 16
Irven, Andrew			Macki, Mrs. I.	N.W. 24	28 16	Sippola, G.	N.E. 36	28 16
Irven, Jas.			Macki, Henry	S.E. 25	28 16	Toms, B.	S.E. 10	28 16
Irven, Mrs. A.			Macki, Mrs. A.	S.E. 25	28 16	Tolonen, L.	N.W. 30	28 16
Johnson, D.W.	N.W. 16	28 15	Macki, J.H.	N.E. 34	28 16	Tomi, S.	N.E. 27	28 16
Johnson, Mrs. A.	N.W. 16	28 15	Maksymczuk, G.	S.E. 36	28 16	Tate, N.S.		
Johnson, Paul	S.W. 25	28 16	Maksymczuk, Mrs. N.	S.E. 36	28 16	Tate, Mrs. A.J.		
Johnson, Mrs. N.	S.W. 25	28 16	McKay, T.	N.W. 12	29 16	Wethirell, P.	N.E. 10	28 16
Johnson, Frank	N.W. 25	28 16	Matysczuk, Mike	N.E. 33	28 15	Withirell, Mrs. J.	N.E. 10	28 16
Johnson, Mrs. E.	N.W. 25	28 16	Matysczuk, Mrs.	N.E. 33	28 15	Wolicki, J.	N.E. 30	28 15
Johnson, N.	S.W. 17	28 15	Nesplick, William	N.E. 31	28 15	Wolicki, Mrs.	N.E. 30	28 15
Karlash, John	S.W. 4	28 15	Nesplick, Mrs.	N.E. 31	28 15	Wilson, A.E.	N.W. 16	28 16
Karlash, Mrs.	S.W. 4	28 15	Nicmidale, J.G.	N.E. 25	28 16	Wilson, G.P.	N.W. 17	28 16
Kendzierski, P.	N.W. 7	28 15	Nicmidale, Mrs.	N.E. 25	28 16	Wilson, R.B.	S.W. 20	28 16
Kendzierski, Mrs. M.	N.W. 7	28 15	Nichol, E.	S.E. 26	28 16	Wetherell, A.	S.W. 24	28 16
Kubas, A.	N.E. 16	28 15	Nurmi, John	N.E. 35	28 16	Wirta, N.	S.W. 35	28 16
Kubas, Mrs. W.	N.E. 16	28 15	Nurmi, Mrs. V.	N.E. 35	28 16	Wirta, Mrs.	S.W. 35	28 16
Kaminski, E.A.	N.W. 18	28 15	Niemi, Alb.	S.E. 1	29 16	Wyhenen, C.	N.W. 35	28 16

Index

Ackerman, Fred and Laura and Family .	133	Bretechter, Yvonne .	444	Fediuk, Mary .	485
Ackerman, Beatrice and William .	132	Brichon, Raphael Family and		Ferrarese, Italo and Silvia .	325
Ackerman, Bert and Helen .	40	Descendants .	451	Forbes, Richard Elmer .	326
Ackerman, Edward and Rachel .	42	Brunel, Jean Louis and Germaine		Fortin, Donat and Annie Marie .	457
Ackerman, William Sidney .	130	(Lepine) .	179	Fortin, Gabriel and Eva .	458
Adam, A.R. (Pete) and Mary .	434	Brunel, Auguste and Mathurine .	178	Fortin, Henri and Rebecca .	460
Adam, Arthur .	431	Brunen, Susan Family .	133	Fraser, Bert Family .	45
Adams, Wilfred .	431	Budd, George and Pearl (McKinnon) .	134	Freed/McFarlane Family .	85
Aho, Edward and Olga .	294	Budeyney, Myftody and Takenna		Galays of Weiden .	486
Alarie Family .	295	Wolitsky .	414	Galay, Mary .	96
Alexander, Walter .	133	Budishien, Roy .	452	Galay, Metro and Mary .	486
Aller Family .	479	Budzey Family .	307	Galay, Mike .	96
Antosko, Andrew and Ann (see Steve and		Burchak, Nick and Minnie .	481	Galay, Paul .	96
Nellie Kindzerski) .	356	Burchak, Children of Nick and		Galay, Peter and Natalka Family .	487
Ball, Eric J. .	84	Minnie .	482	Galay, Steve .	97
Barnett, Charles G. and Euphemea		Burtiak, Wally H. .	309	Galay, William .	95
(McDougal) .	142	Bzawy Family .	311	Garriock, Jim and Johana .	46
Barrow, Bernard and Florinda .	190	Bzowy, John and Annie .	312	Gaudry, Louis Family History .	463
Bass, Earl Joseph .	436	Bzawy, William .	312	Gillan, Jim .	135
Bass, Virden .	438	Carter, Thomas George and Henrietta .	191	Gingera, Steve and Anne .	327
Beasse, Lynda .	201	Cayer, Sophie .	405	Glena, Paul and Annie .	328
Bechard, Blanche Rewniak .	444	Chambers/Alder Family .	192	Gower, Ailie Ann .	330
Bednarz, Jacob and Eva .	296	Chambers, Thomas and Mary .	43	Gower, Elaine Hilda .	330
Bednarz, Francis Bonnett .	298	Cherwak, Emillion and Egupina .	453	Gower, Eliot William Earl .	330
Bednarz, Michael .	298	Chiupka, Alice .	318	Gower, Daryl Frederick .	330
Begg, Arthur and Pearl .	42	Chiupka, Fred and Annie .	315	Gower, Richard Earl Levison .	330
Berard, Claude and Lorraine .	444	Chiupka, Jacob .	313	Guluwaty, John and Ann .	97
Berthaudin History .	58	Chiupka, Margaret .	318	Hanchar, Sam Wasyl and Catherine .	330
Bilay, George and Mary .	480	Chiupka, Mike and Anne .	213	Harpelle, Norman and Alix .	332
Bilay, John and Teckla Family .	480	Chornoboy, John and Anna .	319	Haselbeck, John and Alvina .	135
Bilay, Mike and Mary (Kolochuk) .	480	Chornoboy, Harry and Jean .	321	Hawryluk, Peter .	98
Bilay, Pete and Norma .	103	Chuiupka Family .	483	Heesaker, Albert Edward .	194
Biletski Family .	210	Claeys, Joyce .	399	Heesaker, Arthur William .	195
Biletski, John and Nellie .	300	Cook, Jacob Henry and Mary Anna .	192	Heesaker, Edward Ernest .	195
Biletski, Nicholas M. .	210	Coombs, Robert and Cecile		Heesaker, Eugene Victor .	194
Biletski, Thomas and Dora .	210	(Bretechter) .	454	Heesaker, Jacob Norbert .	193
Biletski, Tony and Stella .	299	Copeland, Tillie (Chiupka) .	319	Helash, Harry and Pauline .	104
Black, J. Pearl (Chiupka). .	319	Coutts, Earl and Louise .	64	Heminger, John and Doreen .	334
Blackmon, Charles .	60	Coutts, James and Mary .	62	Hermiston, Christena and Mark .	66
Blackmon, Charles Alexander .	61	Crawford, Earl George .	65	Hermiston, Christena and Mark,	
Blackmon, Children of Amelia and		Crawford, Ernest Rae .	66	Children of .	66
Russell .	60	Croft Family .	322	Hermiston, Thomas Andrew .	67
Blackmon, Mary Gertrude .	61	Cumming, Edward William (Ned) .	44	Hermiston, William James and	
Bodnar Family .	211	Czekierda, Joe and Rose .	135	Alma (Ek) .	67
Boettcher, Chambers, Masters, and		Debienne, Joseph .	180	Heykin, Mary .	489
Stubner Family .	300	Debiennes, The .	180	Highfield Family .	136
Bonnett Family History .	301	Debienne, Emile .	182	Highfield, John William .	137
Booth Family .	61	Debienne, Joseph Jr. .	181	Highfield, Ronald and Ethel .	137
Bowie Brothers .	85	Debienne, Marcel .	182	Hill, Flora .	336
Boyechko, Anton .	480	Debienne, Marie .	181	Hill, Frank and Hilda .	335
Boyle, Grace (Radcliffe) .	384	Debienne, Paul .	182	Hill, John and Ellen .	335
Bradford History .	305	Debienne, Rachel .	181	Hindle History .	138
Bretechter Brothers .	436	Deminchuk and Katcher .	352	Hindle, Harry and Ada .	139
Bretechter, Albert and Yvette .	439	Didur, Syl and Claire .	323	Hindle, Nellie (Martin White) .	140
Bretechter, Alexandre and Regina .	441	Didychuk, Ethel (Radcliff) .	383	Holden, John and Jane .	47
Bretechter, Alfred .	448	Didychuk, Fedor .	454	Holowachuk Family .	214
Bretechter, Antoine and Aline .	448	Didychuk, Mrs Kay .	454	Honish, John and Magdalena .	337
Bretechter, Charles and Mary .	450	Didychuk, Maria (Bzowy) .	311	Hooper, Gary and Marilyn .	343
Bretechter, Clement and Lesley .	445	Doerkson, Delphine Janice (Gower) .	323	Hopfner, Arthur and Leonie .	182
Bretechter, Donald and Sharon .	439	Dowhaniuk, John .	323	Hopfner, Alf and Thera .	183
Bretechter, George and Rose .	449	Dufault, Napoleon (Paul) .	456	Hopfner, Chris Sr. and Rose .	183
Bretechter, Helen and Marcel .	447	Dufault, Robert .	456	Hopfner, Gordon .	184
Bretechter, Jean and Josephine .	450	Dumas, Dan and Rita .	456	Hrushka, Fred and Maria .	464
Bretechter, Martin and Juliette .	441	Dustan Family .	182	Hrushka, Fred and Marie Family .	464
Bretechter, Rene and Jean .	445	Dutchak, John and Anna .	325	Hrushowy Family .	215

Hrushowy, Peter and Alice	215	Madsen, Ann	142	Preston, Harold and Hazel (McKinnon)	156
Huculak, Nicola and Melania (Pich)	343	Maksymchuk Family	368	Pretula Family	381
Hudson, Albert and Vivian	69	Maksymchuk, Nick	368	Prokopowich, Jean (Burchak)	482
Hudson, Edward Lloyd	70	Marchenski, Nick and Rose	369	Proulx Family	471
Hudson, Herbert (Bert)	71	Marshall, Alfred and Barbara	466	Pulaks	382
Hudson, Lonnie Edward	71	Marshall, Sam and Annie	467	Radcliff, Isaac and Margaret	88 & 382
Huhtala, Zulo and Jennie	344	Maze, Alice	370	Radcliff, Jack	383
Inkster, Bill	47	Maze, George	369	Reboul Family	472
Inkster, Charlie and Valentina (Bednarz)	47	Mazier Family	370	Rehaluk, Bill and Eva (Ploschak)	388
Inkster, John Jr.	50	McGeorge, Ernest and Mayme	143	Rehaluk, Dan and Ann	391
Inkster, John Sr.	48	McKay, Allan and Margaret	86	Rehaluk, Michael and Meyka (Mydan)	386
Iwanchysko, Alex	347	McKay, Laura (Radcliff)	383	Rehaluk, Philip and Mary	77
Iwanchysko, Dan	348	McKinnon, Donald	149	Rehaluk, Steve and Annie Family	390
Iwanchysko, John and Annette	216	McKinnon, Dougall	144	Remniak, Anthony and Marie	104
Iwanchysko, Olga	348	McKinnon, John and Mary Ann (MacDonald)	142	Remniak, Bill and Mary	105
Iwanchysko, Tony	348	McKinnon, John Alexander and Elza (Cook)	144	Richardson, Charles and Eliza	392
Iwanchysko, Victoria	348	McKinnon, Lloyd and Elsie	147	Robbins Family	393
Jackson, Gilbert and Sadie	71	McKinnon, Robert John	50	Robbins, Hector	89
Janowski, Jenny Situlski	229	McMillan Family	372	Robbins, William and Family	394
Janowski, Paul	228	Middleton/Christensen	73	Robinson Family	158
Jastrebski, Frank	231	Mitchell Family, Jim and Kitty	372	Robinson, Edward	159
Johnson, Paul and Nina	349	Moffatt, Roy and Mary	150	Robinson, Edwark Mark	159
Johnston, David and Alice	350	Moffatt, Raymond and Irene	150	Robinson, David Randolph	160
Johnston, Edward	72	Moffatt, Thomas and Elsa Mae	151	Robinson, Charles Henry	161
Jones, Sidney P.	140	Moffatt, Thomas and Mary (Polly)	151	Robinson, George	185
Katchur, Andrew and Katherine	352	Moreau Family	467	Robinson, John and Ethel	80
Katchur, Joseph and Kay	354	Murry, Edna (Edna's Story)	151	Rollings Family	196
Kaminski, Edmond Antoni	351	Murray, Farrell, Hilda and Family	373	Rorke Family	395
Karp, Roman and Anne	351	Murray, Gordon and Linda	374	Ross, Donald and Lorilla	51
Kendzierski, Andrew and Nellie	465	Murray, Harold and Marlene	374	Rozenkranz, William and Jean	473
Kendzierski, Mike and Norma	358	Murray, James and Edith	151	Roznowsky, Nick and Norma	445
Kendzierski, Peter and Mary (Poley)	357	Murray, Melvin and Debbie	374	Rushton, Thomas and Margaret	161
Kindzerski, Steve and Nellie	356	Murray, Norman and Debra	374	Saari, John	396
Kivari, Antii and Anna	359	Nedelec, Alain Sr.	467	Sanders, John (Bay)	196
Komula, Wilbert	361	Nedelec, Alain	467	Schurko, Annie	398
Korotash, Beatrice (Galay)	101	Nedelec, Marcel	468	Schurko, Anton and Theodosia	347
Korotash, Bill	98	Nix, Hubert	154	Schurko, David	399
Korotash, Danyl	99	Osadchuk, William and Mary	102	Schurko, Donald and Denise	399
Korotash, Dmetro	99	Osadchuk, Paul	104	Schurko, Fred	399
Korotash, Hnat	99	Panagapko, Joe	375	Schurko, Gordon	399
Korotash, Mary (Galay)		Papuga, Frank	375	Schurko, Harry	397
Korotash, Mike	100	Papuga, George and Anna	375	Schurko, Michael	399
Korotash, Nellie	98	Papuga, John (Jack) and Margaret	375	Scott, Gerald	197
Korotash, Paul	101	Paradis, Azarie and Katherine	377	Scott, John L.	196
Korotash, Peter	101	Paradis, Barry and Karen	378	Scott, Laura	196
Kraska, Otto and Eleanora (Laura)	141	Paradis, Leo and Anna	378	Scutt Family	399
Kubus Family	360	Parish, Fred and Rebecca	184	Sedor, Paul and Madelene	233
Kubat, Lillian (Zondlo)	204	Pawloski, Frank and Katernia	378	Sedor, Pete and Marlene	232
Kuyp Family	466	Pawluk Family	379	Sedor, Willie and Marusia	233
Kwjanpaa Family	361	Pawluk, George and Polly	380	Shewchuk, Doreen Korotash	101
Lamey's History	318	Payne, John	86	Shewchuk, John and Elaine	373
Lardinois, Louis Robert	184	Pearson, Jean (Murray)	153	Sister Patricia	400
Laycock, George A.	362	Perpeluk Family	381	Skakivitch, Nick and Sonja	400
Leaver, Keith and Muriel	363	Phillips Family	155	Sklar Family	490
Leflour Family	461	Philippot, Henry	471	Sklar, Pich, Gardovich	401
Le Gal History	450	Philippot, Pierre	471	Sliowski, Mike and Irene	
Lehmann Family	86	Pich, Andrew and Petronella (Swiderski)	231	Sliowsky, Mac and Bernice	234
Le Roch Family	462	Pich, Michael and Jennie	219	Slobodian, (Sloboda) History	234
Litwinowich Family	363	Pich, Paul and Katherine	217	Sloboda, Michael	235
Lucking, Sarah Dorothy (Heesaker)	194	Pich, Paul and Mary	217	Smadella Family	219
Luckow, Paul and Nellie	489	Pineau Family	471	Smigelski, Dmetro	403
Luke, Werner and Christine	72	Ploschak Story	76	Smith, Frederick	161
Lula, Lawrence and Mary	364	Ploschak, Line of Descendants of Steve and Theodosia	77	Smith, Harry	186
Lytwyn, Steve	365	Preston, Albert and Gertrude	155	Smith, Jim and Donna	162
MacDonald, John and Mary Ann	142	Preston, Frank	157	Smith, Richard and Margaret	162
Mackie Arthur	367			Sologuk	403
Mackie, Eric and Aino	366			Sologuk, Children of Peter and Sophie	405
Mackie, Henry and Anna	367			Sologuk/Tanasichuk/Didychuk	404

Solomon Family History	91	Mary (Zondlo)	168	Werbiski, Nick	413
Solomon, Steve and Mary	107	Tkach Family History	493	Wilson Family	413
Spense, Elsie	473	Tkach, Stella (Galay)	97	Woods Family	475
Sraybash, Dan and Lena	406	Tkachyk, Nick and Agnus	410	Woychysyn, Olga (Chiupka)	318
Sraybash, Steve and Katherine	407	Tocker, George and Ann	169	Woychysyn, Nellie (Chiupka)	319
Stammen, Isadore Family	163	Tucker, Delphie (Hudson)	70	Wrenshall Family	171
Stammen, Nick and Catherine	165	Tuer, Walter and Ann	411	Yaeger, Peter	236
Stark, George and Emma	407	Tuer, William	411	Yurkiw, Fred and Nellie	496
Stelmach, Martha (Zondlo)	204	Turko, Florence and Walter	103	Zabiaka	415
St. Onge Family	468	Turnbull, Arnold	170	Zamrykut, Alex and Pat	114
St. Onge, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas	470	Tymchuk Family	108	Zamrykut, Hnat and Eva	110
Storozinski Family	384	Tymchuk, Walter and Elizabeth	109	Zamrykut, Micheal and Alexandra	112
Storozinski, Mary (Radcliff)	385	Ukrina, Steve and Mary	412	Zamrykut, Peter and Eva	110
Struthers, Stan	409	Van De Kerchove, Rene and Lea	474	Zaplitney Family	237
Stykalo Family History	491	Van de Kerchove, Roland and Lillian	474	Zastre, Joseph and Leontine (Paradis)	171
Szport Family	222	Warren Family	198	Ziola Family	416
Talpash Family	222	Wawrow, Nick and Pearl	412	Ziola, Cyril and Florence Family	416
Talpash, Mike and Mary	235	Weaver, Annie (Zondlo)	203	Ziola, Max	415
Talpash, Zenovia	409	Weaver, Cordelia Carrie (Heesaker)	195	Zondlo, John and Sarah (Biletski)	205
Taylor, Edward Procter	165	Weaver, Dauphine Anne	201	Zroback, Nick	496
Taylor, Frederick	166	Weaver, Donald Anson	202	Zwarich, Stephanie	417
Taylor, John Edward	167	Weaver, Gordon and Annie	199	Zywina, Alex	225
Taylor, Samuel Procter	168	Weaver, Lorraine (Iwanchysko)	348	Zywina Family	224
Taylor, Robert William	168	Weaver, Lynnton Emmett	200		
Taylor, Thomas William and		Werbiski Family	223		

