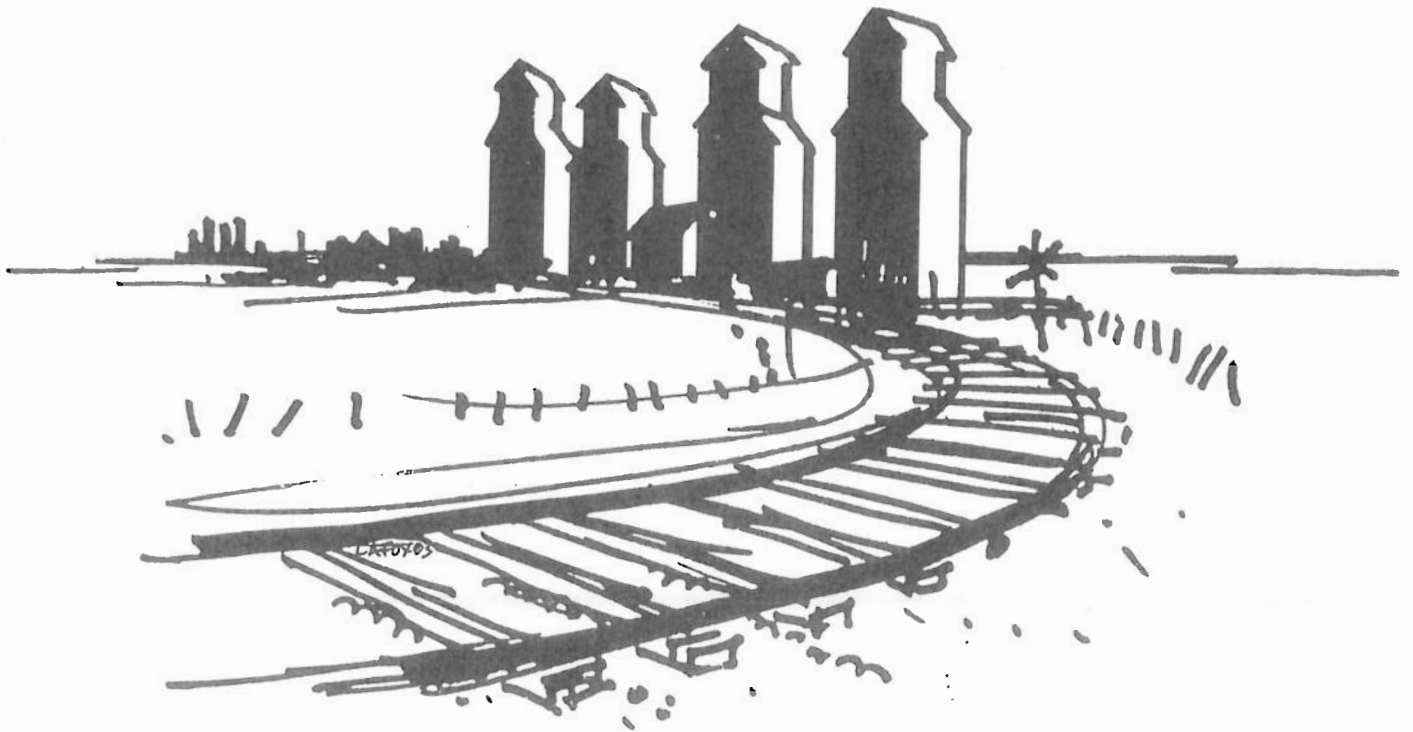


"the ties that bind"



ESTLIN GRAY RICETON BECHARD

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histories, pictures and documents that have helped to make this book a reality.

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— Charles Auld, Edmonton and the C.N.R. from Montreal for their information.



Historical Committee Meeting. Standing: Edith Frisk, Neva Lafoy, Beryl Clarke, Marnie McQuoid, Clyde Merean, René Bechard. Sitting: Isobel Boesch, Wilber Moats, Thelma Kushnir, Rita Bechard and Gladys Schultz.

— Those who searched files on histories of churches, clubs and schools.

— The Riceton Credit Union (Marg Maloney).

— Those people that searched through family diaries and records for material.

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— Dora Girsberger and Walter Reich for their donations.

— Milestone Book Committee for their information.



Wilber Moats and Beverley Ulrich — Chairman and Secretary.

Our Project Committee members are as follows:

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Secretary — Beverley Ulrich

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Pictures — Co-ordinator — Leo Ulrich

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Research — Clarence Taylor (Archives and Municipal); Robert Frisk (Machinery Identification)

We wish to acknowledge the Homecoming Committee:

Chairman — Josie Black, Secretary-Treasurer — Elaine East, Myrna Bonsor, Dorothy Gooding, Arlene Phillips, Carl Webster and their volunteers. They deserve special recognition for their monumental efforts to make this whole project a success.

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Foreword

Historians of Bechar-Riceton-Gray-Estlin by Norma G. Bryden (nee McElmon)

This history book is being compiled toward a conscious awareness of greatness inherent in the lives of the region's early settlers. We, who were born to them and grew up among them, were generally oblivious to this quality; being in the midst of it we couldn't see the forest for the trees. But in the perspective of time, (and distance) it was greatness that impelled them to leave comfortable homes and secure positions in milder climates for whatever ultimate goal they had in mind. It fortified them with vision, initiative and stamina sufficient to lay the sturdy foundation upon which a progressive community might build.

While my knowledge of the settlers is mainly confined to the area of our day-to-day activity from Kronau westward to No. 6 Highway, and the Weardale-Estlin districts in particular, the panorama of pioneer effort represented therein must have its counterpart in other areas throughout the region.

My father used to maintain that the people of southern Saskatchewan were too self-effacing; that they have earned the right to walk and talk with assurance among people anywhere. This being the case, it is the "fault" of his generation: they were too reticent. Perhaps Nature kept them humble.

Some communities, in some countries, are founded on ancestral traditions of tearing flesh and whining bullets, brawling and lawless living, and they call it "greatness." Yours was founded principally upon diligence, love of family, respect for community and reverence for God.

Somewhere, I think it was in Weardale School, I read as a child that Greatness not always wears a fine overcoat. Our parents and grandparents would have laughed at the thought of our applying that maxim to them, because they had human faults, and to their

way of thinking, their doings were unspectacular. But think:

Who was it but Greatness in overalls, whose hand was on the breaking plough: in the ground, and in the community? Who built his habitation and voluntarily endured harsh winters in primitive isolation and never lost sight of his high standard of right living? Who knew in his heart of hearts that in the exercise of labour of both body and mind, was a vent for the adverse passions and hostilities that afflict mankind? Who sacrificed his comfort and risked his life to the raging elements in order to give physical comfort and sustenance to animals in the barn, and always fed his animals before himself? Who never locked the door of his house, lest some traveller be in need of shelter, food or rest? And who was the wayfarer who came in and finding no one at home, made himself a meal of whatever he could find, left money, if he had it, on the kitchen table and continued on his way, leaving things as he found them?

It was Greatness in Victorian skirts and calf-length dresses who opted to subordinate the importance of Women's Equal Rights to Preservation of the Family; who carried her talents into bleak abodes in lonely places and furnished them with gentleness and love, wall to wall; who guarded her family's health and prepared delectable repast against all the odds; and in privation or plenty, who elevated her perception above the mundane and passed along to her family the benefit of her farsightedness. At the same time, she was not above putting her hand to any task for which she had the strength, if there was the need. She left a legacy of Total Commitment.

No one but Greatness, in the midst of perennial prairie drought, would have looked upon another season's withering crops and brought the community together for a ballgame and a potluck supper. Who but Greatness kept music in our lives, and laughter? Who never faltered in determination to educate the

children for a better tomorrow? Only Greatness would stride mile after mile through the stormy night in dead of winter to demonstrate a moral principle beyond the shadow of a doubt.

In general stores and tradesmen's shops and lumberyards Greatness in armbands and aprons served his brothers with fair measure for an honest dollar. Greatness continued to man the railroads and elevators through hard times when there was little grain to market.

Who rattled the roads in buggies and old cars in the garb of prairie ministers and priests, to bring assurance of God's eternal love? Who in those unecumenical times, with a Roman Catholic rosary about his neck, contributed a share of labour with his neighbors to help to maintain a Protestant church? In

well-pressed suits shiny with age, and in tired dresses with fresh trimmings, who held up their heads and straightened their backs and always could find a dime or a quarter for the collection plate at Sunday morning services, and another for the Sunday School? Thereby, through a period of intense hardship, was sustained for ongoing generations the focal manifestation of the community's spiritual fibre.

And in all conscience, we must remember who in fringed buckskins, prior to it all, for centuries maintained there a tradition of Man in tune with Nature; who withdrew in dignity and deference to the new Law, allowing it all to happen unmolested, and leaving no clutter behind him but a few arrowheads.

That was Greatness.



MESSAGE FROM PREMIER GRANT DEVINE

I have many fond memories of the Hamlet of Gray, and the communities of Estlin, Riceton, and Bechard. My grandparents, Fred and Bessie Ford, lived at Gray and raised four children including my mother Bette. I can still recall the good times I had as a child skating and curling at the community rinks.

Communities such as these are the backbone of our province. Through their agricultural endeavours they give our province its economic life blood. In rural Saskatchewan the traditional values of family and home remain strong and that makes these communities a stabilizing influence on our society.

Although these communities are relatively small in size, they are big in heart. Their friendly and caring atmospheres are a reflection of past and present residents of these communities.

It is very important that all Saskatchewanians are able to identify with their roots. I wish to commend all those involved in the compilation of this publication as well as the residents of Gray, Estlin, Riceton, and Bechard for sharing their story with us.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Grant Devine".

Grant Devine

Premier

Introduction

Wilber Moats — Chairman

This book has been written to honour the pioneers who have built and the contemporaries who are continuing to build the society in which we live.

Our pioneer community was Buck Lake, established twenty or more years before the construction of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway. It gave rise to the Hamlets of Estlin, Gray, Riceton and Bechard.

The past hundred years have seen this area transformed from virgin prairie to almost complete cultivation; from the Qu'Appelle-Willowbunch trail to a system of all-weather roads; from a few isolated shacks with meagre farming equipment to modern homes, and farmsteads with labour-saving utilities and equipment; from lives of grinding hardship and sacrifice to lives of relative ease and comfort. Those Pioneers' dreams have become our reality.

People from many parts of North America and Europe as well as a few from Asia have settled here. Several Christian religious denominations are represented. French families settled in the Bechard area but there are no other real ethnic groups.

We realize this book is probably thirty years too

late as none of our original pioneers are with us. However, a very few of them did write down their experiences and these manuscripts are certainly treasured. We have been unable to contact many former residents and we apologize to anyone who was missed.

Compiling this book has enabled us to learn so much more about the people of the territory encompassed; their family ties, their accomplishments and abilities, their attributes, their hopes and their fears. Most of this has been quite gratifying, some of it outright exhilarating.

We have tried to emphasize the history of the earlier pioneers. We hope that our readers will enjoy this book and that many will write down their own experiences in order that another generation may produce a better sequel.

We sincerely thank those who contributed family history and other stories as well as the use of their treasured family pictures and documents.

It has been both a challenge and a pleasure to produce "The Ties That Bind."

Preface



Thelma Kushnir.

Too often, we in our own busy little world, have failed to take time to think of the heritage left to us by our forefathers that came to the vast open prairies in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. The hardships, heartaches and loneliness they must have felt after leaving their loved ones behind to venture afar and begin a new life. We will never know of all the problems they must have encountered. Their histories should have been recorded years earlier but to our knowledge this has never been done.

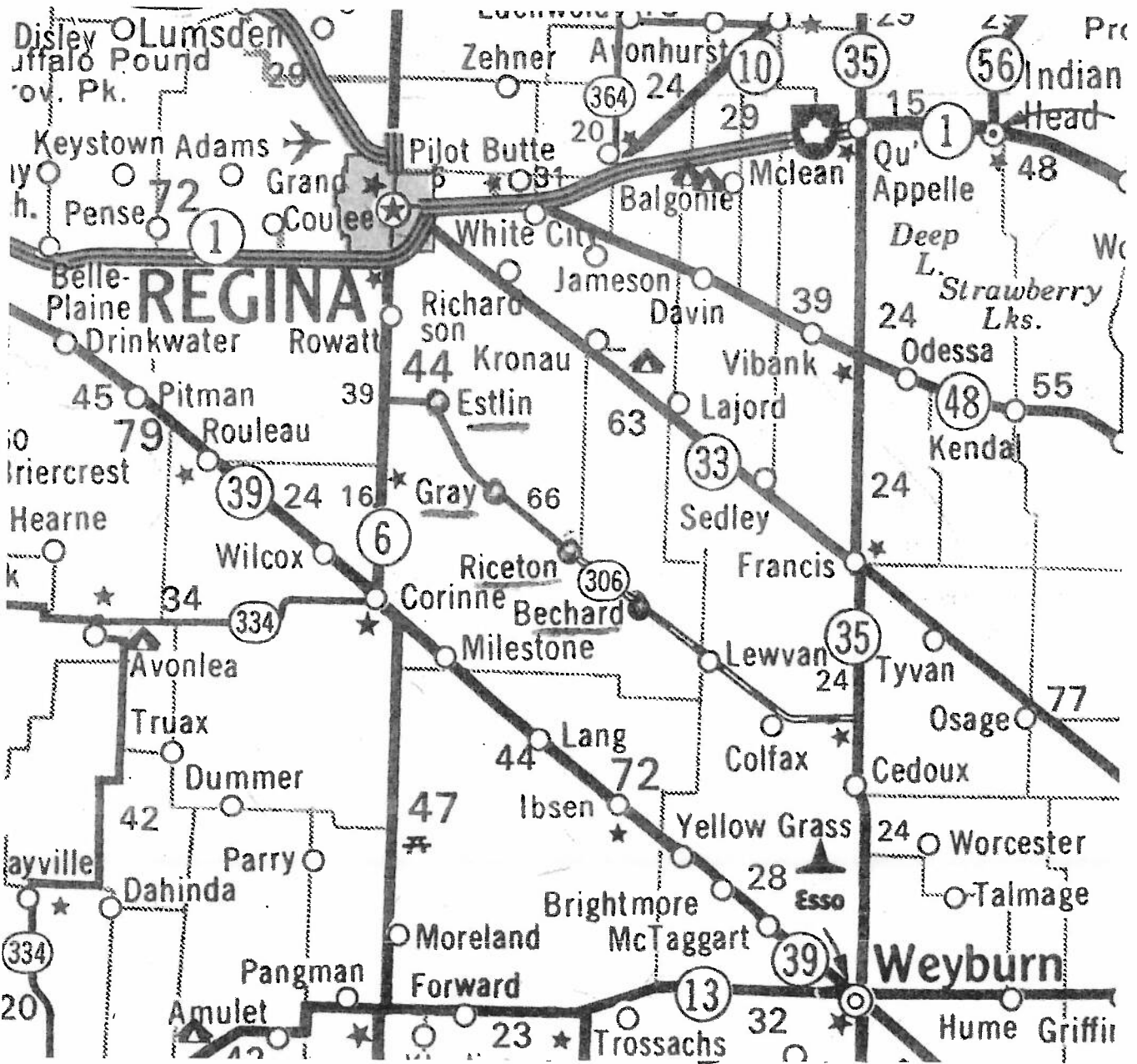
We, the Historical Committee of the districts of Bechard, Estlin, Gray and Riceton, have tried to gather information and compile these stories in book form for future generations. A sincere thanks to all who contributed their histories, pictures and documents as you have helped to make our book possible.

The committees have spent many hours going over all of the material. During the editing some have had to be shortened and we tried to eliminate any repetition. We are sorry that we were unable to use all of the pictures due to space required and the cost involved.

We hope we will be excused for any errors or omissions.

It has been a privilege and a pleasure to have worked with the Historical Committee executive, the proofreaders, the editors and the picture people. Without all of their help and assistance "The Ties That Bind" would not have become a reality.

Thank You
Thelma Kushnir,
Project Co-ordinator



Map — Bechard, Riceton, Gray and Estlin.

The Book Title

The Historical Committee held a contest open to the public to submit titles for our history book. The response was great. After some months a meeting was held on September 20, 1983 to select a title. A vote by ballot putting first, second and third choices took place. The winning title, "The Ties That Bind" was submitted by Bill Gillis from Gray. The logo is of the four elevators, one for each of the towns, Estlin, Gray, Riceton and Bechard with the railway tracks and the ties that run along the CN line.

The Book Cover

"The Ties That Bind" book cover was designed by Manley Lafoy, Regina, formerly of Gray, Saskatchewan.

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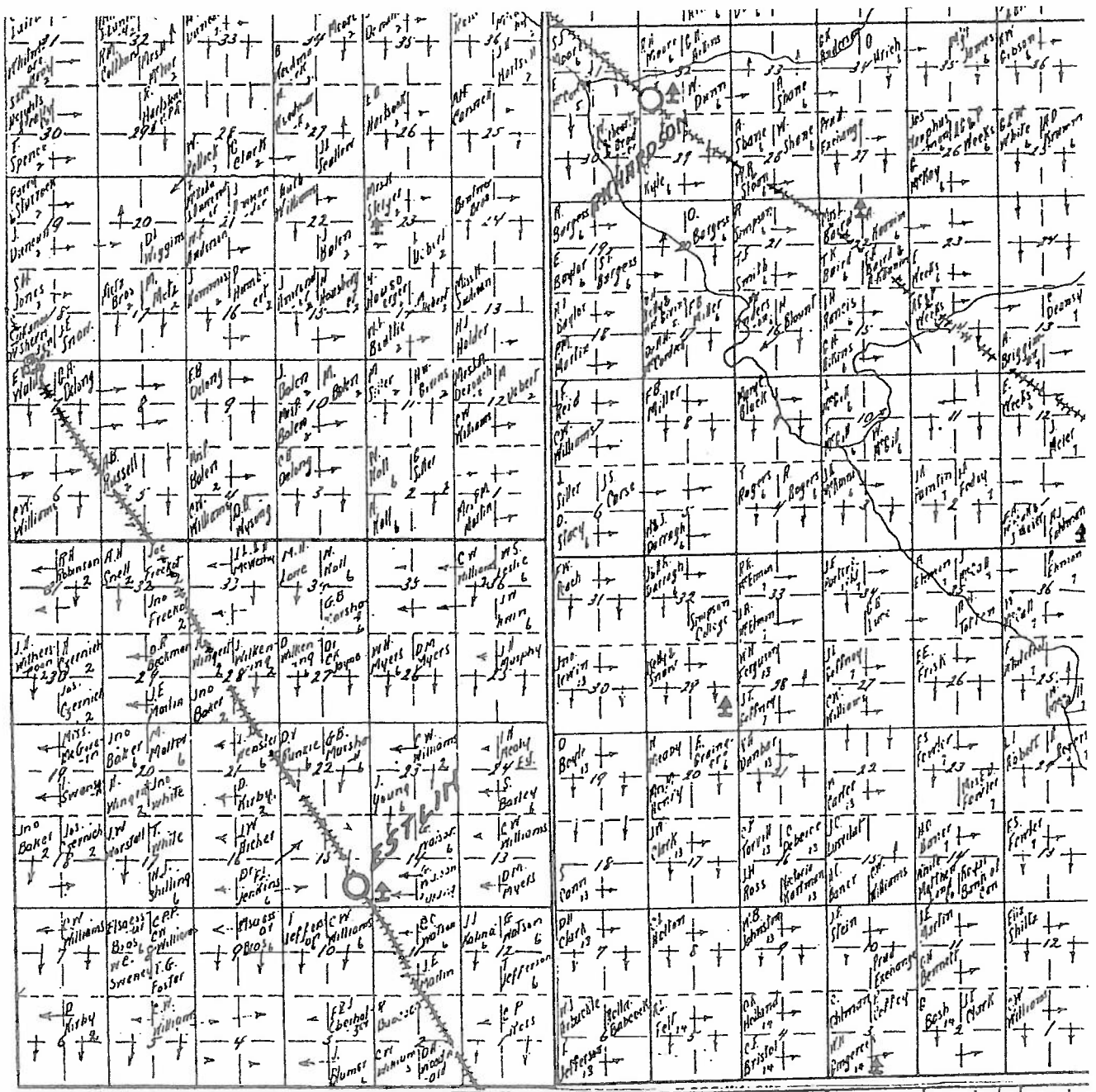
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David Hirst 26	A.G. Nelson 31	R.J. Cross 32	R.J. Cross 33	Miss E.M. Rodger 34	J. Conion 35	C.W. S.A. Paul 36	S.S. Quoy 37	Q.J. Abbott 38	C.F. Bristol 39	E.E. Shupard 40	Prud Wills 41	H.B. Moore 42
M. Green 25	R.L. Cabeen 30	J.M. Harris 31	AA Ridgway 28	A.E. Husband 29	Mrs J.E. Stratton 30	A.S. Paul 31	Beebe 15	J.B. Calkins 32	R. Veach 33	J.A. McNamee 34	J.A. Stearns 35	C.R. Beach 36
Mrs J.G. Koad 29	Eva M. Hirst 30	J.S. Carso 31	A.L. Felt 32	Mrs J.E. Stratton 33	Mrs D.E. Hirst 34	D.J.E. Clark 35	M.H.A. FR 36	L.J. Abbott 37	S.B. Spiller 38	F. Veach 39	G. Bosh 40	H. Bosh 41
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The Town of Estlin

Estlin — How it was Named

In the summer of 1977, Mrs. Wesley (Betty) Jefferson was visited by Mrs. Dale Estlin of Sooke, B.C., who was anxious to visit the townsite of Estlin. It seemed the hamlet had been named after her husband's grandfather. This prompted Betty to write to Mr. Eugene Estlin for further details, and the following is a quote from his letter. "It was so very kind of you to take the time to talk to my wife, Dale, and extend to her your wonderful prairie hospitality . . . With regard to ESTLIN, Sask. I can bring you correct details first hand from my uncle, Henry Estlin, who lives in Parksville, B.C. from a letter written to myself, quote: 'Dad (your grandad) was appointed by the Saskatchewan Government as engineer in charge of construction of the first large grain elevators, and he mentioned to me in later years, that he built about 500 of them. The town of Estlin grew up around an elevator he built on the sidetrack of the railroad branch line. I can remember being taken by my Mother by train out to this site to take Dad clean clothes, bread, etc. This would have been in 1912. In 1921, when your Grandad, your Dad and I were coming west from Chatham, Ontario by Model T Ford (Sarah Jane), Dad wanted to visit the town of ESTLIN. We got there in the dusk and pulled up in front of the general store with a curb gas pump. A young fellow came out to serve us and Dad said, "Is your name so and so?" The chap said, "Yes", "Do you know me?", and Dad said, "You look like your father who worked for me building that grain elevator." The town looked to be about three blocks each way, and seemed to be quite prosperous from the appearance of the houses." End of quote. From a second letter we learn the Grandfather's name was EUSTACE SENIOR ESTLIN, so the hamlet of Estlin bears his name.

Records indicate that Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kirby and family were the first settlers in the area. They filed on the NE quarter of Section 36, Township 14, Range 20, W2nd, on May 21, 1883. The land bordered on what is now No. 6 Highway and the correction line.

Portions of "What's In A Name", written by J. Russell Clarke follows:

"The hamlet of Estlin was originated in 1912 when the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway (Now C.N.R.) laid the steel through the farming community.

While the hamlet of Estlin did not appear until 1912, the community was very much alive years before that time. During the 1885-90 period, mem-

bers of the Bratt family settled beside the only prairie lake in the region. It was known as Buck Lake and is six miles south of the present site of Estlin.

The Bratts were ranchers and made good use of the marshes and hay flats, while the lake was a certain source of water and mosquitoes. The Bratt brothers became well known ranchers and farmers and today the local rural municipality bears their name.

Early-day Estlin was geared to a horse-and-bug-gy economy and reached its peak in the 1920's. At that time it had a church and school. It also had the excitement and colour provided by the blacksmith from Switzerland, the tinsmith from Ireland and the old fashioned crackerbarrel general store and post office. Then, there were things and places that today's youngsters have never even heard about — the livery barn, the stock yards, the slaughter house and the loading platform. Rounding out its amenities and necessities were the lumber yard, the pool room, cafe, station agent, section foreman, machinery warehouse, and of course the elevators — its main reason for existence. During the boom years the total population was never more than 50.

The little prairie town had its share of excitement — some of it rather tragic. The general store burned — was replaced, and burned again. Then there was great excitement among the children and dismay among the taxpayers when the new two-room school burned. Over the years spectacular blazes took an elevator, a house — then in a tremendous holocaust the village lost its store, lumber yard, community hall, pool room, and garage.

The hamlet more or less recovered from these fires. The school of course was replaced immediately, but some of the other buildings never were.

Two different families tried at different times to set up a general store business, but neither could compete with Regina merchants only 15 miles away. The gravel grid roads, and the auto had changed the rural way of life."

With the last of the stores to close, the mail service was also affected. We are now on Rural Route delivery, with mail coming only three times a week, to our boxes under the light pole by the school. In the 1920's, mail came into Estlin twice a day, six days a week, for three cents per letter. In this highly mechanized and technological year of 1983, it is difficult to call it "progress" when we receive the mail three times a week for thirty-two cents per letter.

The School has been closed for many years, with the children receiving their schooling in Regina.

However, the building itself is still in use as a gathering place for meetings and social functions. The men of the district remodelled it completely, installing kitchen facilities and the necessary new wiring.

Our Estlin is only a shadow of its former self. In fact, if you look on a map, it is no longer there! When no services are available for the travelling public, off you go! There are only four families living in the hamlet, and in spite of the fact that the elevators and the Church are the only regularly used buildings, the community is alive and well. It is healthy in its people, their kindness, their hospitality, their aggressiveness and their infectious good humor. These are the same qualities that were shown by the Pioneers who settled our district. The name of the town may not be on a map, but the spirit is as strong as ever.

Main Street by Miggie, Merle and Stan Smith

ESTLIN

A P. O. in Sec. 15, T. 15, R. 19, W2, in Weyburn Dom. Elec. Dist. Assinibola Land Reg. Dist., Regina Jud. Dist., and Mun. No. 129, on C.N.-G. T.P. Rly., 17 miles south of Regina. Has C.N. telegraph and express. Resources: Grain growing, raw lands averaging \$70 per acre and improved from \$100 to \$125. Population, town 30, rural 76.
Atlas Elevator Co Ltd Harry M Cassidy buyer
Carson Isaac I tinmith
Cassidy Harry M buyer Atlas Elev Co Ltd
Davis T general store
Dominion Bank

Fizell John restaurant
Girsberger Rudolph blacksmith
Grand Trunk Pacific Rly F J D Smith agent
Gunderson A F mgr Monarch Lbr Co Ltd
Jefferson Wm pool room
Lovie Peter buyer Security Elev Co
Monarch Lumber Co Ltd A F Gunderson mgr

Revill John livery and feed
Roberts Wm carpenter
Sask Co-Op Elev Co C J William agt
Security Elevator Co Ltd Peter Lovie buyer

Credit:

Courtesy of the Provincial Archives, article taken from the "Wrigley's Saskatchewan Directory 1921-1922", researched by Beryl Clarke and Edith Frisk.

The first business to start in the Estlin district was in the year 1911 when Mr. Currah began selling meat to the settlers — a butcher shop as such, was not in evidence — business was done from Mr. Currah's home. This eventually became known as the "Beef Ring" — a common thing in communities in the early days when farmers kept livestock. Mr. Roberts was the butcher.

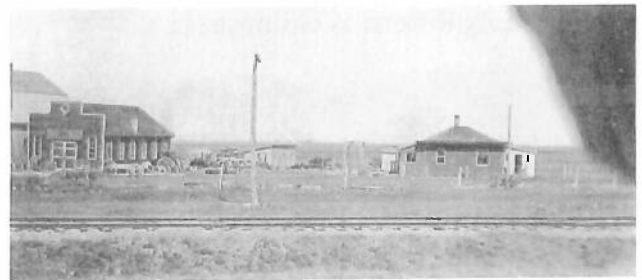


Rody Girsberger, 1919.

site. These were: the Grain Growers, the Security with Peter Louie the first buyer, the Atlas with Harry Cassidy as buyer and the British America. Elevator companies provided homes for the buyers and their families. Also in 1912 a lumber yard was built by the Monarch Lumber Company with Mr. Lowell as manager, followed a few years later by Mr. A. F. Gunderson.

In the year 1912 the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway was built from Regina to Estlin and points to the southeast. As a result four elevators appeared on the

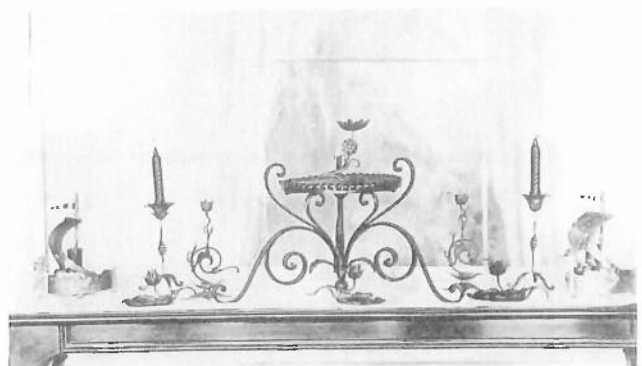
In 1913 Mr. Rody Girsberger, a farmer in the district, built a blacksmith shop. Here he made many works of art besides those parts and repairs required by the farmers for their machinery. A dwelling for his family was erected nearby.



Rody Girsbergers — house and shop in Estlin and Jack Revills livery barn.



Rody Girsberger — sample of iron works 1932.



Rody Girsberger, sample of iron works, 1932.



Working beside Girsberger's shop, 1919.

The first general store, consisting of two granaries joined together, appeared on the main street the same year and was operated by Mr. Earl Hall and Mr. Percy Preaster. It also served as the first Post Office with Miss Lily Roberts as postmistress.



Mr. and Mrs. E. Hall and family, the first store in Estlin.

In that year Mr. Revill built his first livery barn beside the blacksmith shop. This was replaced in 1915 by a two-storey hip-roof barn. Mr. Revill also sold milk to the residents of the hamlet.

In 1914 a new general store was erected by Mr. Bill Roberts and was operated for a short time by Mr.



Livery barn at Estlin, 1915.



First store in Estlin run by Halls, Donnelly, and Stewarts.

Hall, followed by Mr. Bill Donnelly and Mr. T. Davis. Also in 1914 Mr. Bill Jefferson started his pool hall. Here Mr. Don Lewars, who worked for Mr. Tom Jefferson, set up his barber's chair and cut hair for twenty-five cents. When Mr. Lewars became buyer for the Pioneer Elevator a few years later, he continued this practise in the elevator office. Many a young man received his first hair cut from Mr. Lewars. In the same year Mr. Roy Welliver moved a house to Estlin from Dave Boyle's farm and Mrs. Hartman ran a boarding house in this building for a year or two.

In 1917 Mr. Ike Carson moved his tinsmith shop from Gray to Estlin and Mrs. Carson started a restaurant the following year, which she sold in 1920. Mr. Carson became Postmaster in 1922 in which capacity he served the community for 27 years.



Grain Growers Hall.

In 1917-18 a beautiful large hall was erected on Main Street by the Grain Growers Association. This was a focal point for many functions some of which included: dances which went on until four a. m. with a local orchestra in attendance and patronized by people from miles around; operettas and concerts; travelling shows such as plays and bell ringers; political meetings; fowl suppers with huge crowds attending and followed by a concert with local and city talent; Ladies' Aid teas and programs to raise money for church expenses, to name a few.

By 1919-20 the business community of Estlin had grown to include a hotel (two rooms) and restaurant operated by Mr. and Mrs. John Frizzel; a branch of the Dominion Bank with Mr. Snow as manager; a carpentry business operated by Mr. Bill Roberts and

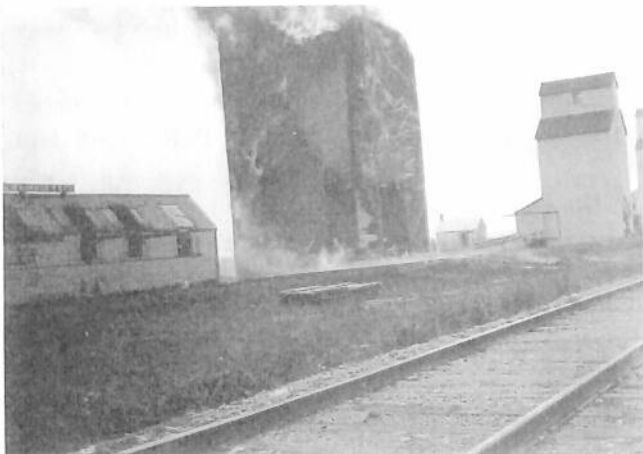


Mrs. Frizzel's mini-restaurant.



Mr. and Mrs. Jack Frizzel.

the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway station and telegraph office with F. J. Smith as agent. Estlin was really on the map!



Elevator fire, July 22, 1920.

In 1920 the Security elevator burned to the ground after being struck by lightning. The Dominion Bank closed in 1921 and the general store was destroyed by fire.

About this time Mr. Bill Jefferson moved to Birch Hills and Mr. L. R. Hebb took over the Pool Hall and carried some groceries as a convenience to the local people. In 1927 Mr. Eldon Dunbar built a new general store, known as the Marquis Chain Store. A gas pump was also installed to accommodate those owning motor cars.

In 1929 disaster struck! A fire started in the lumber yard and consumed not just the lumber yard but the Grain Growers Hall and the general store. This was a major blow to the small farming com-



Eldon Dunbar's store.

munity. However, a new lumber yard was built in 1930. Mr. Dunbar built a new store which he continued to operate until 1939 when he rented it to Mr. Godwin. The building was sold in 1940 and the community was again without the convenience of a general store. The magnificent Grain Growers Hall was never rebuilt but the dances and all other social



After hall burnt.



Estlin Fire.

functions continued to take place in an old implement shed owned by Mr. Ike Carson. This building was lined with building paper, had diagonal floor boards and lids of cans covering the knotholes in the walls, but all this failed to dampen the spirits of those attending the dances or badminton games. After all, in the dirty thirties, who could expect more?

By the 1940's grain elevators had changed hands. The Saskatchewan Pool, the National and the Pioneer now silhouetted the prairie horizon and agents came and went. Some names you might recall are Chris Inglis, Harold Webster, Don Lewars, Hec Bouey, Max Seibel, Roy Henderson, Ray Reichel, Percy Culling, Bryce Houston, George McNab, Norm Kearns, to name a few.

In 1945 and 1946 a garage operated by Edwin Girsberger and Stanley Smith was open for business on main street. Some groceries and canned goods were stocked for the convenience of customers.



Estlin Lumber Yard.

In 1947 curling came to Estlin, and the lumber yard, which had been vacant for some years, was made into a curling rink. A hall was added and once again community gatherings were in full swing.

Mr. Ike Carson retired as Postmaster in 1949. Mrs. Lou Henderson, wife of the National elevator

agent, took over the duties and distributed mail from her home until 1956.

In the early 1950's Mrs. Marchetta Armstrong, wife of the Canadian National station agent, purchased a granary from Mr. Orval Lewis for five dollars and opened up a general store which she called the Pee Wee store, and operated it until 1956. This was a great convenience for the people of the community.

Mr. Doug Wallace became postmaster in 1956 and with his wife, Anne, continued to operate a store until 1969 when the local railroad station was closed and mail delivery was made by truck from Regina. Mr. Wallace began a portable grain cleaning business at this time which he continues to operate from his home in Estlin.

Today, all that remains of a once-thriving business community besides Mr. Wallace's grain cleaning unit, are the three grain elevators — two Pioneer with Mr. Bill Phillips as buyer and one Cargill with Daniel Francais as buyer — which stand like sentinels against the prairie sky. No longer are they painted dull red as in bygone days. Bright orange and bright green present a splash of color which can be seen for miles — a vivid reminder of the pioneers who started it all and the generations which followed, and will continue to follow and make it a great community in which to live.

Estlin Cargill Limited by C. A. Parsons, Credit Officer

Re. Estlin: National Grain records show two elevators, Estlin A and B.

1. Estlin A-First recorded manager in 1922, so assume it was built that year or earlier.

Managers of Estlin A were: 1922-23 — H. M. Cassidy, 1923-28 — R. W. Vollett, 1928-33 — H. L. Langrell, 1933-46 — H. H. Bouey, 1946-53 — Max Seibel.

2. Estlin B-Built in 1929 with 38,000 bushel capacity. Annexes were added in 1940, 1946 and 1950.

Managers of Estlin B were: 1929-32 — P. Lovie, 1932-33 — C. Eagleton, 1933-35 — H. B. Ashford, 1935-37 — S. P. Hilderson, 1938-40 — Myers, 1940-1941 — H. G. Armstrong, 1941-44 — M. Mc-Crystal, 1944-45 — J. S. Delwo, 1946-50 — Percy Culling.

3. After 1950 both A and B elevators were under the same manager until A disappears from record (traded or demolished).

PAMPHLET No. 1

CONTAINING

THE SASKATCHEWAN CO-OPERATIVE ELEVATOR COMPANY ACT

TOGETHER WITH

An Explanation of Its Provisions and a Discussion
of Its Principles.

Prepared and published by the Provisional Directors of
the Saskatchewan Co-Operative Elevator Company
(who are also the Executive of the Sas-
katchewan Grain Growers'
Association).

J. A. MAHARG
Provisional President
Moose Jaw

CHAS. A. DUNNING,
Provisional Secretary

REGINA:
The Leader Publishing Co., Limited
1911

Managers from 1950-81 were: 1950-53 — Max Seibel, 1953-56 — R. E. Henderson, 1956-62 — R. O. Reichel, 1962-67 — D. Hall, 1967-68 — J. Webster, 1968-71 — D. W. Lee, 1971-75 — N. Boker, 1975-76 — B. Yasinski, 1976-77 — D. Powell, 1977-78 — Les Eastmond, 1978-81 — B. Lambsdown, 1981- D. Francais.

Estlin Pioneer Grain Company by C. W. Anderson Information Officer Pioneer Grain Company, Limited

The elevator at Estlin was built by the Pioneer Grain Company, Limited, in 1923 and the first Pioneer Elevator Manager was Mr. F. M. Goggin. Subsequent Elevator Managers with their dates of first appointment were as follows: H. A. Webster — February, 1928, D. B. Campbell — September, 1935, J. D. Lewars — July, 1938, W. R. Phillips — February, 1959, the present Manager.

Estlin Saskatchewan Wheat Pool by John Julian, Information Officer Saskatchewan Wheat Pool

The original Saskatchewan Wheat Pool elevator at Estlin was built in 1912 for the Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company. It was a 30,000 bushel facility and was assigned number 90 by Co-op Elevators. In 1926 Saskatchewan Wheat Pool purchased the assets of Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevators. The Estlin plant became Pool number 220 at that point.

In 1929 the original elevator was dismantled and a 70,000 bushel plant constructed by a Pool crew on the same site. In 1940 two 24,000 bushel temporary annexes were added to the plant and in 1951 a 40,000 bushel semi-permanent frame annex was built. The following year one of the temporary annexes was rebuilt. It has since been deemed unfit and sold for dismantling.

Saskatchewan Wheat Pool **Estlin**

Names of Agents

A. H. Isfeld — August 1, 1926 to December 21, 1929
C. Inglis — December 21, 1929 to July 31, 1933
B. M. Houston — August 1, 1933 to June 16, 1938
H. S. Smith — June 16, 1938 to August 1, 1938
B. M. Houston — August 1, 1938 to June 5, 1939
W. G. Bradley — June 5, 1939 to August 1, 1939
B. M. Houston — August 1, 1939 to July 17, 1943
A. Carlson — July 17, 1943 to July 27, 1943
G. E. McNabb — July 27, 1943 to May 5, 1950
J. N. Kearns — May 5, 1950 to November 17, 1952
B. M. Houston — November 17, 1952 to January 2, 1953
J. N. Kearns — January 2, 1953 to June 30, 1954
A. J. Morgan — July 1, 1954 to September 10, 1956
R. J. Watson — September 10, 1956 to November 13, 1956
R. L. Wallin — November 13, 1956 to November 17, 1960
F. A. Coppicus — November 24, 1960 to July 31, 1965
Frank Paul Sotkowy — August 1, 1965 to December 30, 1974
Frank William Coghlin — December 31, 1974 to July 6, 1979
Donald Reed — July 6, 1979 to September 4, 1980
Estlin elevator sold to Pioneer Grain September 4, 1980

History of Grand View Methodist Church (1906-1937)

by Edith Frisk

The story of a church is that of many persons working together in good faith, each making his or her contribution through Worship, Work and Witness. Estlin's Church roots are from the early settlers in 1906 when the seventeen Boyles arrived from Ontario to form a "Boyle settlement" in the area that became Estlin, when the railroad came through in 1911-12. It all began when the families gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Joel Boyle for worship services. This group of ardent pioneers planned their church building in early 1906, to be built on a lot given to them by C. W. Williams. He owned Section 23 and the location of the church was on the corner of the NW quarter of Section 23-15-19-W2nd, two miles north of Estlin.

At the quarterly official board meeting of the Weardale circuit, Aug. 14, 1906, at the home of Mr. Hockley, Mr. Joel Boyle reported that work on Grand View church was progressing favourably. Members of the board present were Messrs. Joel Boyle, Dave Boyle, I. J. DeBoice, S. Burgess, Andrew Shane. Appropriations for the charge were \$60 for Weardale; \$50 for Grand View; and \$50 for Camden, making a total of \$160. The Rev. G. G. Hacker was the young minister and his salary per year was \$350. Money for "horse keep" was to be deducted from the \$160 raised on the field. Stewards appointed at a later meeting were Messrs. Joel Boyle, Richard Boyle, E. B. Moats for Grand View; David Boyle, Jr., I. J. DeBoice, John Irwin for Weardale; A. Shane, S. Burgess and Wesley McGill for Camden.

On May 10, 1907, the report of the quarterly board meeting shows there were 49 members in the Weardale circuit. Thirty of these had been received in the past year. With the addition of Kronau to the circuit, Mr. Hart was steward. Meetings for this year were signed by R. J. Edmiston, Supt. of Min.

New stewards appointed for Grand View during the year 1908 were Messrs. W. Roberts and Fred Jenkins, the minister was Rev. R. J. Ridley; Mr. John Irwin was recording secretary. A later minister during this year was Rev. Geo. Cook. Kronau left the charge and Newton School is on the list, but was active for one year only. Rev. A. Hodgkins became pastor.

Records for the years 1909 and 1910 show Rev. Allen was minister, then Rev. F. W. Whitworth. The salary for a single probation minister was \$500; in the case of a single ordained man the salary was \$700 annually. Mr. James Watson was appointed as a new steward for Grand View.

In 1911 the minister's salary was \$750 less horse

keep. Stewards from Grand View were Dr. Fred Jenkins and Mr. Dave Runkle. The Grand View Ladies Aid had a membership of nine; Mrs. Amy Watson Runkle was church organist.

At an early meeting in 1912 at Weardale School ballots were distributed, known as Ballot number one, on the question: "Are you in favour of a union between Methodist, Presbyterian and Congregational denominations?" At a later meeting Mr. Dave Runkle was the steward present and ladies attending were Mrs. F. Jenkins, Mrs. D. Runkle, Mrs. I. Boyle and Mrs. Dave Boyle. Rev. Hartman was the minister. "In the matter of the division of the district, it was moved by Mr. Smith of Richardson and seconded by Mr. D. Boyle of Weardale that Richardson, Kronau and Weardale be one circuit and Grand View, Williams and South Regina be another, and that a resolution to that effect be forwarded to the next district meeting at Indian Head."

In the spring of 1913, April 5, a resolution appeared in the minutes: "Resolved that the Grand View appointment be welcomed on the Richardson circuit in case such a move becomes necessary and that an ordained minister be stationed on the circuit if the above change takes place." S. R. Byles was minister. A later meeting in August records G. W. Hinds as pastor. By November 18, 1913, Grand View was called "Estlin Methodist Church". It had been

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

— OF —

Richardson Circuit

For the Year ending May
15th, 1916



PASTOR:

REV. AUBREY W. INGRAM

STEWARDS:

RICHARDSON—MR. S. T. BURGESS
MR. C. KYLE
MR. T. F. SMITH

WEARDALE—MR. I. J. DEBOICE
MR. V. E. KARTMAN

ESTLIN—MR. DAVID BOYLE
MR. DAVID RUNKLE

moved into the new village of Estlin and had been refurbished. Further plans were in progress for a new parsonage at Richardson.

The board of stewards at the February 16, 1914, meeting sent a request to Conference for an ordained married man from now on — for all time.

Rev. and Mrs. A. W. Ingram were here for the August 14, 1915 meeting. At the May 1, 1916, meeting Rev. Ingram reported various problems with the parsonage. He reported the Ladies Aid strong at all points and Red Cross work occupying the ladies' time and energy these World War I years.

Minutes of the August 14, 1917, meeting recorded Rev. A. W. Keeton as minister. In November the official board began planning to build a church at Richardson. It was built and dedicated in 1926. The Ladies Aid was reported strong at all points and Red Cross work was still occupying the ladies' time and energy. A list of church members showed Richardson with 43, Estlin with 15 and Weardale with eight. There was a possibility that Kronau would join the circuit.

An official board meeting held at Estlin Church, May 9, 1918, reports Epworth League activities. Stewards elected were J. T. Webster and James Watson. Richardson reports all plans for a new church suspended until after the war. Later in the year an influenza epidemic halted all public activities.

After much discussion and consideration Weardale School church service was discontinued the second Sunday in January, 1919. A committee in each appointment was named to deal with the matter of returned soldiers and all matters relating to the Army and Navy Board. Rev. Mr. Blewett and Mrs. Rose Blewett came in July, 1919. Estlin stewards were Mr. D. Runkle, Mrs. W. Roberts; Weardale stewards Mrs. E. E. Frisk and Mr. Kartman.

The minister's salary in 1920 was \$1800. Estlin stewards were T. J. Webster and Walter Spicer. Appropriation: Richardson \$900: Estlin \$500: Weardale \$400.

In 1922 Mrs. Dorcas Marean replaced Mr. Walter Spicer on the church board. Other board members were Mr. and Mrs. Cleveland, Mr. Cameron, Mr. Marean and Miss Bambrick, the Boyle School teacher.

Mr. Potruff, a student minister, came in 1923; Rev. and Mrs. Arthur Cross came after he left. Plans went forward to build a church in Richardson.

This was the time of church Union, when in 1925 the Methodist, Presbyterian and Congregational Churches united under the United Church of Canada. There were many new rules and regulations.

Richardson had by now raised \$3000 for the new church. Estlin reported all obligations paid up for the

<u>Expenditure</u>	
1/3 Taxes on Parsonage and Telephone #	30. —
Church Budget in Allow. #50. — Salary #110. —	160. —
Garden parties	24.14
Bequest	23.65
Carpeting during 1924	5. —
Social Evening coffee and Carpeting	2.50
Rose Social " " " "	3.60
Coal and kindling	6.30
Church Newsboard (Lumber and screws)	1.70
Repairing Churchroom Lumber and nails	6.70
Printing outfit 1/2 share	2.50
Jeccreum Discher	2. —
Spurry for funeral of Wm. McIliver serv.	2.50
Material for Spurry Bequest	21.15
Total expenditure #	291.74
Bank Balance	125. —
Cash on hand	5.06
Total Receipts #	421.80

Mrs. P. Giesberger Sec. Treas.

year and some bills for the preceding year had been met. The Ladies Aid had carried the heavier part of the load which caused Mrs. E. E. Frisk to exclaim in the minutes, "God bless our Ladies Aid!" Rev. A. J. Belton became the new minister Aug. 6, 1926, at \$1800 per year.

In 1928 the Kronau congregation was reduced to so few they decided to drop out, and Pilot Butte took their place, assuming Kronau's financial responsibilities. The next year Rev. A. J. Belton announced his retirement. Mrs. Frisk resigned after nine years of service as recording steward. Rev. W. J. Dixon became the new minister. Within the year Pilot Butte dropped out to join Balgonie and Newton. Richardson and Estlin set up their own circuit. Mrs. Dorcas Marean was elected recording steward and remained active for many years of faithful service. Rev. Walter Ward replaced Rev. Dixon in 1934.

In 1936 there was yet another circuit change, and Estlin was joined to Rosemont, St. James and Wascana churches in Regina. This proved to be quite unsatisfactory for everyone concerned, and in 1937 Estlin joined with Gray and Riceton. This was (and is) known as the Riceton charge as the arrangement continues to this day.

Pioneer men and women built Grand View — Estlin Church with wisdom and Faith, and worked with courage through many hardships so that suc-

ceeding generations could enjoy the fruit of their labours. The generations that followed have kept faith with their forefathers. They have kept Estlin church in good repair, moved it twice to better, more accessible sites and nourished its vital force in their lives and in the community.

Though only a few names have been mentioned to give this brief history of the early years credibility, there are many many more men and women who served and are serving, faithfully and diligently, over the past 77 years. Some may have been in the community only a few years, while others have worked all their lives serving in the church and community. Let us give them all honor and respect due for a great task well done for the benefit of all, and for the glory of God.

The Estlin Church

by Clyde Marean

What a struggle the early pioneers had in financing and building the church and keeping it operating! The distance between Richardson, Estlin and Weardale was great as there were no motor cars. Winter weather brought its own problems. It was often difficult to arrange times of services that were satisfactory to everyone, and problems could arise over a multitude of other little details. Sometimes congregations had to be satisfied with services on alternate Sundays.

Weardale School seemed to be the main centre for the meetings of the early Church Board. In spite of crop failures, the church survived and has supplied a great service to the community for the worship of God and for fellowship and recreation. The Church, with its various organizations, has been a source of strength and has made life easier and more meaningful. In the thirties an active Young People's group supplied the main recreation for the young people of the district. The Ladies Aid served meals at Sports Days and put on social evenings, and for many years helped out with the church finances. Recorded in the minutes of one of the Church Board meetings is, "God bless the Ladies Aid!"

The church building itself has been moved several times from its first location in the country. A brick basement was put under it and a kitchen installed, but this proved unsatisfactory as it caved in. After the Carson tinsmith shop was torn down, it was moved to its present location beside the original Pioneer Elevator house.

The building itself contains various gifts from people of the community: the Bible, collection plates and memorial communion table, as well as the hymn books. Our good organ and comfortable pews are a source of pride to us all. The large cross in front, and

the picture of the Last Supper were also donated and were welcome additions.

The Honour Roll hangs on the wall, the cradle roll has been kept up to date, and a plaque acknowledging gifts to the Memorial Fund has been hung.

Our church is a small, plain black and white building — but it has played a very important part in the history of Estlin.

Summary of the History of Estlin United Church

by Clyde Marean



Estlin Church.

1906 Grand View (Estlin) Church under construction on NW quarter Sec. 23-15-19-W2nd.

1907 Minister's salary \$400, plus \$60 for horse upkeep. Weardale School seemed to be the main meeting place for the circuit. Estlin originally known as Boyle settlement. Weardale, Camden, Grand View and Kronau formed the original circuit — John Irwin was the original Recording Steward.

1909 Minister's salary \$900, financing the church was a big problem in those days. Meetings held quarterly.

1912 Ballots were distributed concerning union of Presbyterian, Congregationalist, and Methodist churches. Estlin was with South Regina for a time but this proved unsatisfactory.

1913 Church moved to hamlet of Estlin — Mrs. Amy Runkle organist.

1914 Plans for a parsonage at Richardson discussed; estimated cost \$800. Later contract price \$2350; stable to be built by volunteer labour.

1915 Financial report printed — cost \$30. People listed: Stewards — Estlin: Boyle, Runkle; Weardale: DeBoice, Kartman; Richardson: Burgess, Kyle.

1916 Minister's salary \$1100. Envelope system of contributions begun. Parsonage paid for and in good condition.

1918 Methodist Hymnal suggested. Bad weather caused trouble for the Sunday School and Epworth League (Youth group of Methodist Church). Influenza epidemic caused inactivity of Sunday School.

1919 Weardale circuit closed January 2. Special committee to deal with returned soldiers.

1922 Mrs. Marean on the board; Mrs. Frisk (1919-1929) recording steward. Salary — Richardson to pay half; Estlin and Weardale to split the other half.

1923 Services in Kronau began. Stewards borrowed \$500 to start Mr. Potruff in housekeeping. Prominent names in old church minutes: Runkle, Watson, Boyle, Jenkins, Dunbar. Salary \$1500.

1924 Circuit had a good year. Parsonage taxable even if it was church property.

1925 Church Union became United Church of Canada.

1926 Richardson raised \$3000 for new church. Estlin met their obligation with the help of the Ladies Aid. The minutes record that service times were always a problem — Estlin and Kronau had alternate Sundays. A big hail storm caused financial problems, and a \$500 grant was requested from Home Missions. Anti-liquor resolution (on sale of beer and wine by the glass).

1930 Active young people's group in Estlin — it was the main entertainment. Led by Rev. Dixon.

1934 Rev. Ward took over. Active CGIT camps were held, first in Marean's trees later at Elsaesser's.

1936 A basement for the church was discussed. Church meetings were often dinner meetings. The basement was to cost \$200. Insurance from the barn was to be used.

1937 Rev. Lloyd was the minister. The organ was in need of repair. Edith Marean was the organist, Mrs. Runkle the assistant. Pete Jasper was on the basement committee.

1939 Building fund was closed — all bills having been paid. The annual meeting took the form of a pot luck supper in the new basement. Orval Lewis was organist; Beryl Clarke choir leader.

1940 Annual meeting still taking form of pot luck lunch. Rev. F. F. Malcolm resigned so that he could accept nomination for MLA. Piano bought for \$80, salary increased \$60.

1942 Rev. Watts the minister — salary increased \$21.

1945 Hymnary discussed. Rev. Wilson in charge. Basement problems.

1946 Mrs. Marean re-elected secretary.

1948 Don Lewars, secretary. Dr. Passmore, minister.

1949 Church to be moved to J. Frizzel lot — its present location. Basement built — \$4181.93 raised by canvass.

1950 Average attendance at Sunday School — 32; at church 50. Salary increased to \$3000. Mrs. Girsberger was given special thanks for her years as secretary.

1952 Dr. Passmore resigned because of wife's poor health. A new organ was purchased — \$1080 raised, cost of organ \$1344. Rev. Dunnett became the minister.

1956 Rev. Dr. Thomas took over. Dorothy Lewis assistant organist.

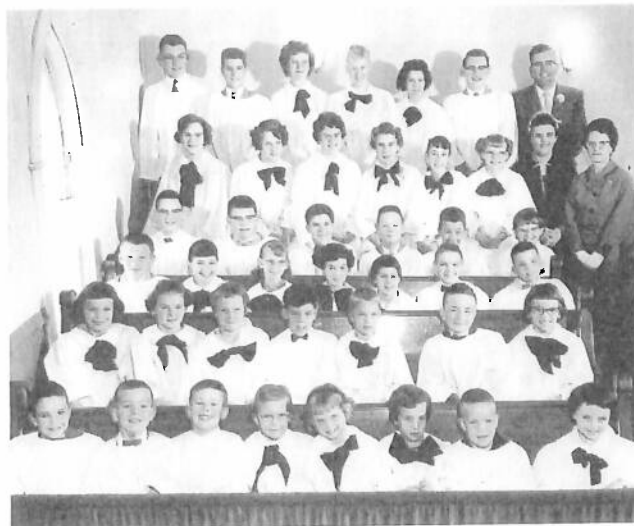
1958 Don Lewars' resignation as secretary accepted — with thanks for 10 years of service.

1959 Couple's Club begun by Dr. Passmore, continued.

1959 Rev. Banks the minister. Couple's Club, Tyros, CGIT, Explorers all active. The church records were stored in a metal box made by Ike Carson.

1960 Minister, Rev. Banks; Chairman, Wallace Clarke; Secretary, Millie Myers.

1961 Minister, Mr. Brian Calquhoun. A gun-type burner installed in furnace to avoid furnace blow-up and provide more efficient heat.



Estlin Choir, approx. 1959.

1962 Board of Stewards: Carl Webster, Orval Lewis, Russell Clarke, Clyde Marean. Organist: Dorothy Lewis; Assistant: Orval Lewis. Building of a new church was discussed.

1963 Discussion of church insulation. Many active groups: CGIT, Sigma C, Explorers, Couples Club. 50th Anniversary picnic at Wascana Park. Secretary of the Board: Bob Beaumont; Assistant Chairman: Sheldon Gooding.

1964 Chairman: Sheldon Gooding; Secretary: Dewey Dunbar. Manse at Riceton under discussion.

1967 Active Hi-C group under Mr. Calquhoun. New organist needed.

1968 Organists: Arlene Phillips and Marnie McQuoid.

1969 Large Carol Service put on by choir, organist and young people.

1970 Minister: Mr. Laird White

1972 Church had a Ski-doo Sunday. Sheldon Gooding retired as Chairman, succeeded by Wilbert Bonsor.

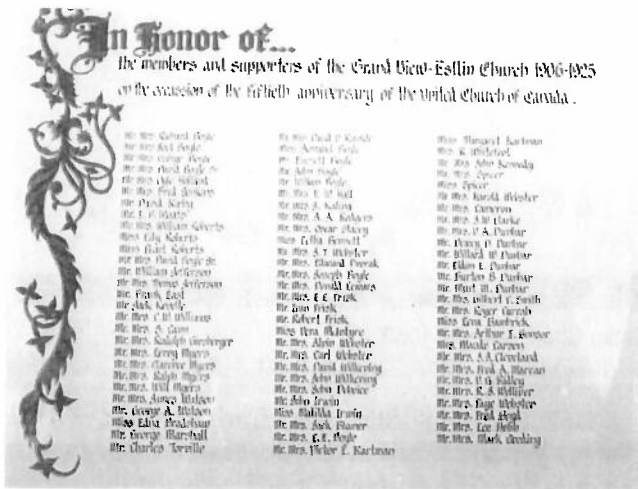
1973 New church carpet installed. Manse repainted.

1974 New cross supplied and installed by Jim McQuoid.

1975 Annual meeting held at Wilbert Bonsor's home. Memorial Plaque established.



Fiftieth Anniversary at Estlin with Pastor Laird White.



Commemorative scroll presented to the Estlin Church on the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Church of Canada.

1975 It is the fiftieth year since the United Church was established. A Celebration Birthday Service was held in the Church with the crowd overflowing to the steps. Luncheon served to all in school following services, complete with two birthday cakes. Silver spoons presented to all present who were members or adherents before union. A large commemorative scroll presented to church with names of members and adherents from 1906-1925.

1976 Estlin Sports Day on Sunday so church services should be flexible. Estate of Dewey Dunbar

supplied paint for exterior of church, labour being volunteer.

1977 Suggestion of closing the church made, but decision was to carry on. Windows repaired and Mactac put on by Orval and Elva Lewis. Bob Beaumont succeeded Wilbert Bonsor as chairman.

1978 Discussion of sale of lot south of the church. Bob Beaumont, Chairman; Wilbert Bonsor Co-chairman.

1979 Winter church services discussed — decision to play things by ear. Going to Gray no hardship for most people.

1980 Chairman: Willis Clay

1982 Minister: Sharon Davies. Suggestion is made to go to Gray for winter services as so many of the congregation will be away.

A Mighty River Be

by the Rev. F. Passmore, minister 1949-1952

There is a river the streams whereof make glad the city of God.

Psalm 46:4

I

Three streams did flow. One source alone they knew.

The water met. A mighty river grew;
A living channel of God's power and grace;
Mirrored therein the light upon His face.
Churches, united in the love of God,
Now found as one, ways that the Master trod.
They sought the living Truth that makes men free;
Thus one became more than the sum of three.
A fellowship of life and love, not fame,
Made known to all men through her very name.

II

Uniting — yes — new bonds 'twixt East and West,
The South and North linked in the endless quest;
Responding to the deepest needs of man,
In Canada, in China, in Japan.
Then let our praise arise, this prayer ascend,
To Him Whose love constrained us to this end.
"O may the Church we love forever be
Steadfast in faith, bulwark of liberty,
Friend of the fallen, guide of the perplexed,
Refuge in storm, comfort for souls sore vexed.
Where wrong discerned — a passion for the right,
Where darkness felt — a pure and searching light,
If war clouds rise — the star that heralds peace,
Midst fires of hate — the love that does not cease.
So bring her sons a self-forgetting task;
Bestowing gifts beyond man's power to ask;
Thus shall our Church a mighty river be,
Where grows the tree of life, yielding so free
Those leaves by which all nations healed are

Through Christ our Head, the Bright and Morning Star.”

A History of Women in the Estlin Church by Marnie McQuoid

The Estlin Church has had a Womens Organization since it's organizational meeting on June 28, 1911, which was held in the church (then known as Grand View Church). It was called the Ladies Aid Society of Grand View Church, and had five charter members: Mrs. Cann, Mrs. Charles Boyle, Mrs. F. L. Jenkins, Mrs. Roy Myers and Mrs. D. V. Runkle. The pastor, Rev. Whitworth, acted as chairman of the meeting, and Mrs. Runkle as secretary pro tem.

The following officers were elected:

President — Mrs. Runkle, Vice-President — Mrs. Jenkins, Secretary — Mrs. Roy Myers, Treasurer — Mrs. Dave Boyle.

Mrs. Abrey became an honorary member for the ensuing term of six months.

Age limit was set from fifteen to one hundred years. Dues were set at ten cents per month, although initiation fee was twenty-five cents. Their pledge, which was signed by the following fourteen members, read as follows:

“As a member of the Ladies Aid Society of Grand View Church, I promise to do all that I can to further the interests of that church; to attend the meetings of the Society whenever possible; to assist in its work to

the best of my ability, and to do all in my power to promote a spirit of harmony and good fellowship in the community.”

Signed: Mrs. D. V. Runkle, Mrs. F. L. Jenkins, Mrs. R. Myers, Mrs. R. Girsberger, May Peacey, Edna Bradshaw, Hazel Bradshaw, Mrs. D. Boyle, Ella Boyle, Annabelle Boyle, Mrs. W. H. Myers, Mrs. J. Kalina, Mrs. B. H. Watson, Mrs. G. W. Hinds.

I will not, hereafter, mention any further names in this account of “Women in the Estlin Church”, as it would be formidable reading. Suffice it to say that every lady of the district gave willingly of her time — not only with helping with the work of the organization, but taking their turn as serving on its executive as well.

Their first social evening, in 1913, planned by the Society, consisted of seventeen numbers: readings, dialogues, solos, girl's chorus, “the orchestra”, and a stand up black-face routine. Life being hard, under trying circumstances, this must have been enjoyed and a great relief from the every-day drudgery. The first Christmas program was held December 22, 1915, consisting of 24 numbers — the only piano in the district being sleighed to the Church for the occasion.

In May of 1921 a meeting of the Estlin community was called to organize a “Society”. They chose the new name of Women's Auxiliary, and had three objectives:



Estlin Ladies Aid 1923. Standing Back, L. to R.: Mrs. Maude Carson, ?, Mrs. Malinda Clarke, Mrs. Kartman, ?, ?, Mrs. Berniece Webster, Mr. Pottruff (minister), ?, Mrs. Alice Clarke, Mrs. J. T. Webster, ?, Mrs. Mabel Heffernan, Mrs. Dorcas Marean, Mrs. Roy Welliver, Miss Laura Beattie, Mrs. Louise Wilkie. 2nd Row: Mrs. Stella Webster, ?, Mrs. Irene Webster, ?, Mrs. Emma Girsberger, Mrs. Walter Spicer, Mrs. Florence Cleveland, ?, Edith Marean, Jack Heffernan. Seated 3rd Row: Arthur Kartman, Eileen Carson, Ward Heffernan, Ivan Ridley, Frances Webster, ?, Edward Carson, ?, Ruby Kyle, Rhoda Ridley, behind her May Kartman, Edith Clarke, ?, in front of her Wallace Clarke, Baby, Ila Welliver, Girl.

1. To be concerned for the welfare of the children of the community.
2. To look after Church affairs.
3. To promote the social aspect of the community.

It was passed at that meeting that financial aspects of the Auxiliary be of least importance, with more emphasis being spent on community and social affairs. By this time Estlin boasted a beautiful Grain Growers Hall where their meetings were now held, so the women decided they would have two meetings a month; one was to be only business, the second to be strictly social with refreshments. Twenty members joined that day, but year's end showed they had thirty members on the roll. Their intention was to **not** stress the importance of money, an aspiration of the highest order, but the minutes following are full of ideas on how to make money to meet the church's needs! Ah Life! — we still have these aspirations today, but our minutes deal mainly with the same necessary evil. One of the humorous motions of that same day, which passed unanimously, was "that we buy our own coal and put it under lock and key" — it sounds as if they were being put upon in this regard!

Those were the days of the opulent lunches, and I will quote from minutes of the following year on a motion of adjournment, as: "all were willing, as already tantalizing odors of tea and coffee were drifting in from the kitchen, but this only proved to be the preliminaries to a very dainty repast which attested to the thoughtfulness of the hostess to women's especial tastes in particular."

In 1923 a meeting was called for the purpose of organizing two societies, one for the sole purpose of keeping up the Church, the other for community work in general. The former was called the Estlin Ladies Aid, and the latter, The Estlin Ladies Community Club (a forerunner of the Homemakers).

In 1924 the Aid moved to have their meetings the fourth Wednesday of the month (and in 1983 that is still our meeting date). They decided to house-clean the church the week prior to Mother's Day (we're still doing that too. Sometimes when I am down on my knees waxing the floor, or polishing the pews, I wish I would remember that my Mother was doing the same thing many years ago, to the same floors and the same pews. Maybe then my perspective would be a little different!).

The Aid purchased new pews in 1926 (total cost \$400), and from the minute book one of the members said she would "donate two collection plates in unfinished wood and stain them to match the pews." Later, however, "she changed her mind and got oak plates with a plush center, which are very nice indeed."

In 1927 the fourth Vice-President of the Executive Committee of Regina Presbyterial gave a talk on Women's work, and the ladies adopted a program of educational studies for educational purposes.

In 1928 they bought a new pump organ (\$240 less \$35 on the old one), and a new heater for the church. Membership was thirty with ten to twelve visitors. There is a lengthy (and touching) address written into the 1931 minutes on the retirement of the President



Estlin Ladies Aid Group Approx. 1927. Back Row, L. to R.: Mrs. V. A. Dunbar, Mrs. Rody Girsberger, Mrs. Fred Marean, Mrs. Katie Goodman, Mrs. Bess Myers, Mrs. Dave Wilkening, Mrs. Baumgardener, ?, Mrs. Clarence Myers (and Rita), Mrs. Maude Carson. Centre Row, Seated, L. to R.: Grandma Marean, Mrs. C. Beaumont, Mrs. Frizzel, Mrs. Wm. Williams, Mrs. J. Revill, ?, Mrs. Belle Welliver, Mrs. Koons, Grandma Clarke Beattie. Front Row, L. to R.: Minister's wife, Mrs. Lister, Mrs. Clarke, Edith Marean, Marj Marean, Dorothy Jefferson, Doris Myers, Rita Jefferson, Moreen Koons, Mrs. Tina Ridley.

and Secretary: "It is the express desire of the Estlin Ladies Aid Society that we convey to you this message of gratitude and appreciation we feel is due you for your untiring efforts put forth on our behalf during your two year term of office as President and Secretary of this organization. Your patience, fortitude and strength have been an inspiration to every member. Your unassuming and quiet ways have won the admiration of all. So we take this opportunity to thank you for the precious moments given us of your busy lives. They have not been in vain; you have been laying up treasures in Heaven and shall bear fruit unto eternal life." Not only that, each executive member upon retirement received a gift of quality — crystal vase, leather purse, linen cloth, etc. It is noteworthy in the minutes of September, 1939, the following resolution presented by the executive of the day, that "the present undersigned members of your executive have resolved and agreed to the following: that for as long as we may hold office and upon our retirement we ask you as members of our Society to discontinue the practise of presenting us with gifts, for reasons we consider obvious in our day of conflict and distress." (We have only broken this rule once since then, when we presented our Treasurer with a gift for faithful and superior service after twenty years. It will soon be thirty, and we will no doubt break it again).

In 1937, in the midst of the depression, the men of the community put a basement under the church — the original settlers were suffering from cold feet in the winter, not to mention cold all over if the heater was balky! A special banquet was prepared by the ladies for the men who had helped, to thank them for all their work — most especially for the kitchen they had designed and built. The ladies held a kitchen

shower to stock its needs, but there is great discussion over when they will be able to purchase a large dishpan (\$1.45) and tea kettle (\$1.05)!!



Top Row, Standing: Mrs. Bud Williams, Mrs. V. A. Dunbar, Mrs. Fred Marean, Mrs. Ross Williams — a visitor, Mrs. W. W. Dunbar and Leeta, Fern Betcher, Mrs. Hattie Kennedy, Mrs. Gib Smith, Mrs. A. A. Rodgers — a visitor from Winnipeg, Marjorie Marean, Ina Mae Marean, Mrs. Alex Cain, Mrs. D. V. Runkle. Bottom Row, Seated: Mrs. J. W. Clarke (pres.), Mrs. Edith Frisk and June, Mrs. Maude Carson, Mrs. Joe Kalina, Mrs. Black and Arlene Dunbar, Mrs. Merle Smith, Mrs. C. P. Ross, Stella Boyd, Helen Boyd, Mrs. Eldon Dunbar, Mona Black, Eileen Carson. Ladies Aid Reunion July, 1939.

In 1940 a fund was started for a piano for the church and during these war years relief monies were sent to the Red Cross, Russia, Greece, China and India to help in their time of distress. This they did as well as their regular allocations.

1946 saw yet another name change as they now are called the Estlin Women's Association. Once again the church is moved — to a more central part of town as POWER was coming — and you guessed it, the W.A. paid for it. Not only that, they helped with the purchase of a new Hammond electric organ, tiling of the floors, carpeting the center aisle and nave of church, and bought a vacuum cleaner. They landscaped the grounds with their husbands gladly (?) digging, and paid for the shrubbery planted.

The Estlin Church celebrated its 50th anniversary July 1, 1956 — and a festive occasion it was, with as many former members and adherents in attendance as possible, and with the large community Estlin had become, it was a huge and happy day.

In January, 1961 the W.A. members listened to a local church board member, as well as the minister, explain the changes that were coming to pass with regard to United Church womens' organizations. In November, 1961, at the Annual meeting, it was moved, seconded and carried that we be known as "the United Church Women". Our membership roll at that time lists seventeen members. Committees as outlined in the new handbook were named and members appointed to serve on same. Over the interven-



Ladies Aid Reunion July, 1939. Top Row, Standing: Mrs. Carl Webster, Mrs. Harold Webster, Mrs. O. Ducey ?, Norma McElmon, Gwen McElmon, Marian Clarke, Doris Myers, Gladys Dvorak, Iva Beattie, Rose Lafoy, Mrs. Bouey. Bottom Row, Seated: Mrs. Frizzel, Mrs. Dick Boyle, Mrs. S. Cann, Grandma Beattie, Mrs. (Rev.) Ward, Mrs. Roy Myers, Mrs. Laura Wall, Mrs. Ralph Myers, Mrs. J. J. Cleveland, Edith Marean.



Ladies Aid Group.

ing years, due to smaller membership, some committees have been combined or dropped, but the useful work goes on as before.

I don't think anyone could think of a money-making scheme that this group has not tried over the



Estlin ladies in rink kitchen — Irene Webster, June Frisk, Marnie McQuoid, Vera Clarke, Bertha Gooding, Evelyn Drew, Doris Myers, Marian Cleveland, Milly Myers. Foreground — Betty Black.

years, but allocations have been met and new and needy charities added. They also tried many ingenious ways to garner new members, their most successful hope being a spring potluck luncheon, to which they hoped to ensnare a few new members. This ruse never did have the desired effect, but the idea has been incorporated ever since, because they all plain enjoyed it!

For many years they have had a Fathers' Day Brunch, held after church, to honour their long-suffering husbands. It is always successful and much appreciated.

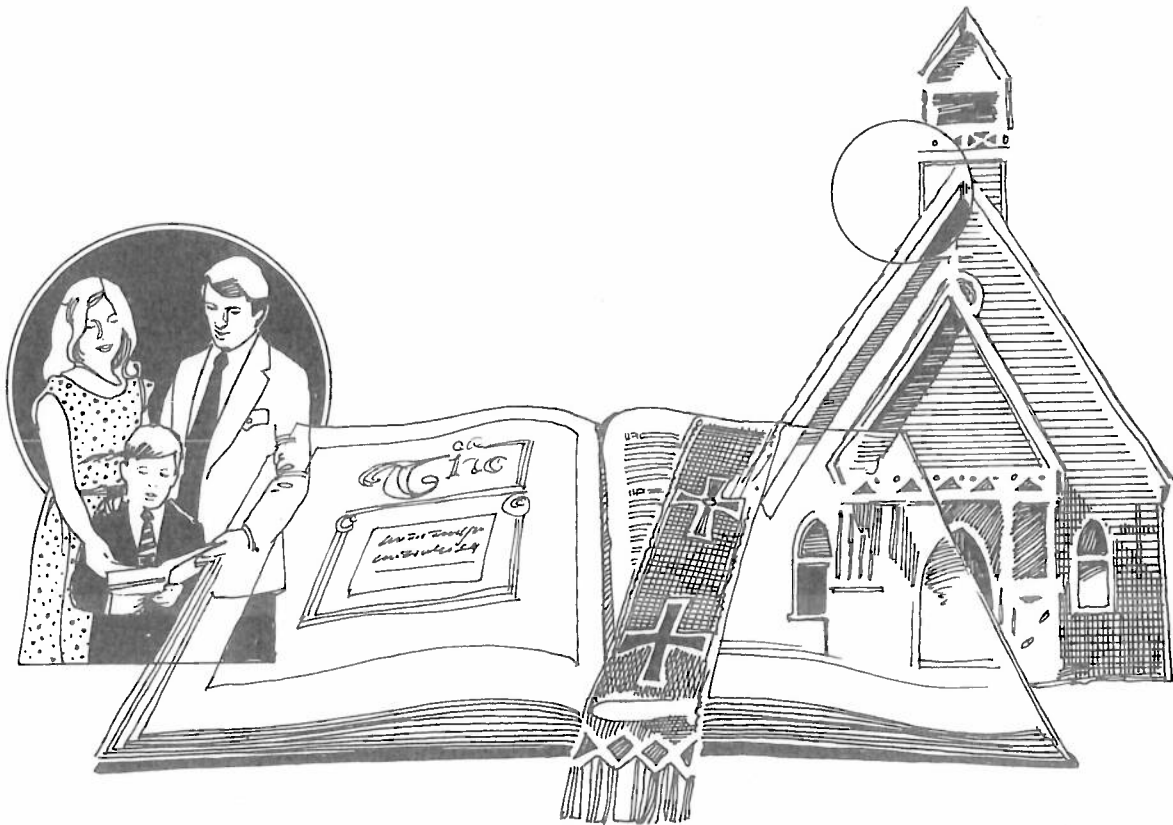
An Easter lily has been purchased for the last 35 years for the Easter Service, after which it is presented to a shut-in, a bereaved family or one of our prized senior members.

Because Estlin is in such close proximity to Regina Presbyterial it is unusual if there are not a few members at each Rally, several having served, and presently serving on the Executive. Study packs have been used extensively, and any new project they have been asked to assist with has been willingly complied with. I think, however, their assistance with used clothing has been outstanding in the tonnage they have given. Some of our members made literally hundreds of pieces of new childrens' clothing from pieces left over from their own sewing, or purchased on the rummage tables.

I suppose one might say the women of the Estlin Church haven't done anything really wonderful or spectacular, not in nearly eighty years, but how come we are always so busy and involved with that little church built back in 1906?

This is a somewhat lengthy resumé of the Estlin women in their church. I would be remiss, however, if I did not mention as well, all of the women in this community who so willingly and ably helped us when we needed it, whether they were members of the existing church society, or members of a different Faith. They have always cheerfully and ably assisted us whenever we asked them, or wherever there was a need. And we thank them again.

For 72 years there has been an active womens' group to aid and assist in any way. But we had such wonderful examples set for us by those dedicated and hard-working ladies who started it all — it is a shame we cannot all be their carbon copies. They were amazing in their Faith, their hard work and their gaiety. I don't remember the hard times as being "hard" — it seemed as if those ladies were working over-time in thinking up ways to have fun — at box or pie socials, at their meetings, in their chatter before and after church, in the home. I would hope our children will remember us that way, and times have been good for us. They were dedicated in their study,



in their generous gifts to every cause in need, in their responsibility in taking office, in working for the good of the community but not at the expense of their home.

I hope we have not failed them.

The following poem was written by one of our early settlers following a summer reunion of all Ladies' Aid members in 1938. I think it fitting to include it here.

The Estlin Ladies' Aid
by Mrs. Margaret E. Beattie

The Ladies' Aid are a bunch of live wires
Made up of the kind who never tires.
Up in the morning with the lark,
Working from morning until after dark.
They held a Reunion this last summer,
I'm telling you it proved a hummer.
Old members poured in from every direction,
Each receiving a hearty reception.
Grand letters were read from each old friend
Who found it impossible to attend.
Then to the basement they did repair
A sumptuous banquet awaited them there.
Then they were asked to take their places
Where the camera man could snap their faces.

The pictures turned out without a break
Making for all a treasured keepsake.
Now if you don't belong to the Ladies' Aid
Better get busy and join the parade.
For they are going to make it sporty
When they enter into nineteen-forty.

Youth Groups in Estlin Church
by Arlene (Dunbar) Phillips
The Estlin Young People's Society

This group was organized November 2, 1930 at



Rody Girsberger — partial group of Trail Rangers — Estlin & Gray 1932 at Lumsden Beach.

the Estlin United Church. The minister was Mr. Dixon. The first executive consisted of Roy Stewart, President; Edith Clarke, Secretary; and Rita Jefferson, Treasurer. The age restriction was from 15 to 35 years. Anyone over that age would be considered an associate member and anyone younger was welcome to participate. All faiths were welcome. Meetings were held on Saturday and Sunday evenings alternately. The collection varied from one dollar to three dollars. The group was divided into two and each took turns putting on a program at meetings, consisting of lectures, debates or just entertainment.

In 1932 a play was put on at Carson's Hall (which had a rental fee of four dollars including heat and lights). The admission for adults was 25¢, which gives a good indication of the hard times.

This group helped support the Sunday School, paid for the minister's moving expense of \$18.75, donated to the Missionary Fund and other worthwhile causes. Several marriages were mentioned in the "Minutes" and each couple was given a chair for a wedding gift. A banquet was the highlight of the year and included toasts to the Queen and to the executive of the group.

An example of a program is copied from the Minute book: "Estlin Young People's Society held their first night meeting in the Boyle School, Sat. December 13, 1930, at 7:30 p.m., with Harold Webster's group in charge of the program for the evening. The meeting opened with "Old Black Joe" and "Old Folks at Home". The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved and roll was called. There were 32 members present of the 40 enrolled.

The social period of the meeting began with:

1. Solo — by Dorothy Runkle, 'The Barefoot Trail' accompanied by Mrs. Runkle.

2. Sketch — 'Married by the New Justice of the Peace' by Dewey Dunbar, Rhoda Ridley, Ken Gingell and Harry Girsberger.

3. Recitation — Clifford Webster, 'Grandmother's Kitchen'.

4. Piano solo — Vodden Snell

5. Song — 'Where Did You Get That Face?' by the Websters and the Dunbars.

6. Solo — Viola Hanna, 'The End of the Sunset Trail'.

7. Sketch — 'Heavy Showers' — Gerald Myers, Doris Myers, Mrs. Delyea, Stella Webster and Russell Clarke.

The ladies drew numbers for the men's boxes and lunch followed.

President — H. R. Stewart

Secretary — Edith W. Clarke."

In 1935 the group was re-organized, adding Bible Study groups and Bible questions. It was called "The

Young People's Student Union." Out of this club Russell Clarke became the president of the Regina Presbytery Y.P.U.'s for the years 1935, 1936 and 1937. Finally, in 1938 he became President of the Saskatchewan Young People's Union — attending the World Conference of Y.P.U.'s in Whitby, Ontario, in July, 1938. The meetings were held in the homes and offices were held by married couples. They started a fund to buy a piano and fix up the basement of the church. On October 19, 1941, a closing meeting was held and their remaining funds were given to the Sunday School.

This group was formed in hard times and through its programs and entertainment helped make the young people's lives more complete and could be used as a lesson in our time.

Couple's Club

The Couple's Club at Estlin was organized in 1945 by Dr. Passmore. It was a club for the young married people of the district. The meetings were religious and educational, but most of all they were fun. Each year they had a chicken barbeque, along with weiner roasts, concerts, pot-luck suppers and plays. The money they made from one play they performed in was used to buy hymn books for the Church.

The men starred in a "Leg Contest" and a "Fashion Show". Dancing lessons were organized by this group with a good number of the people in the community improving their dancing abilities. They organized recreational softball, in which everyone in the district took part. As the population of the community diminished, the club was discontinued in the late 1950's.

The Estlin C.G.I.T.

The Tucabatchee (meaning "All's well between you and me") group, as they were called, was organized November 19, 1929. The first leader was Edith Clarke. The president was Doris Myers and the secretary-treasurer was Marjorie Marean. Their name was of Indian origin, suggested by Mrs. Bess Myers. The C.G.I.T. "purpose" is: "As a Canadian Girl in Training, under the Leadership of Jesus, it is my purpose to cherish Health, seek Truth, know God, serve others and thus with God's help become the girl God would have me be."

They organized many different social events and money-making projects, such as bake sales and concerts. At their concerts they charged an admission of ten cents. Each year one girl was sent to Lumsden Beach to a church camp. Other years they camped at the farms of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Marean and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Elsaesser where they spent the weekend. Stella Webster was the den mother. This group was organized a second time with Marj Marean as leader.

Other leaders were Stella Webster, Vera Clarke and Maxine Beaumont. During Vera Clarke's leadership the girls donated a brass candelabra to the church.

Red Cross Society

The Red Cross at Estlin was organized in 1944 in order to make money for World War II relief. The first president was Mrs. A. McCrystal and the secretary was Paul Lambert. They raised money by canvassing, card parties, bingo, dances and other social events. The ladies did knitting for the war effort. This organization continued in action until 1947 when the war ended. Volunteers in the district are still canvassing each year for money to help with the worthy work of the Red Cross.

Estlin Explorers Group

by Evelyn Drew (leader)

At Estlin between the years 1963 to 1967, there



Estlin Explorers Group 1966. Front Row, L. to R.: Janice Salter, Marla Jefferson, Diane Phillips, Linda Phillips. Front Row: Laurie Salter, Marlene Gooding, Wanda Drew, Paula Sotkowsky, Margaret Marean, Yvonne Gooding.

was an Explorers group for girls eight to twelve years old. Although the group was affiliated with the United Church, it was interdenominational, and all of the girls of the community joined. Their nearly perfect attendance proved how enthusiastic they were.

The girls had uniforms and earned badges. They took part in Bible and mission study, and learned how to conduct their business meetings as the girls took turns being officers. Handcrafts were also enjoyed. Their meetings were held at the Estlin School.

One of the memorable occasions was the Mother and Daughter banquet which was held the final year when the girls graduated from this group.

Tyro and Sigma C Groups

by Evelyn Drew (leader)

In 1956 a group named Tyros was started at Estlin



Tyro and Sigma C Groups. Back Row, L. to R.: Wayne Clarke, Bill Costiuk, Tom Myers, Dwain Drew, Dale Cleveland. Centre Row: Evelyn Drew (leader), Brian Drew, John Clarke, Blaine Myers. Front Row: Warren Wallin, David Lewis, Marlin Pohjavuori. Members not present — Jim McQuoid, Donald Myers, Ken Costiuk.

for boys aged eight to eleven years, and these boys later moved on to form the Sigma C group for boys aged twelve to fifteen years.

They were very active and energetic members and used the excellent material put out for the department of Christian Education by the Canadian Council of Churches. Although there were lots of fun and sports included, it tried to help intermediate boys discover God's purpose for life, and his place in it.

In 1963 at a special meet in Lumsden for Sigma C groups, the Estlin boys won the trophy.

This group donated the Sunday School attendance board for the Estlin United Church.

Estlin Store

by Eldon Dunbar

My brother, Burton, and I owned and ran the Marquis Chain Store during the '30's. We bought it from a Mr. Hebb and after being in it for a year, a fire which also burned the Hall and the Lumber Yard, burned the store. The neighbours came in and carried all the groceries and stock out onto the street. The store was rebuilt and restocked. My parents, Volna and Maggie Dunbar, ran the oil business from the store and helped out in it. I remember issuing the seven dollar relief cheques during those years.

At the end of the '30's I sold the stock and rented the store to Mr. Godwin. I later sold the building to Mr. Leo Hill of Riceton, where it still stands.

LEADER Post - MAY 16/42

PRAIRIE POSTMASTER



Prairie Postmaster
Leader Post — May 16, 1942
sent in by daughter Eileen Carson Ried

Like the school teachers and the general merchants, real patriots are the postmasters in the prairie towns and at the crossroads.

Day after day, from their little offices which they

equip and maintain themselves, they provide a service of untold value to the rural people.

And financially, they get little thanks, their incomes dependent upon commissions from stamp sales or their contracts to carry the mails from the depot, or upon any little business they may have on the side.

Typical of these men (and there are many women, too) was I. T. Carson, postmaster of Estlin for 20 years.

Carson came from Toronto in 1911 and opened a tinsmith business at Gray, south of Regina. He wanted to live in the country because he liked the country and because it was quiet.

The fact that he was nearly killed three times hadn't changed his mind.

He was repairing furnace pipes once when a gasoline pot exploded, covering him from head to feet in flames. He jumped into a bed, pulled the covers over him and smothered the flames. It took 100 stitches to close scalp wounds the time some broncos trampled him. And the time he was run over by a binder after trying to stop a runaway his back was punctured eight times by the blades.

He moved into Estlin in 1917 with his tinsmith business — he still runs it and wishes people would either have more pots fixed or buy more stamps — and in 1922 he became postmaster. He invested \$200 in 53 mail boxes, set them up in the kitchen of his home and has since been carrying on a daily routine much the same as you see it in the pictures.

He meets the Regina-Weyburn gas-electric train on its two trips through Estlin each day except Sunday, puts a bag of mail on the train and takes off whatever there is for him. Then he goes back to his office and sorts it and the train whistle has hardly died away before people start to call. Centre left picture he chats with Earl Sanborn through the tiny wicket. Lower bottom, Grace Godwin, daughter of the storekeeper who is on service with the R.C.A.F., leaves the post office with a letter. Sometimes the children, like Maureen Bouey, third picture from left at bottom, call for the mail.

Through his little office, Postmaster Carson averages 100 letters and half a sack of parcels a day. When times get busy, at threshing or Christmas, Mrs. Carson, second picture from left at bottom, who is sworn in as an assistant postmistress, helps.

Running a post office runs in the Carson family. A daughter, Eileen, teaching at Emerald Hill school near Milestone, is also sworn in as an assistant, and so is a son, Private Edward Thomas Carson, who used to run the office at Tantallon, Sask., and who went overseas with the First Division in 1940 and is now attached to the Postal Corps in England.

There are other things to keep him busy, too — without remuneration — because in these days he must hand out the income tax forms, register people who become 16 years of age, handle gasoline ration applications and national defence tax forms.

But it's a quiet, peaceful life which provides a service to some 65 families in the district and a small

income to Postmaster Carson, who puts about 15 percent of it back into war savings certificates because he has a "son over there" and doesn't want him to "go short of anything".

In 20 years Postmaster Carson has only missed once in getting the mail on the train. That was back in 1925 when a mixed train ran on the line. It was supposed to go through at 5:30 p.m. to Regina, but was usually late. This particular trip it wasn't due until the following five a.m. Carson went to sleep while waiting. What woke him was the train whistling out of town.

So he threw the mail sack in a Model T he owned at the time, drove pell-mell the 17 miles into Regina and delivered the mail in person at the downtown post office.

"What's this?" a startled clerk asked him as he banged at the door.

"The mail from Estlin," said Carson.

"Well, where's the rest of it?" asked the clerk, referring to mail from other towns along the line.

"I don't know," said Carson. "Guess the train hasn't got here YET."



Sports at Estlin by Pauline Webster

Sport, as in many communities, played a big part in the lives of the early Estlin settlers. Many came from areas in the U.S.A. and Ontario bringing with them their love of baseball. The photo shows the



Estlin Ball Team taken, 1914. Back Row L. to R.: Dave Wilkening, John Wilkening, Russ Thompson, Alvin Webster. Front Row L. to R.: Jack Boyle, Everett Boyle, Bill Donnelly, Dave Runkle.

Estlin ball team of 1914. Some of the early players were Jack and Everett Boyle, Bill Donnelly, Kalina Brothers, Dave Runkle, Dave and John Wilkening and Alvin Webster. Main Pitcher — Fred Rodgers, catcher — Russ Thompson. Also at that time, Ross and Park Williams and Edgar Petersmeyer (Sr.) with their hired help formed a team. These two teams played competitively and at sports days until the early 1920's. Bud Williams took over the Williams' team, coaching and managing it. Players then were Harvey and Bert Balderston, Jake Novak, Baker Brothers, Steve Wingert and men who worked as their hired help.



Dunbar Team, 1920. L. to R.: Eldon Dunbar, Edgar Leslie, Jim Leslie, Burton Dunbar, Willard Dunbar, Murl Dunbar, Harold Kartman.

Volna Dunbar organized a junior team at Wear-dale around 1915. This team had his four young boys, Willard, Eldon, Burton and Murl, the three Leslie brothers, Jim, Edgar and Frank, Harold Kartman and a few local boys. Dewey Dunbar was the official scorekeeper. This team competed at local fair days, sports days and against teams at surrounding towns. Later, as seniors, some of the Dunbar team became a part of the Estlin ball club and played in the Gumbo League, which at that time included Estlin, Gray, Riceton and Kronau.

In 1932 Lloyd Wallace moved from Estlin to Rowatt and organized the first Rowatt Ball Club. This team was made up of boys from local farms — Milt, Gordon and Clayton Hall, Gordon Eicher, Joe Metz, Bill Drew, two Blair Brothers, Lew Jones and Jake Novak. They played in the Gumbo League for several years but especially liked to challenge the Estlin team. It is remembered that on one occasion their usual friendly rivalry broke into a bit of a brawl.

In 1936 one of Estlin's better known teams was coached by Hec Bouey and Jerry Lafoy. Players at that time were — Adam Debert, Russell and Wallace Clarke, Jake and Pete Noll, Armie and Charlie Mc-Crystal, Edgar Petersmeyer, Warren Williams and Tony Zimmerman. Pitchers were Mike Debert, Jake Novak and Merton Caswell. Catcher was Fred Marean. This team played in the Gumbo League and won the championship in 1939. Fred Marean and Jake Noll went on to play with "Wares Wears" in Regina.



Picture taken in 1939. Estlin ball team— Championship Team. Reading L. to R. Back Row: Jerry Lafoy — coach, Adam Debert, Jake Novak, Merton Caswell, Armie McCrystal, Hec Bouey — coach, Pete Jasper — equipment manager. Front Row: Mike Debert, Russell Clarke, Fred Marean, Wallace Clarke, Jake Noll.

As the older players left, there were always young enthusiastic men ready to play. Some of these players were — Bob Beaumont, Ed Baker, Percy Culling, Wes Jefferson, Clyde Marean, John Myers, Charlie and Gerald McNabb, Arnold Richenberger, Stan Smith and Harvie Webster. Coaches during that

time were Armie McCrystal, Max Seibel and Wallace Clarke. When league play discontinued during the war, Estlin continued as a team playing at sports days and pick-up games. Baseball faded out in the late 1950's, replaced by softball which was played intermittently.

In 1976 the Buck Lake Sharks were organized and coached by Gary Ford. In 1980 Morley and Laverne (Duke) Gooding took over and the team now participates in league play which includes Estlin, Riceton, Milestone, Rouleau and Drinkwater. Pitchers are Doug Hovind and Grant Jefferson. Catchers are Earl Bonsor, Shane Brunas and Warren Wallace. The team's colorful uniforms are yellow and black.

The photo shows only players since league play started.

The Buck Lake Sharks, in conjunction with the Blue Jay's, plan to move and rebuild backstops in the coming year (1983).

One would be remiss if mention was not made of the Estlin Ladies' Softball Club of the early 1930's with Harold Webster as coach and manager, and his unique method of taking his players in his Model



Estlin Softball Team, 1931. Back Row: Marian Clarke, Doris Myers, Dorothy Jefferson, Helen Dunbar, Moreen Koons, Stella Webster. Front Row: Greta McAllister, Ila Welliver, Edith Clarke, Eileen Wilkening, Lois Myers.

"A" Ford with a rumble seat to the surrounding sports days. Players at that time were Edith and Marian Clarke, Doris Myers, Dorothy Jefferson, Moreen Koons, Greta McAllister, Eileen Wilkening and Lois Myers. Pitcher — Ila Welliver, Catcher — Helen Dunbar.

In the late 1930's Russell Clarke and Jake Noll coached a junior ladies soft ball team with players Etta and Mona Black, Betty Myers, Marnie Runkle, Aggie McCrystal, Irene McCrystal, Ina Mae Marcan, Catcher — Tess Bolen, Pitchers — Rose Noll and Beryl Clarke. Rose went to Regina to play with the Eiler Vics coached by her brother, Pete. In 1947 she played professional ball in Chicago with the National Girls "Baseball" league. Rose was a right handed pitcher for the Chicago Chicks.

The Estlin girls pick-up teams played at sports days and picnics for a number of years.

The Estlin Ladies Softball team, originally named the 306's, was formed in 1972 with Gary Ford as coach and later assisted by Rod McDonald and Jim Hatfield. Main local pitchers — Anita Ford, Betty Jefferson and Randi Kelly. Local catchers were Joyce Wozney, Myrna Bonsor and Marlene Gooding. More recent pitchers were Karen Frei and Yvonne Gooding, while catching for the team was Donna Ingram and Connie Black. Leeta Gooding was official score-keeper.

Some of the players not mentioned in the photo are — Dorothy McQuoid, Bev Wahl, Donna Ingram, Donna Ford, Audrey Helstrom, Louise Clarke, Mae Church, Brenda Myers, Carole Lee, Linda and Arlene Phillips, Elaine East, Gloria Buker, Crystal Brunas, Crystal Wagner, Connie Black, Paula Sotkowy, Diane Clay, Mary-Jo Diekrager, Sandy Morrison, Maureen Schmidt, Karen Dmuchowski, Rita Polvi, Sue Getzlaf, Crystal Westermann, Mae



Lockert, Lil Schweitzer, Debbie Burkart, Penny Longley, Wendy Ray, Nola Sterzer, Bonney Decelly, Wendy Findlay, Kelly Smishek and Kathy Hubick.

The team was first identified by their orange T shirts. Their next attire of yellow and black made them clearly visible in the field. Presently, their uniforms are black and white with pin stripe pants.



The 306's played at sports' days at surrounding towns and were instrumental in reviving the sports days in Estlin. Booths were made by stretching tarpaulins between two trucks to form canopies. Several years later a car garage, donated by Wes Jefferson, was moved to the fair grounds and renovated to serve as a booth.

As the team got more competitive, they started to compete in the Provincial play off's in the "D" class. Some of the Provincials they competed in were — Central Butte, Vonda, Avonlea, Foam Lake, Mossbank, Eatonia and Prince Albert. The girls lost their chance for the Championship at Glen Ewen, after two extra innings against Eatonia. This year (1983) the team is going to compete in the Provincials at Wadena. In 1975 the Estlin 306's hosted the Provincials in Avonlea and again in 1981 at Balgonie.

A host of local fans followed the 306's to these competitions in tents and campers, giving them support and participating each night after the games in fun and sing-songs around a bonfire.



In 1977 the 306's joined the Last Spike League in Regina. The coaches in 1979 were Dale Henry assisted by Chris Bohlken. The 306's won the league championships in 1977, 1979, 1981, 1982 and 1983. In 1977 Anita Ford won the award as most valuable player and Myrna Bonsor won the most sportsman-like award. In 1978 Kathy Henry received the award for most sportsman-like. In 1979 Susan Schenher won the most valuable player award and Karen Frei the most sportsman-like. In 1982 and 1983 the team also won a league sports day tournament.

A trophy donated by Anita and Gary Ford is presented to the winning ladies team at the annual Estlin Sports day. This trophy is in memory of Dewey Dunbar who had been one of their most ardent and loyal supporters.

The Estlin Junior Girls Softball team was organized and coached by Bill Phillips in 1974. Original players were Carla Boesch, Laura Bonsor, Mary-Jo Diekrager, Donna Boesch, Shannon East, Karen Frei, Lori Boesch, April Coghlin, Diane and Joanne

Phillips, Joanne Strickland, Karen Wallace and Debbie Yeo. Katherine Marean was official scorekeeper. Bill Phillips coached this team until 1977 when Laverne (Duke) Gooding took over as coach assisted by Kris Boesch. The name Blue Jay's was chosen and uniforms are two tone blue with red and white trim. The team now included players Connie Black, Renee (Bechard) Gooding, Myrna Bonsor, Shelley Cross, Laurie Davis, Anita Ford, Lisa Frisk, Laurie and Kelly Fahlman, Yvonne Gooding, Marlene Gooding, Rhonda McDonald and Tracy Shostal. In 1981 the coach was Rod Lewis assisted by Shane Brunas. In 1982 Anita Ford took over coaching duties.

Playing is done mostly at sports days and they have competed in a league which included Estlin, Milestone, Avonlea, Drinkwater, Stoney Beach, Grand Coulee, Pense and Rouleau.

Since 1978 the Blue Jay's, in conjunction with the Buck Lake Sharks, organized the Estlin sports days. In 1983 they built a home-run fence at the cost of \$600.

The Estlin curling rink was built in 1947, using the old Monarch Lumber Company building. The



Estlin hall and curling rink, 1950.

Estlin Homemakers Club had collected a fund towards the building of the rink as their memorial project, and with local donations sufficient money was raised to complete a rink with two sheets and a waiting room. All work was done by volunteer labor with Gib Smith as the main carpenter. Electricity was supplied by a war-surplus gas generator.

Curling was met with enthusiasm. Curlers supplied their own rocks until 1952 when new matched rocks were purchased. A raffle on a side of beef helped defray the cost of the rocks.

Through the years our main caretakers were Roy Henderson, Ray Reichel and Bill Phillips. Orval Lewis was the only draw master from the very start, making draws for regular curling and bonspiels until curling came to an end.

Over the years mixed curling provided much recreation for all ages. School bonspiels were held and our annual open bonspiel in early December attracted many big name rinks. Our closed bonspiel was held in February. The bonspiel of 1954 was made memorable because of the blizzard that lasted two

days and two nights, stranding approximately twenty curlers and fans. Hazel Lewars and Marj Betcher came to the rescue of the ladies by taking them to their homes.

Estlin curlers were competitive and many rinks entered the Regina Mens' Bonspiel and bonspiels at surrounding towns.

Interest in curling began to lag as people moved to the city or went South for the winters. In 1970 curling finished for good with our genial caretaker, Bill Phillips, winning the Club Championship. His team mates were Clyde Marean, Deryl Lee and Leeta Gooding.

Relay team — Russell Clarke, Harry Girsberger, Harold Webster and Burton Dunbar organized an impromptu relay team at a sports day. They didn't win but became interested enough to practise and do some serious training. In succeeding years they won the Relay Cup donated by the Dairy Association of Rural Regina. The photo taken in 1932 shows them

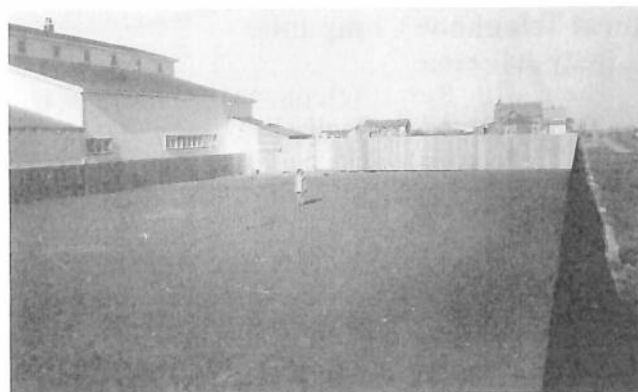


Estlin Relay Team, 1932. L. to R.: Russell Clarke, Harold Webster, Burton Dunbar, Harry Girsberger.

holding the cup they won on several occasions and wearing sweaters they had won. The relay race was the "High Light" of Estlin sports days for several years.

Badminton — was originally played in Carson hall. When the hall was dismantled in the early 1940's badminton continued being played using Carl Webster's hay loft. Several tournaments were held during the war to help raise money for the Red Cross. Competitors came from Estlin, Gray and Riceton.

Skating and Hockey — The first skating in Estlin was done on dugouts, then during the early 1930's a rink surrounded by straw bales was made in Welliver's field. Several years later an open air rink was built on the property of the Monarch Lumber Company. Wilf Brown, who had played hockey with



Estlin open air skating rink, 1950.

Notre Dame, was one of the first coaches — assisted by Armie McCrystal. The difficulty of winter travel made it impossible for organized hockey but this didn't deter the boys from having a team and sometimes taking the train to play against Gray. In the early 1940's George McNabb coached the young boys. They played against Gray and sometimes played with Gray to compete against Lang and Milestone.

About 1965, Bill Phillips organized and coached a team which played in a league with Gray and Riceton. Some of these players were — Morley Gooding, Don Hall, David Lewis, Jim McQuoid, Blaine Myers, Wilbert Bonsor, Fred Coppicus, Ken Costiuk and Stan Smith.

Today organized hockey in Estlin is played in conjunction with Gray and Riceton.

Estlin skaters have always skated on an open air rink and throughout the years it has taken many dedicated people to help keep the ice in good condition. In 1951 music was supplied for the skaters when an old Edison phonograph was placed in the waiting room of the curling rink with speakers outside.

Much of the credit for the enthusiasm and skill of the skaters goes to Wes Wells. Mr. Wells, a teacher in the early 1950's, was already a firm believer of "Participation". Several times a week class was dismissed early so pupils could clean the ice for evening skating. An added incentive to participate in the sport was exemption from home work. This era produced a great bunch of skaters.

This report on sports has been based on information provided through interviews and we regret that there are possibly many names we should have mentioned. If there are apparent differences in some of the dates, we must remember "memories" often differ with individuals.

Rural Telephone Companies by Betty Jefferson

The Estlin Rural Telephone Company was formed in 1912, and the Regina Buck Lake Company in 1916. Debentures, which paid six percent interest were sold to finance construction of the lines.

The first lineman was paid \$600 a year to keep the lines in order. In 1924 Mrs. Girsberger was hired as Secretary-Treasurer, her salary was three dollars per year per phone. Bill Dafoe was hired as lineman that same year. His salary was six dollars per year per phone. Mr. Dafoe continued this faithful service until 1964. Mrs. Girsberger retired as Secretary in 1959, at which time Betty Jefferson was hired. By now, salary for the Secretary had reached five dollars per subscriber per year. In 1972 extra money in the bank was invested in Certificates which paid interest at six and one half percent, about the same as interest rates in 1916.

Like all local clubs and organizations, very few district men or their sons missed serving as a Director, Vice-President, or President of the Company. Other than the Secretary, the records do not show that any ladies ever served on the Boards.

Telephone lines were built, and rebuilt, tax levies raised and lowered, and many discussions held as to whether to charge a farmer for poles that had burned, or "moved" into the path of machinery as it got larger and larger. The big box phones that we were all so anxious to get off our walls, now bring large sums as antiques. It was exciting to get a dial for those old phones — you had to be pretty good to crank a long and a short and a long and get the right party! Very few farms missed having a telephone line going through them, but as the farms got larger, the pole lines diminished. In 1976 a resolution was passed to accept Sask-Tel's offer to provide service to the community with underground cable. Pride in owning our own Company almost stopped this decision. There are no more than four residents on a line now, compared to 12 or 14. Lines are still busy, but no letter comes from the local Secretary asking for calls to be restricted to ten minutes.

The poles and lines are all gone now, and when first taken down, it seemed like buildings were missing. We just see farther now on a clear day.

The Estlin Homemaker's Club by Beryl Clarke

The Estlin Homemaker's Club was organized in March, 1942, with Vivian Yackel as president. In June of 1942 Mr. Yackel moved to Lumsden to teach, so Mrs. Yackel resigned and Mrs. R. Clarke became president; Mrs. O. D. Lewis was secretary.

This was a very interesting and "learning" club and early Membership lists show enrollments of 40. We had study groups: Home Economics, International Relations, Health, Arts, Letters and Agriculture. We had excellent and informative studies at each meeting and so the enthusiasm was always high. Because we were closely affiliated with the University of Saskatoon we had many outstanding guest speakers available to us.

We performed many community projects: provided hot lunches at school — beautified the school grounds — provided games (ping pong and volley ball) for schoolchildren — ordered a travelling library — Christmas treats for school children. We also made and donated many wartime layettes and we did quantities of wartime knitting. We began the funding of the Estlin Memorial Rink fund plus providing two sanitary toilets for the hall. A great community spirit developed as we served meals at all the local bonspiels.

In May, 1944, Estlin held the Regina — Moose Jaw district convention with Beryl Clarke — president and Dorothy Lewis — secretary. This was an unqualified success and we became known further afield. (I remember the president had to take time out at noon of the convention to nurse her four-month-old son, Kenneth.)

The club flourished until 1950 — when it became evident that our busy lives could no longer sustain two clubs. We closed our Homemakers' Club — leaving the Ladies Aid (now U.C.W.) clear sailing.

Estlin's Pigeon Pianist by Helen Flavell

It was in the late 1920's that a snow white pigeon, owned by the Joe Smith family southwest of Estlin, made its mark in the world of music. Brought in from the barn to be a pet, the little squab was hand fed and pampered until it grew up and had the run of both house and yard.

"Buddy", as he was dubbed, used to sit on the head of whoever was playing the piano, tilting his own head from side to side, and cooing. Then he would move to the keys and walk back and forth following the player's hands. One day, while the Smith family was eating, the piano began playing, and to their surprise, Buddy was rendering a solo — marching back and forth across the keys. That was the beginning, and many times after, he would entertain with his musical talent.

Following an article on his abilities in the Leader-Post, Ripley, from the famous Believe It or Not column, contacted the Smith family, asking for a picture of Buddy, and verification of his talents. The Editor of the Leader-Post added more glory by writ-

ing a lengthy editorial pertaining to his accomplishment, and the fact that he attracted the attention of such a world famous personage as R. L. Ripley.

Buddy was around for several years, but succumbed in 1930.

1980 Stamp — With View of Estlin by Helen Ulrich Flavell



Residents of Estlin and adjoining districts have always had a soft spot for their little hamlet. There were numerous instances over the years that “put Estlin on the Map”. Situated so close to Regina prevented Estlin from becoming a “boom town”, but on the other hand, it enabled families to have the availability of big city advantages. Who knows? Someday we may become a suburb!

In 1980, however, when the Federal Government chose to issue a Saskatchewan stamp on which was printed an aerial view of Estlin to commemorate the provinces’ 75th anniversary, everyone was proud. It was an honor very few towns or villages on the prairies could lay claim to.

We have been unable to obtain information as to how Estlin was chosen, but the Philatelic Service was kind enough to forward a brochure to us. A quote from the same reads: “Seventy-five years ago the Federal Government divided the Northwest Territories and created Saskatchewan and Alberta. Ten years earlier many had regarded the Northwest as a disappointment. True, the railway had made it easily accessible and the Northwest Mounted Police had paved the way for peaceful development. Yet the region had not lured the settlers who would justify the costs of the railway and provide a market for Eastern industries.

The dynamic growth and solid prosperity of Saskatchewan and Alberta springs from the land. The design of these two stamps (Alberta and Saskatchewan) is therefore based on the sweep of the great plains, which stretch across the boundaries of both provinces to the barrier of the Rocky Mountains in the West.”

The aerial photography for the stamp was done by George Hunter and the typographic design by Chris Yoneff, Limited, of Toronto. The date of issue

was August 27, 1980. It was a 17¢ stamp, and there were 22,000,000 of the Estlin stamps printed.

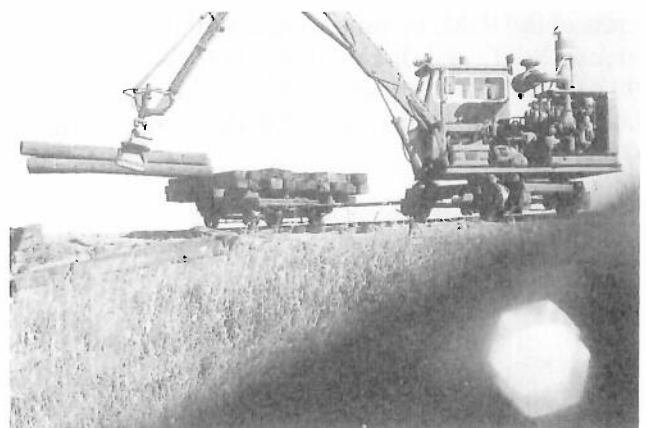
Many people have also enjoyed the Hasti-Notes, which portray four rural scenes, drawn by the noted Regina artist and C.B.C. broadcaster, Lora Burke, who is interested in “preserving by drawing, old buildings, churches, grain elevators, town halls and particularly houses.” This series was her Saskatchewan Series #1 and included the Estlin elevators, 1973, the Rowatt railway station, 1972, All Saints Anglican Church at Cannington Manor, Saskatchewan, 1974 and the Opera House at Moosomin, 1947.

Kentucky Fried Chicken also purchased the use of Lora Burke’s drawings, including the Estlin elevators, when they offered their “mug series” in or around 1980. So you see, size has very little to do with how far afield you are known.

Railroad Equipment on Estlin Line



Railroad equipment on Estlin line.



Tie crane on Estlin line.

FACT — The first Local Improvement District (LID) was formed June 11, 1904, with J. Bratt (Chairman), S. St. John (Secretary-treasurer), J. W. Davis and G. Lyons as councillors. Meetings were held in the members' homes. On a motion of the first meeting it was decided that thirty-six and one-half miles be "plowed" (constructed), eight feet wide, for roads.

FACT — The first Municipal Council was formed January 6, 1913, by order of the Government of Saskatchewan. F. C. Morley was appointed Chairman, L. D. Sparling — Secretary-treasurer, councillors J. Squires and A. Nolan. On February 12, 1913, an election was held at Brighton School and the first council was formed: J. Bratt (Reeve), L. D. Sparling (Secretary-treasurer), councillors L. Bratt, D. Kirby, F. C. Morley, A. Nolan, A. J. O'Byrne and J. Squires.

FACT — On February 3, 1913, the names of Bratt's Lake, Wilcox, Kirby, Gray, Middlesex, Iowa and Bruce were sent to the Department of Municipal Affairs, one of which was to be chosen as the name of the municipality. That same month they received word that henceforth they would be known as the Rural Municipality of Bratt's Lake #129.

FACT — Following is a list of Reeves of the R.M. of Bratt's Lake and the years they served: J. Bratt: 1913-1915, D. Kirby: 1916-1932, A. L. Hamdorf: 1933-1940, C. Zerfing: 1940-1966, J. Baker: 1966-1978, F. H. Gilchrist: 1978-1982, K. Andrews: 1982-.

FACT — Following is a list of Secretary-treasurers of the R.M. of Bratt's Lake and the years they served: S. T. St. John: 1904-1906, J. A. Weir: 1905-1906, L. D. Sparling: 1906-1941, G. H. Steidl: 1941-1967, G. McNamee: 1968-1978, K. Ritchie: 1979-.

FACT — Total assessment of the land of the R.M. of Bratt's Lake #129 is 10.2 million dollars.

FACT — A comparison of tax levies of the R.M. of Bratt's Lake at the time of LID and now is of interest. In 1904 taxes were assessed at five dollars per quarter section (or three and one-eighth cents per acre). In 1983 taxes were assessed at \$425 per quarter section (or two dollars and sixty-five cents per acre).

FACT — The R.M. of Bratt's Lake includes nine townships (324 square miles) and encompasses 207,360 acres. Within its boundaries lie the town of Wilcox and the hamlets of Corinne and Estlin. There are 477 residents living within these boundaries in 1983.

FACT — The Municipal office for the R.M. of Bratt's Lake is located in the town of Wilcox. A new office was contemplated in September, 1941, with debentures in the amount of \$3500 being applied for. The new office was open for its first meeting in May, 1942. Prior to that time meetings were held in L.D. Sparling's office.

FACT — Services provided by the R.M. of Bratt's Lake are: the collection and distribution of municipal school and hail taxes: road building and maintenance: relief and welfare aid during the thirties (and when necessary): weed control: rat control: fire protection: water control: snow removal: waste disposal area: regional parks: libraries: recreational grants: charity donations.

FACT — Current members of the Council of the R.M. of Bratt's Lake are: K. Andrews (Reeve), K. Ritchie (Secretary-treasurer), councillors P. Baker, J. Dobson, D. McQuoid, L. Nelson, W. Theaker and L. Ulrich.

General

Half-Breed Scrip from Government of North West Territories — Land Act

Up to 1923 the claims of half-breeds were dealt with under the provisions of paragraph (b) of section 76 of the Dominion Lands Act, Chapter 20 of the Statutes of 1908. Under this paragraph the Governor in Council was empowered to

“(b) grant lands in satisfaction of claims of half-breeds arising out of the extinguishment of the Indian title”;

In 1923 paragraph (b) of section 76, above quoted, was repealed and the following substituted therefor:-

“(b) make grants not exceeding in any case the sum of two hundred and forty dollars in cash in satisfaction of claims of half-breeds arising out of the extinguishment of the Indian title.”(S.74, Chap.113, R.S.C. 1927).

Under the provisions of the Act first mentioned (with the exception of the half-breeds of the province of Manitoba as originally constituted, who were dealt with under the provisions of the Manitoba Act) half-breeds who, because of their Indian blood, were permitted to share in the Indian right to lands in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and the Northwest Territories, were granted scrip, which was either “money-scrip” or “land scrip”.

The claims of the half-breeds dealt with in 1899 and subsequently, were satisfied by an issue of scrip for \$240 redeemable at its face value in the purchase of Dominion lands or, at the option of the claimants, by an issue of scrip for 240 acres of available Dominion lands of the class open to homestead entry.

E-655-Kw
Half-breed money scrip is acceptable in payment of the following:-

1. Rentals due in connection with grazing leases;
2. Rentals due in connection with timber leases;
3. Annual rentals due on leases under Mining Regulations.

Land Scrip cannot be assigned. Entry for land

upon which it is desired to apply the scrip can only be made by the half-breed to whom it has been issued, unless special authority has been endorsed thereon (commonly designated “red back scrip”), in which case such endorsed land scrip may be located by the holder thereof in the name of the grantee of the scrip. No assignment of right to scrip is recognized, but after half-breed land scrip has been applied to land, the right to the land may be transferred. No transfer of such right, however, executed prior to the date of the location of the scrip on the land or executed by a person under twenty-one years of age may be recognized. No settlement duties are required in securing title to land upon which half-breed land scrip has been applied, and letters patent therefore may be issued forthwith in the name of the scrip grantee; or, if desired, in the name of the person to whom the right to the land has been transferred. 6,20.

Livery Stables in Regina 1912 by Marnie (Runkle) McQuoid Courtesy of the Prairie History Room, Regina Public Library

Did you ever wonder where the teams were kept for the day while our pioneers were shopping in the city of Regina? While I was researching and writing the story of Champs Hotel I wondered how far from the livery barn certain much-patronized businesses were. In my mind's eye I could see them, at the end of a tiring day, trudging back, laden with parcels — but how far? Well, it seems there were six such establishments strategically placed around the city area, and I shall list them.

— Palace Livery, 2223 South Railway. Owned by Mr. Mulligan.

— Fashion Livery, 1807 Smith Street

— Gray Barn, 1847 Halifax.

— Hunter and Hamill Livery, 1754 Osler.

— McMillan Bros., 1747 Lorne.

— Sinton Livery, 1708 Albert.

No doubt there was careful perusal of the shop-

per's list as to which was most convenient. But it is most likely each person had his favorite stopping place, no matter what the distance.

Facts About Regina and Saskatchewan, Canada

as compiled by the Regina Board of Trade, 1911

This account was sent to Mr. E. E. Frisk from Dr. Fred S. Jenkins, Regina.

Location: Regina is situated in latitude 50 degrees 30 minutes north; longitude 105 degrees west of Greenwich.

Regina is 115 miles from the International boundary, 356 miles west of Winnipeg, 484 miles east of Calgary, and 1,741 miles west of Montreal.



City Hall, Regina, Sask., 1910.



Fire Brigade and Station, Regina, Sask., 1910.

Buildings: The Parliament Buildings were completed in 1910 at a cost of \$2,500,000. That year the city's post office and the city hall were built.

Climate: This is a subject about which there cannot be too much written with a view to clearing away the false impressions which have arisen, mainly from lack of first hand knowledge and partly through the spreading of erroneous reports by those whom it may have interested to create a false impression as to the true facts. Whilst it must be admitted that the temperature for certain periods in the winter months is low, yet, owing to the absence of wind when the thermometer registers below zero, the cold is perhaps not so acutely felt as even in those places recording a higher temperature, the reason being the absence of moisture in the atmosphere. Except for occasional snowfalls, on the very coldest days, the



Jack Blumer — Legislative Bldg.

sun shines from a clear sky, the air is crisp, and it is really only a question of suitable clothing to enable even those of feeble constitution to enjoy the Regina winter, with its many opportunities for winter sports. As this climate produces the hardest and finest of crops, so the new race growing up, in this the world's youngest nation, are among the hardiest and most sturdy; manhood and womanhood growing up in splendid bodily health and strength, passing on the heritage this land and air has given them to those who will come in after years, to govern and uphold the traditions set by those who are today the pioneers of this our wonderful new developed land. It can be said without exaggeration that the climate of Regina is, perhaps, the finest experienced in the great American continent.

The rainfall is ample, and occurs when most needed. Some special reference should be made here to the invigorating fall season of Regina. For months without a break the days are warm and bright with clear blue sky, but without the trying heat of midsummer, and at night when the sun has disappeared beyond the western sky, there is an ever refreshing breeze, imparting to one the impression that he is, indeed, breathing of the elixir of life and is being recuperated out of Nature's unbounded wealth to continue in the task of upbuilding Nation and Empire.

Hospitals: The Regina Victoria Hospital cost \$140,000 and has accommodation for 100 patients. The city also maintains an Isolation Hospital. The Regina Grey Nuns' Hospital is conducted by the Grey Nuns of Montreal. This beautiful building cost \$135,000 and will accommodate 84 patients. Both Regina Hospitals conduct training schools for nurses. Some twenty private nurses are privately employed in the city. Regina has several private hospitals and nursing homes.

Population: Regina had a population of 30,210 on June 30, 1911 (official census of Canada).

Regina's first settler arrived in 1881 — The population of Regina has increased over 15,000 in the last two years.

Retail Business: Regina has the following among many other stores: 40 grocery stores, 12 drug stores, 8 bake shops, 15 restaurants, 5 furniture, 14 butchers, 7 booksellers, 9 boots and shoes, 12 gents' furnishings, 20 ice cream and confectionery, 4 hardware, 6 printers, 10 barber shops, 6 jewellers, 10 billiard and pool rooms, 12 blacksmith shops, 2 greenhouses, 1 steam laundry and 12 hand laundries, 8 liveries, 7 lumber yards, 600 drays.

Municipal: Regina was founded in 1881. Regina is governed by a mayor and ten aldermen, a commissioner with the mayor acting ex officio. Regina was

incorporated a city in 1905. Regina's assessment for 1911 was \$34,840,733, an increase of \$21,784,335 over 1910. Rate for 1911, 18.01 mills. Regina is the best paved city in Canada for its size. Regina has 16 policemen, 30 firemen, 2 fire stations and 25 fire alarm boxes. Full equipment of the most modern fire fighting apparatus. Regina has 250 acres of parks. Regina has over 25 miles of sewer main.

Government Offices: Regina — The capital of the Province of Saskatchewan. All executive offices of the Provincial Government are located at Regina.

Dominion Government Offices: Regina is the headquarters of the Royal North West Mounted Police. The commissioner, five officers and over 40 men reside at the barracks at Regina.

Facts About Saskatchewan: Incorporated a Province on September 1, 1905. Population 453,508. Area 250,650 square miles. Is as large as France and twice as large as the British Isles. 760 miles long and 320 miles wide. Land area 155,092,480 acres, cultivated area 11,825,719 acres. Eighty-seven per cent of population engaged in agriculture.

The word Saskatchewan is an Indian name and means Rushing Water. Saskatchewan's elevation above sea level varies from 1,500 to 3,000 feet. Saskatchewan stands second amongst the wheat producing provinces and states of North America, and raises annually 10,000,000 bushels more wheat than the rest of Canada combined.

Produced 400,000,000 bushels of wheat in the past eleven years. Free homesteads covering 6,084,960 acres of land in the province were given away in 1910. One hundred thousand homesteads awaiting settlement.

Grain production 1905 — 5,199,054 bushels; 1910 — 145,079,663 bushels; 1911 estimated by government, 207,919,000 bushels. Value of wheat products in 1910, \$56,679,791. Regina is the centre of flax growing Canada. Improved land to be had from \$12 to \$70 per acre. Unimproved land from \$6 to \$30 per acre.

50,000,000 acres capable of raising an average of 20 bushels per acre highest contract grade.

Average price per bushel in 1910.

Wheat	\$.78
Oats	\$.26 ³ / ₄
Barley	\$.35
Flax	\$2.22 ¹ / ₂

General Scarcity of Domestic Help: To encourage immigration of domestics the government advanced this year \$6,000 to the Salvation Army and \$6,000 to the National Council of Women. Wages — General help \$15 to \$20 per month. Cooks — \$20 to \$25 per month.

Farm Labor: Yearly engagements — \$20 to \$30

per month with board and lodgings. Monthly engagements — \$25 to \$40 per month with board and lodgings. Harvesting and threshing season — \$35 to \$60 per month with board and lodgings.

Champs Hotel

by Marnie (Runkle) McQuoid

No history of the Estlin, Gray, Riceton and Bechard areas would be complete without mention of the famous Champ Brothers' Hotel on South Railway and Rose, opposite the Regina Union Station.

By kind permission of the Provincial Archives the insert below shows them first listed in Henderson's City Directory in 1914.

Their motto, "Quality, Courtesy and Service" really says all there is to say about this fine, friendly

establishment which was the gathering place for all on their sojourns to the city. For it was here that families who had shopped separately during the day, met and waited for each other before wending their way home. Each and every person, young and old alike, was greeted by name with a genuine, friendly handshake and a warmth never to be seen or experienced again.

No husband who went to the city alone would dream of leaving for home without first stopping at the Hotel; his wife (or son or daughter) probably had left a message at the desk to bring an important forgotten item. Likewise, a wife who neglected to stop at Champs before leaving the city would be chastised on her return, for there had been a message left for repairs, binder twine, oil, or any other sundry item farmers required.

These fine owners provided a service for the surrounding communities that, looking back, was probably not very lucrative. True, on occasion, a fine lunch or supper might be eaten in their restaurant, but their hotel rooms were not often filled with those of us from this area. However, if the need arose when

CITY DIRECTORY 1914

CHAMPS' CAFE AND HOTEL,
(S. F. and W. W. Champ) 1819 South Railway Street. Phone 5057.
"Quality, Courtesy and Service," Our Motto.

Courtesy of Sask. Archives.



Dave and Stuart Champ behind desk in Hotel in Regina.



Champs Hotel and Cafe in Regina.

this was necessary, it was a family hotel, and the cleanliness and service were of the finest order. Never, as long as the Champ Brothers owned the Hotel, was liquor or spirits of any kind allowed to be sold on the premises. Parents felt no concern whatever in allowing their children to gather there unattended by an adult. They sat quietly leafing through the Hotel magazines waiting for their parents, often as not licking an ice cream cone given them by a thoughtful Dave or Stewart Champ.

In the early years, because of their proximity to the Union Station, itinerant workers arriving in the city most often walked across the street to Champs cafe for a meal, but more hopefully for a lead to a prospective boss. This was yet another service the Champ men provided. Those farmers looking for men phoned or went to the Hotel to see what was available. Likewise, if the Champ brothers knew of a farmer in need of a good man, they were quick to phone the news, and what's more, have the fellow wait until you arrived.

I suppose the establishment might have been called "Champs Hotel, Cafe, Repair and Grocery Clearing House, Employment Agency and Etc.", for indeed it was all these things, and more, for our area.

It seems only right that we give a short resume of the early history of the Champ brothers, David, Stewart and Wesley, who arrived in Regina in those early years. They came from Galt, Ontario in 1909, and seeing a need, opened a smaller than most of us remember version of the Hotel. Their first location in 1914 was at 1819 South Railway Street. In 1916-17, in addition, they opened and operated Champs Lunch at 1911 South Railway Street.

Again through the courtesy of the Provincial Archives, from an article published in the Regina Leader Post December 30, 1918 entitled, "Peart Bros. Lease Store to Champs as Hotel Property," we find the following in part. "One of the oldest retail stores in Regina . . . Peart Brothers Hardware Store, lo-

cated on the corner of South Railway and Rose, is to be converted into a first-class hotel and restaurant, the property having been leased to Champ Bros . . . Champ Bros. who have been operating a restaurant and hotel on the adjoining property for some years, have been branching out recently. This summer they took a lease on the upper floors of the Peart block and spent a considerable sum in dividing the two floors into bedrooms and cutting a connection through the partition walls of the two blocks. Now that they have acquired the ground floor they intend to spend another \$15,000 to \$20,000 in alterations, new fixtures and furniture with the intention of converting the entire property into a large first-class hotel with restaurant attached. Part of the ground floor will be used for a barber shop and pool room, and they will have, when the changes are completed, some seventy-five bedrooms in connection with the hotel." Their new, and final address became 1905 South Railway. In 1919 Wes Champ opened his own hotel, known as the Champlain, on the corner of Rose and Eleventh Avenue. Dave and Stewart then operated the one hundred-room Champs Hotel from that time on.

Dave and Stewart retired from the hotel business in 1944, and with that closed an era that will forever remain warm, friendly and full of nostalgia for us all in their fulfillment of their motto: "Quality, Courtesy and Service".

I would say they had served us far above and beyond the call of duty.

Killer Blizzard Takes Six Lives Worst Autumn Snow Storm in Living Memory Volleys Over Prairies.

**Excerpts taken from The Leader Post Oct.
15, 1930**

To six persons on the western plains, death came riding on the wind and snow of an autumnal blizzard, within the last few days. The storm was the worst in living memory for the time of year. It broke over the prairies Thursday night and volleyed in from the north and west for 36 hours, reaching central Manitoba Friday evening, but with less fury than had marked its course over Alberta and Saskatchewan. During the week-end snow flurries fell, but without the rapier wind which had given the first storm its killing ferocity. Sunday evening the weather conditions had been mitigated to such an extent the air mail took off for the west, for the first time in several days. . .

Twenty-four hour searchers through blizzard-swept streets of Regina and Moose Jaw were rewarded finally when a missing girl and an aged woman were discovered safe. The girl was located

six miles from her home on Regina's east side after wandering away from home in the height of Thursday's storm. A 70 year old woman was unharmed by exposure when she was found late Thursday after spending a night and half a day roaming through the snow-piled streets of Moose Jaw.

Two snow-blinded men narrowly escaped death when a freight train crashed into their stalled car at a level crossing near Cabri, in southern Saskatchewan. The driver was reported on the mend by latest reports. His companion was only slightly hurt.

Others whose lives were threatened by the blizzard were three passengers, unhurt when the car they were riding in overturned, and four others who passed a night in comparative comfort in another stalled car a few feet ahead of the Regina death-car.

The vortex of the tempest seems to have centred in the Biggar, Sask., area, where railroad traffic was completely suspended. Sand blowing up from cuts in this neighborhood and mixing with the swirling snow-flakes was the Waterloo to both Canadian National and Canadian Pacific trains that battled vainly with the storm.

Even snow ploughs, despatched to the Biggar and Perdue districts, were unable to get through the 15-foot deep drifts.

Regina Newspapers

researched by Gwen (McElmon) Kirby

The West

April 27, 1899 — 1910

Editors: Dr. W. D. Cowan (?);
Z. M. Hamilton, Sept. 1907;
S. R. Moore
continued as Daily Province

Daily Province

Dec. 14, 1910 — Oct. 18, 1916

Editors: Thos. H. Blacklock, Dec. 1910 — July, 1913
E. F. Boddington, July, 1913 — May, 1914
W. L. McTavish, May, 1914 — Oct. 1916
continued as Daily Post

Daily Post

Oct. 19, 1916 — Mar. 31, 1930

Editors: Jas. Cruikshank and W. L. McTavish, Oct. 19, 1916 — 1917
Jas. Cruikshank, 1918
W. L. McTavish, 1919 — July, 1922
A. L. Patton, July 1922 — Feb. 1, 1923
Hamilton Butler, Feb. 1, 1923 — Aug. 15, 1925
Maxwell B. Cody, Aug. 15, 1925 — 1927
Burford Hooke and M. B. Cody — 1928
D. B. McRae, Apr. 1, 1929 — Mar. 31, 1930

merged with **Morning Leader** to form the **Leader Post**.

“Where There's A Will ----”

by Gwen McElmon Kirby

Wesley Kirby began farming in 1942. After helping at home through the “Thirties” and the long illness of his father who passed away in 1939, he rented his mother's land. Through World War Two the slogan on the home front was, “Make new things last and old things do.” This was not new to Wes. He had economized for a long time.

In 1940 a Hudson car (1929 model) was converted, with hard work and some ingenuity but little cost, into a much needed farm grain truck. An eleven foot one-way seeder-diskier was made from parts of old machinery.

In February, 1946, a neighbour, Al McKinnon, brought Wes plans that he had designed for a twenty-foot one-way diskier. Wes liked the idea and they decided to build two diskiers, one for each. Wes suggested that they should make and mount grain boxes for seeding, which had been tried elsewhere but, except for the one on his small diskier, had never been satisfactory. This was not yet in Al's plan — so back to the drawing board.

The Kirby workshop became a busy place with Wes, Bill Molleken, Al and his brother, Tom McKinnon, hard at work. It was hand work as there was no electricity on the farm but there was a line shaft which was run by a small gasoline engine.

Word spread about their project. The genuinely interested and the curious came from far and near. Sometimes there were four or five cars in the yard at once. Tom used to say he could make his fortune by charging admission. Some visitors were encouraging but others left laughing and shaking their heads, which appears to be a common attitude to creativity.

When the first diskier was ready for trial, its makers wanted to test it by themselves but there were more visitors than usual, so they delayed for hours until the coast appeared to be clear. Hastily the new implement was pulled out of the shop and into the field. Halfway around, several cars were following, men were riding on the diskier others were running behind. They were pleased to find it did a good job. Within two years the machine companies had their own version on the market. Wes built another in 1948 and used them for about thirty years.

In 1949, because the schools in our area were closed, we moved to Rouleau where Wes already had land. Shortly after, two home-built truck-mounted grain cleaners went out each spring and fall for many years, custom cleaning seed for the next crop.

In 1957 we had a new shop with electricity and a

good line of electrical equipment. When more tractor power was needed in 1959 Wes saw a way to get it economically by joining together two Farm-All MD's to make a four-wheel drive "Double Unit."

Eventually there were four Double Units of I.H.C. WD 9's in operation.

As early as 1938 Wes pulled two swathers behind a steel-wheeled tractor. In 1947 a swather was built from an outdated, stripped down, self-propelled case combine with a twenty-foot Versatile center delivery swather mounted on it. It is an eye catcher and passers-by seeing it for the first time, are not sure just what they have seen. The second one has been built. This one is hydraulically driven, end-delivery, pull-type behind so that they cut about thirty eight feet. This required a special swinging hitch between the two swathers. The hitch swings to the right for swathing so that the end delivery of the back swather places the swath directly on top of the swath from the center delivery of the front swather. In transport it swings to the left so that the swather that is being towed follows directly behind the one ahead.

The large swaths required changes to the straw spreaders of the combines to distribute the straw over a wider area. Improvements to the swathing equipment are in the planning stage to make possible an even wider swath.

The weed sprayer is home designed. It consists of a five hundred gallon tank and an eighty-foot boom mounted on a cab-forward truck. It travels ten to twenty miles an hour in the field and transports at highway speeds. Hauling water to the sprayer in a six thousand gallon tanker reduces the number of trips in the spring when time and labour are in short supply.

Our sons, Fred, Donald and David, are farming, sharing their father's workshop where the more recent changes have been made with their help. As ideas unfold a remark made by a nine year old boy, years ago, comes to mind, "I'd like to be an inventor when I grow up but everything's been invented."

The First Grain Tester

by **Gwendolyn McElmon Kirby**

Working closely with "Doc" Storey of Regina, and others, David Kirby contributed to the invention and development of the first grain moisture tester. One of their first projects was "The Kirby Designed Universal Moisture Tester." The purpose of this machine was to enable farmers to determine when the grain was dry enough to be harvested and to help the Elevator Manager to grade the farmer's grain more efficiently.

After further improvement the "Universal Moisture Tester" was marketed. It was used by Grain



Companies for many years before it was replaced by more efficient designs of later inventors.

Living by the Side of the Road

by **Sophie O'Byrne**

**Let me live in a house by the side of the road
And be a friend to man — Rudyard Kipling.**

When Lionel and I decided to make our home beside No. 6 Highway, we didn't realize the impact of these words. Sharing our home with complete strangers was a bit difficult at first, but when people are in trouble it is something you just do. In 1941 No. 6 Highway was only a gravel road and in some spots it was lower than the fields and a blizzard was a real disaster. Our first experience was in November of 1941. Our house was not insulated and was very cold. When the first blizzard of the season came we shut off the rest of the house and tried to keep the kitchen warm. All of a sudden there were three salesmen at our door and they were hopelessly stuck. It was dark — no phone — no power — no extra bedding and no chance of a snow plow coming. Somehow we managed. They were warm and well-fed and when they left the next day, there was a promise of a package of Red Rose tea bags on the next trip down the road. That was many years ago and I'm still waiting.

Before the Highway was rebuilt there was a period of about ten years when the road was really bad in the winter time — the worst being 1946-'47 and 1947-'48. The department of Highways used a push-type snowplow and with each push there was a

bigger drift formed and the road plugged worse than ever with the next storm. There seemed to be no end to the wind and in places it was like driving through a tunnel.

We had no telephone at this time and of course no power. Our only communication during a storm was Lionel's amateur radio station. We had a schedule with Art Downton in Wilcox every night and so were able to keep in touch with the outside world and with our families.

One night, after the road had been closed all day and there was just NO traffic, our back door burst open and here was a young man with his mother and sister. He had thrown a blanket over his mother and literally pushed her along. She was frozen, dressed only in a short coat, a cute little hat and kid gloves. They were from Maxim, Saskatchewan and had phoned the Department of Highways in the morning and were told that the road was open. They had a load of pigs on their truck. There was nothing we could do about them and in the morning when the men walked down they were greeted by a bunch of squealing hungry pigs. All had survived.

The Christmas of 1946 Arthur, Lena and Betty Ohrt of Gray spent the day in Regina with family when a storm came up in the afternoon. They started for home but on turning the corner of the Gray road they found themselves stuck. They spent the night with us but the next day the storm was even worse. However, the following day the wind let up a bit and Arthur walked home, returning the next day with a team and bob sleigh to pick up Lena and Betty.

The Ford family, Drexel and Kay of Gray, also spent part of Christmas day with us. They were stuck in the snow.

The winter of 1947 we were completely snow bound for six weeks. Lionel hired a small plane and went to Regina once during that time but he was allowed to bring back only ten pounds of groceries and since sugar was in short supply and rationed, that constituted the biggest part of the purchases. Our only neighbours were Russel (Bud) and Ella Bird who lived about half a mile down the Rouleau road. The men often walked to Dickey's Service station which was two miles down the highway. The snow plow often came as far as the correction line and so the filling station played a very important part in the community. Its services were essential — gas — phone — a few groceries and wonderful friends to visit with.

One day Ella and I decided to walk to the station ourselves and leave the men to mind the children. As we were walking along we suddenly heard a strange crunch in the snow under our feet. Kicking the snow away with our boots we found we were standing on

the top of a car. We didn't investigate any further but took off in a hurry and told our story to Mrs. Dickey and Lucille. However, they assured us that the occupants were safe and sound having walked to the station and been picked up there.

Another encounter was with a Regina hockey team consisting of thirty small boys and three men. They had gone to Weyburn to play hockey and all three cars were stuck a short distance from our house. They saw our light, a gas lamp, and all of a sudden, men, boys, and hockey equipment spilled over my kitchen floor. One of the boys exclaimed, "Gee, this is just like a real house." I said, "What did you think we lived in?" and his reply was, "A dugout." They weren't cold but what was I to do with this bunch? Two of the men walked to the filling station and phoned the parents from there. I brought down all the blankets I had and said, "Do the best you can." In the morning the boys were all spread out in a circle with their feet on the furnace — warm, happy, having fun but oh, so hungry. Baking powder biscuits, bacon and hot cocoa filled them up and since we made our own butter it added to the enjoyment. In wartime butter was rationed. ONE mother wrote and thanked me. I still have her letter. Quote, "You can't imagine what a relieved feeling it was for us when we got the message at 2:30 in the morning that the boys were all together and safe at a farm home and were to stay the night there. The boys themselves got a wonderful thrill out of it and came in this morning simply beaming with excitement over the whole affair."

Another afternoon a young man and his father got stuck about a mile south of us. It was storming so badly that he walked right by our house without seeing it and finally stumbled into the filling station. There was nothing they could do for him as by this time even a truck couldn't get through. He walked back and did find our house. He was nearly exhausted and so dreadfully cold. Lionel then walked over to Bud's place and got his horse and stoneboat. They had to take the son along and when they found the car his father had written a note telling him what to do with his body. He had completely given up on being rescued. Then being frightened of the horse, he refused to ride, so his son threw a blanket over him and bodily put him on the stoneboat. They were both in bad shape and stayed with us for three days until — via Lionel's radio, they had a plane sent out to take them back to Regina. The older man was fascinated with Lionel's radio and how we were in contact with so many people. He said he didn't think that farmers had an education.

Ella Bird and I shared our kitchens for groceries. Before the six weeks were up we really were in short supply. The neighbours four miles to the south of us

went in to Wilcox by sleigh and once brought a few groceries as far as Yankee Ridge school for us and the men went down and got them. They took the horse but he played out before they got home and refused to move — some trip — it was easier to walk.

When the snowplow equipment finally did arrive they sent out a big bulldozer. Instead of pushing the snow out in front of them, they went back and forth across the road. There was a car out there and we had marked it with a post. However the night crew came on and when we looked in the morning, the car was sitting up on top of a huge snow bank caught in the bucket of the bulldozer.

There were so many things that happened on the highway and I think I am safe in saying that more than three hundred people passed through our home during those bad winters, all having had a cup of tea, a meal or a blanket for the night. None was ever turned from our door even at three o'clock in the morning in the summertime, when a chap fell asleep and drove into the dugout across the road.

— A small girl stung by a bee, her screams could be heard from the road. An ice pack with baking soda stopped the screams and a cookie brought back a smile.

— Sharing breakfast with "Walking John" who walked across the United States and Canada up to Alaska. He gave us his book.

— A woman covered in mud, having run across the end of our dugout and then the field, screaming that her husband was trying to kill her.

— A small boy with his finger securely stuck in the dash of dad's truck in the spot where the cigarette lighter should be.

— A teenager who stole a bicycle, ran away from Embury House and landed at our place very very cold — 25 degrees below zero, dressed only in a denim jacket and tight blue jeans. After feeding him and getting him warmed up he fell asleep on the couch.

— Two teenage boys who were touring Canada on their bicycles, on two separate occasions pitched their tent in our yard and had breakfast with us. They

were fine young lads and had some interesting experiences to tell.

— Another family of six pitched their tent in our yard. They were on their way to Quebec.

— An elderly man with pneumonia. His daughter's car had broken down and Lionel took him to the hospital. We heard later that he died the next day.

— A chap in an airplane forced to land in the field due to fog, taxied his plane into the shelter of the trees and it stayed there on top of the snow-bank for three days. We gave him a ride to Regina.

— The Mounted Police, needing a long chain, gas and information one day spending an afternoon when their car was stuck in the snow while they were investigating an accident. We also had a friend in the R.C.M.P. who delighted coming into the yard with lights flashing and siren going causing a bit of a stir among the neighbours.

Lionel's impossible dream when we moved to the farm was that someday we would have electricity. We weren't long getting our own power plant because he needed that to operate his amateur radio station "VESLU". However, about 1953 he started inquiries at Saskatchewan Power and stirred up a bit of interest. After three or four years of investing his own time and money his dream came true. He solicited four townships which included much of Gray and Estlin. Now the whole country is electrified. Also, during a bad blizzard in April 1955, all lines between Saskatoon and Regina were down and Lionel kept communications open via his amateur radio for the Saskatchewan Power for twenty-four hours, for which he received a Public Service Award.

Although we lived on the highway we were ten miles from anywhere, Rowatt, Estlin, Gray, Wilcox and Rouleau. Only once or twice was I ever frightened by strangers who came for help but things were very different than they are now. However, I'll always remember the joys, sorrows, and excitement of living in that little house by the side of the road. We sold our farm in December, 1971.

And He Won't Run From The Posse . . . from the United Church Observer

Gray . . . There it was on the wall of the prairie hamlet's only store — an official-looking Wanted Dead or Alive poster, offering a \$5000 reward for Laird White, horse thief.

Now the Rev. Laird White enjoys a good joke but he couldn't let the poster go unanswered. So soon there was a hand-printed message tacked below:

"The above mentioned may be contacted at the United Church Hideout, known only to a few devoted followers. This noted gang with its now famous (or infamous) leader will be found here every Sunday morning at 11:30 a.m. There is room for all who seek a reward."

Estlin Area Schools

The Estlin School

by Betty Jefferson

Documents in the Provincial Archives in Regina show that the history of the Estlin School began with “an organizational meeting at the home of George Boyle, on February 20, 1907. Thomas Jefferson was appointed Chairman, and Richard Boyle Secretary, and the proposed name was Grand View School District”. The original trustees were Wm. Arbuckle, Wm. Roberts, and James Norris. Approval for this district was granted one week later, February 27, 1907. The Saskatchewan Gazette shows that when the Commissioner of Education granted final approval on April 24, 1907, the name had been changed to the Boyle School District No. 1800. This was in honor of the Boyle family, one of the earliest settlers in the district.

4319 The Saskatchewan Gazette, Vol. 111
No. 8

Regina, Wednesday, April 24, 1907.

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with the provisions of The School Ordinance in that behalf, that, by order of the Commissioner of Education, the following lands, namely: The north halves of Sections 32, 33, 34, 35 and 36 in Township 14 Range 19; Sections 6 and 7 in Township 15 Range 18; Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, the west halves of Sections 13, 24 the south halves of Sections 26, 27, 28, the south-west quarter of Section 25 in Township 15 Range 19 west of the Second Meridian, have been erected into a School District under the name of The Boyle School District No. 1800 of the North-West Territories.

Senior Trustee: W. R. Roberts, Kronau.

D. P. McCOLL,
Deputy Commissioner of Education.

Debentures in the amount of \$900 were issued to build a 20x24 foot structure on the centre of the south end of Section 14-15-19-W2nd, which was approximately one-half mile east of the present hamlet site. This school did not open until April 1, 1909, due to lack of enough children in the district. Advertising for a teacher at that time was done through the Canadian Teachers Agency. Applications had been received from several qualified teachers, but none would take the position when they learned of the “primitive” conditions. So the Board hired a Mr. Waterston from Ontario, a man small in stature but



First Boyle School, ½ mile east of Estlin.

large in enthusiasm and armed with a great trunkful of books — what an asset at that time. During the first years of operation, school was open from April to whenever the weather turned bad in November. University students were hired to teach from April until they returned to University in September, and a substitute teacher (likely not certified) was used until November.

In the early years all teachers boarded with the George Boyle family who were located two miles from the school. By 1918 the only available boarding place was the Cafe in the Hamlet of Estlin, and they charged eight dollars per month, a cost the teacher thought extremely high. The Board compensated for this by raising their salary \$50 per year. The teacher's salary in 1915 was \$850 per year, and by 1919 it was \$1200, and seemed to remain at that for quite a number of years. By 1934, at the height of the depression, two rooms were in operation, and the Senior Room salary was down to \$950 and the Junior Room \$650, with a combined enrollment of approximately 80 students.

The original school district comprised 21 and one-quarter sections of land, but periodically additional land was incorporated into the district as it became more settled and families grew. In 1921, to accommodate the growing community, plans were started to raise money to build a new school in the Hamlet “on two acres situated where Revill's sheaf

DECLARATION

(Section 18—Form A)

This declaration must be signed by all resident ratepayers wishing to take part in or vote at the first school meeting held in a proposed district:



Proposed Grand View School District
(Proposed name of District)

of the Province of Sask.

The undersigned severally declare, each for himself, that he is of the full age of twenty-one years, that he actually resides within the above-named proposed school district, and that he has so resided therein and owned or been the occupant of assessable property therein for a period of at least two months immediately prior to this date.

NAME	PROPERTY OWNED OR OCCUPIED.
Rich Boyle	N.E. 1/4 14. 13- 19. 1907
Chas. Jefferson	D. C. 1/4 12. 10. 19 —
P. W. Robert	S. W. 1/2 22. 15. 19 —
W. J. Aruckle	N. W. 1/4 6. 13. 18 —
Geo. Kaye	D. Mt. 24. 15. 19 —
R. L. Evans	C. 15. 19 —
J. G. Harris	D. W. 1/4 12. 15. 19 —
H. Fry	E. W. 1/4 10. 15. 19 —

Dated the 20th day of July, 1907

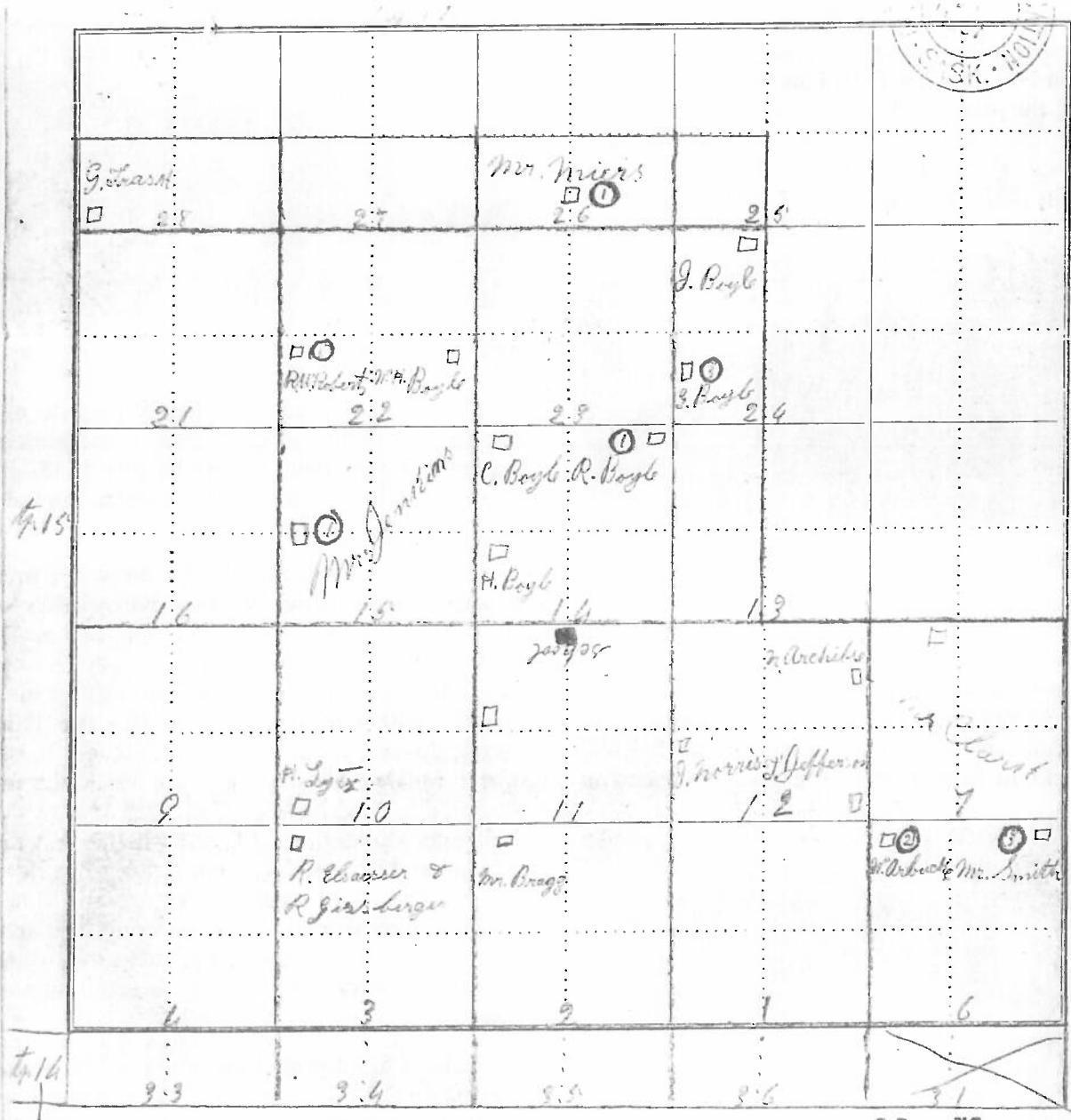
Witness to above signatures

Chas. Jefferson
Chairman.
R. Boyle
Secretary. 1800.

6184

Form 4-1,000—May 1906.

RETURN TO DEPARTMENT



S.D. NO.

Tp 15
T 16
Sec 32

- 1 Write the Name of each Resident Ratepayer across the Quarter Section on which he resides.
- 2 Indicate Number of Children of School Age Residing on each Quarter Section thus—(1), (2), (3), &c.
- 3 Indicate the Present or Proposed School Site thus—(x).
- 4 Indicate the Position of all Rivers, Creeks, Lakes, Sloughs, Swamps, Large Ravines, etc.
- 5 Indicate the Position of Bridges thus \equiv Travelled Roads thus and Location of Houses thus ■

NOTE—Each small square represents a quarter section.

stacks are, at no more than \$125 per acre". This is the present school site. Another three acres were purchased in 1929 from Dr. F. Jenkins (who owned both parcels), the price for the additional land being \$75 per acre. Measurements for this school were 24x31 and would accommodate up to 40 pupils. It was opened in 1922, teaching only to Grade eight.



Boyle School.

Five years later, in 1926, it was again time to plan either an addition on to the existing school, or build a new two-room structure. Ratepayers voted to build the new school, large enough to accommodate up to 80 students, and debentures in the amount of \$11,000 were sold to finance this. The school opened in



Estlin School, Feb. 1927.

October, 1926, which meant it only took approximately three months to erect from the time the debentures were issued. Fire destroyed this building on February 10, 1927. Equipment and desks were saved, and classes were held in the Grain Growers' Hall. Legal proceedings proved futile as to the responsibility for damages from either the architect or the contractor. A Department of Public Works inspector stated that, in his opinion, the fire started from the furnace. As can be expected, the following year's minutes showed that many discussions and much work revolved around the proper functioning of the furnace. The teachers were each paid a \$50 bonus as an act of appreciation for the handicap under which they had been working following this fire.



Estlin School burning, 1927.

Plans commenced immediately to raise money for the construction of the fourth — and present — school building. Tenders were let July 7, 1927, and by October, 1927, students and teachers were moved in.

The year 1931 appeared to be the worst year for finances for the district. Mr. Dave Kirby held most of the debentures for this final building, and was notified that payments on them would be late. A meeting with Mr. Kirby indicated he would wait for his payments "with the understanding that the Trustees would do their utmost to keep the school in operation." Much credit must be given Mr. Kirby for his financial help, as he held debentures of three school buildings at one time. Although he had no formal education, he had strong feelings that all children in the district should receive an education. That year teachers were also asked "to draw only \$50 and \$35 per month of their salary respectively, the balance to be paid when the school district is able, but without interest".

Tuition fees for students who resided out of the district varied throughout the years. Records show that, in the beginning, they were charged fifteen cents per day and had to supply their own desks, which became the property of the school when they left. This latter stipulation was eventually stopped. Until 1931, Grade one students began classes in April, after Easter vacation and at one time, they were not allowed to start school if they were under "six and one-half and seven years". During the depression payment of tuition was a great hardship for many families, but no children were ever refused an education in this regard. In 1958 as all students from the Weardale District had been attending Boyle for some time, it was unanimously agreed by both Boards that Consolidation should take place. This was accomplished on April 6, 1959. At that time, and with approval of the Boyle family, the name of the school was changed to Estlin. The area of the district now comprises 45 and three quarter sections of land, and



Boyle School 1928.

is the smallest non-operating Consolidated School District in the Province of Saskatchewan.

Until the new two-room school was built in 1927 students could receive their education only to the Grade eight level. Those who were financially able boarded in Regina and received their high school education there. Very few were able to do this. After 1927, and until 1959, they received their high schooling at Estlin. After this date, and until 1967, tuition was paid for Grades 11 and 12 students in Regina. In 1928 meetings of Boyle, Springdale, Kirby, King Edward, Buck Lake and Weardale School districts were held to discuss establishing a High School District, a Winter High School District, and a Continuation Room. Apparently no decision was reached on any of these, and that fall students from outside the Boyle district were charged tuition to receive high school education there. In 1967 grades seven to twelve were transported to Regina, and both conveyance and tuition were paid. An attempt was made to teach Grade one to six in one room for the following six years. The enrollment was low by this time, but the work involved, as the curriculum became more advanced, was too much for one teacher. In the fall of 1973 all grades were conveyed to Regina, and this system continues.



Boyle School, 1950. Back Row, L. to R.: Joanne Kearns, Joan Lewis, Myrna Dunbar, June Betcher, Dennis Kearns, Geraldine Dunbar, Ann Lewis, teacher — Joy Beach. Middle Row: Joyce Betcher, Kenneth Clarke, Neil Clarke, Maxine Seibel, Glen Cleveland. Front Row: Beth Lewis, Matilda Lozinski, Kathleen Dunbar, Doreen Dunbar, Carole Dunbar.

An integral part of operating a school was obtaining janitors, barn cleaners and yard men. Their list of duties and salaries paid seemed to take up more time at Trustees' meetings than teachers' salaries and duties, likely because the Department of Education had guidelines and salary schedules that had to be ad-

hered to for the teachers. From the time the school district opened until it closed, one janitor duty remained the same every summer holiday — replacing coat hooks and repairing the water fountains. Obviously these were the most used and most abused items.

The Community Club provided many additional items for the enjoyment of the students, including a piano, maypole and swings. In return this Club used the school for dances and entertainment.

A tribute must be paid to the residents of the district who have retained a separate status from the Larger School Units in the Province. This was accomplished through contributions of time and work, done for the most part at no charge, or minimal fees. Although the school no longer serves as an educational building, it still looms large in the tiny Hamlet of Estlin as a gathering place for our residents.

Quotes and Notes From The Minute Book of 1915-1934

1920 — The Budget for Expenses and Revenue comprised 15 lines, as compared to the present 20 computer pages.

1922 — the mill rate was 3.8 mills.

1924 — “Elderly lady teacher preferred — or if a real good man teacher is available, get him”.

1926 — “Get rid of certain doctor book objected to by a ratepayer, and purchase library books with the money obtained.”

1926 — “Teachers to arrive early enough in the morning to prevent children from causing damage to building and furniture.”

1927 — Motion to purchase vulcanized toilet seats — guaranteed for 12 months.

1928 — Teacher dropped a bottle of water on the floor and it froze before she could wipe it up. Children spent considerable time in the furnace room as class room was too cold.

1928 — Parent’s Complaint: Student hit over the head with a book. Teacher’s Rebuttal: “I did not use a book to knock her over the head!”

1929 — “Advance Secretary enough money on her salary to purchase a typewriter, the title to the same to remain with the school until salary all earned.”

1930 — “The Secretary was allowed to draw fifty cents whenever her presence in Regina was necessary on school business, even tho’ she attended to some of her own business at the same time.”

1930 — Janitor duty — “close gates every night — after we have them.” — keep school rooms warm, if at all possible, spending most of the day there on days such as January 16, 1930.”

1930 — Dr. Harvie vaccinated school children,

and others living in the district, for one dollar each — the school children to have “the right of way”.

1930 — Mrs. Clarence Myers was allowed the use of the school for her gymnasium class.

1931 — permission granted to a group to use the school house for practicing a play to be given for the benefit of the Ladies Aid Society.

Teachers

1909 Mr. J. G. Waterston
1910 Miss McCarthey
1911 Miss Alberta English
1912 Miss Alberta English
1913 Miss Flossie Fraser
1914 Miss Anna J. Amy
1915 Miss Alice Hills
1916 Miss Vera McIntyre
1917 Miss Vera McIntyre
1918 Miss Vera McIntyre
1919 Miss Muriel Crough
1920 Miss Marcella Donnally Miss Margaret J. Christie
1921 Miss Marjorie Lovering
1922 Miss L. M. Bambrick
1923 Miss L. M. Bambrick
1924 Miss L. M. Bambrick
1925 Mr. Howard A. Howes
1926 Miss Kathleen R. Bambridge
1927 Mr. P. Ervin Webster and Miss Anna E. Best
1928 Mr. Harold Hodges and Miss Anna E. Best
1929 Mr. Clifford McKay and Miss Margaret Ruggles
Mr. Roy Stewart and Miss Margaret Ruggles
1930 Mr. Roy Stewart and Mrs. Roy Stewart
1931 Mr. Roy Stewart and Miss Ella Reid
1932 Mr. Roy Stewart and Miss Ella Reid
1933 Mr. Roy Stewart and Miss Ella Reid
1934 Mr. P. Ervin Webster and Miss Gertrude Murray
1935 Mr. P. Ervin Webster and Miss Gertrude Murray
1936 Mr. P. Ervin Webster and Miss Gertrude Murray
1937 Mr. P. Ervin Webster and Miss Gertrude Murray
1938 Mr. Clifford E. Nesbitt and Miss Olive Martha Miller
1939 Mr. Albert Yakel and Miss Olive Martha Miller
1940 Mr. Albert Yakel and Miss M. P. Meikle
1941 Mr. Albert Yakel and Miss M. P. Meikle
1942 Mr. Albert Yakel and Miss Anne Kalewiss
1943 Mr. Ernest Otto Mumm and Anne Kalewiss
1944 Mr. Paul Lincoln Lambert and Miss M. Hood
1945 Mr. Paul Lincoln Lambert and Miss M. Hood
1946 Mr. Paul Lincoln Lambert and Miss M. Hood
1947 Miss Lillian Irene Heuser and Miss Elizabeth Jay Beach
1948 Miss Lillian Irene Heuser and Miss Elizabeth Jay Beach
1949 ?? and Miss Elizabeth Jay Beach
1950 Mr. Wes Wells and ??
1951 Mr. Wes Wells and Dorothy Beach
1952 Mr. Wes Wells and Miss Dorothy Beach
1953 Mr. Wes Wells and Miss Dorothy Beach
1954 Mr. Wes Wells and Lorraine Dorothy Lang
1955 Steve Lupick and Donald Wiks
1956 Steve Lupick and Emily Lupick
1957 Steve Lupick and Emily Lupick
1958 Isobel Boesch and Doris Kelly
1959 Isobel Boesch and Beryl Clarke
1960 Isobel Boesch and Beryl Clarke
1961 Isobel Boesch and Beryl Clarke
1962 ?? and Gertrude Somolenko
1963 John Gibson and Gertrude Somolenko
1964 John Gibson and Gertrude Somolenko

1965 Ed. Christoffel and Gertrude Somolenko
 1966 Ed. Christoffel and Gertrude Somolenko
 1967 Paul Lambert and Gertrude Somolenko
 1968 Mrs. M. Daniels
 1969 Mrs. M. Daniels
 1970 Mrs. Carol Lee
 1971 Mrs. Carol Lee
 1972 Mrs. Carol Lee
 1973 Thomas A. Dickson

Teaching at Boyle School — Estlin by Gertrude Murray

My teaching activity at Boyle School began in the fall of 1934. I had just begun my teaching career and was at Midale in 1933-34. You will recall by the date that we were in the midst of the depression. The dirty thirties! There was no money to pay us at Midale.

Another of the teachers at Midale was Ervin Webster. He and Helen had just recently been married. He heard that Boyle School was looking for teachers. So he applied for the Senior Room and I applied for the Junior Room. we were hired, and I was offered the princely salary of \$650 a year!

I spent three happy, busy years at Estlin, and made many friends, who are still part of my life. It was a congenial, happy atmosphere in the community, in spite of the state of the economy and the drought. The enrollment was high in the school, and all school activities were important to the village of Estlin, and the surrounding area.

I recall many happy memories of things that took place during those years. Perhaps you will recall some of these things, too.

I remember —

- Visits and Sunday dinners in so many hospitable homes.
- Playing ball at the Marean farm.
- Pie Socials at the school. (My pie fell upside down in the snow as I went to the school! Disaster!!)
- Teaching music lessons after four to make a little extra money.
- Riding in the sleigh or cutter on frosty clear nights — off to practice for a play.
- Russell Clarke as “Aaron Slick from Punkin’ Creek”.
- Saturday night card parties at the Myers’ home.
- Sunday services in the little Church at the end of the street.
- Breaking the ice in my water pitcher when I got up to wash on a winter’s morning.
- Dances in the Estlin Hall.
- Marking papers late at night after exams.
- Rushing to the little post office, looking for letters from home.
- Going outside one noon hour to watch a “black cloud” — grasshoppers flying over.

— Listening on the radio to the abdication speech of Edward VIII.

— Wiping up dust in the school room after a dust storm.

— Shy new beginners on the first day of school.

— A little girl (Muriel Gooding) crying in sympathy as we all sang the song “The Little Toy Soldier is Covered with Rust.”

— Packing up books and papers in June, 1937, making ready to move on to a bigger school.

— Loathe to leave the friendly atmosphere of the Estlin Community.

As I write this, I can see so many faces in front of me in the Junior room. I see Marnie Runkle, Ina Mae Marean, Mona Black, Keith East, Clifford Webster, Alma and Arnold Richenberger, Marjorie East, the Goodings, Johnny Wiks, John Myers, Wayland Cleveland, Stanley Smith — and so many others.

Aren’t memories great!

I’m grateful to have had the three happy years in such a fine community.

King Edward School compiled by Tim Novak



King Edward School, 1955.

Education was an important matter for the early pioneers who settled in Saskatchewan. For them, the establishment of school systems was necessary for the education and advancement of their children. The provincial government and its predecessor, the territorial government, agreed with this sentiment. It brought about and encouraged the formation of hundreds of schools and school districts throughout Saskatchewan during the first decade of this century. One of these, King Edward School, was to serve the people of the Estlin and Rowatt districts for more than fifty years.

A Petition for the Formation of a Public School was issued on January 31, 1908 for this district. It stated that the new school district was to comprise

12,800 acres of assessable land (later reduced to 12,480 acres in 1914) in the following sections:

19, 20, 29, 30, 31, 32 in Township 15 Range 19
23, 24, 25, 26, 35, 36 in Township 15 Range 20
5, 6, 7, 8 in Township 16 Range 19
1, 2, 11, 12 in Township 16 Range 20
west of the 2nd meridian.

There were sixty-one residents, 15 of whom were liable to taxation for school purposes. Six were Protestants and nine were Roman Catholic. Twenty-one children were of school age (5-16 years) and thirteen children were younger than five years.

In response to this petition, a meeting was held on April 3, 1908 in the home of Ed. Kirby to elect a school board. The first chairman was John Baker, Ed. Kirby was acclaimed secretary-treasurer and Andrew Novak (Nowak) a trustee. Also present were Thomas Kirby and Joe Germish. Several names were proposed for the intended school: Kirby, Baker, Prairie Green, Sunnyside, and King Edward. The latter was assigned and the district designated as the "King Edward School District No. 2035" after the reigning monarch, King Edward VII. Thomas Kirby agreed to sell one and one-half acres of land in the northeast corner of the S.E. quarter of S. 36 T. 15 R. 20 W2nd for forty-five dollars to the school board to provide for a school site. Today this location is adjacent to the John Wallace farm on Number six highway, seven miles south of Regina.

The school was not built until a year later. The contractor, Mr. E. E. Adams, agreed to furnish, deliver and construct all materials necessary for a frame school house and a stable for the sum of \$1557.00. By the end of the summer of 1909 a one-room schoolhouse, painted white with green trim and complete with two toilet closets, a Waterman and Waterbury heater, hyloplate blackboard and a map case, was ready for the fall term.

Mr. F. Demary was the first teacher that year. He received about fifty dollars per month in salary and his term was completed by Miss B. H. Lundrigan. The first children to attend King Edward School were Andrew Baker, Barbara Novak, Laurence Novak, Clifford Kirby and Irene Kirby. Joe Baker joined after Christmas when he reached the age of six.

The new school was equipped with a broom, coal scuttle, fire shovel, axe and window shades. There were eight single desks, two single rears, a teacher's desk and chair, a numeral frame, globe, maps, dictionary, readers and primers, a set of drawing models and other necessities such as a handbell, clock and thermometer. In 1911 a telephone was installed and a flagpole erected.

Local ratepayers and board members and their families took turns maintaining the school. Wives

did the cleaning and the men hauled coal and wood, cleaned the stables and toilets and did minor repairs. In 1910 Thomas Kirby was paid five dollars for ploughing a fire guard around the school. Teachers were paid to start and maintain the fires which provided heat during the fall and winter months.

Teachers came and went. For many their term of stay was short, often lasting only half a year. This was probably due to the remoteness of the school from Regina, the difficulty of having to teach several grades at once and the relatively low salaries. Miss Colette Metz had the distinction of serving the longest continuous term — six years — from 1932 to 1938. Generations of local children from the same families attended King Edward School. Many descendants of the original pupils were the last children to attend in the mid-1960's.

School was not just a place of learning for rural children. It was also a place to have fun and to organize games and clubs. Field days or sports days gave them an opportunity to compete with other country schools for pennants and ribbons. Clubs like the Junior Red Cross held regular meetings and raised money for international aid. Events like Christmas, Easter, Halloween and Valentine's Day were almost always marked by a school party with costumes, decorations, skits, music and recitations. Rural children, when without a basketball or baseball bat, were always able to contrive a new game with great imagination.

The school also served as a social centre for the area. Many a Friday or Saturday night dance was held with neighbours and friends, including Estlin residents, coming from miles around to socialize. Christmas parties were an annual event. The school board contributed money toward buying the school children Christmas presents, even during the hard times of the Depression.

Over the years King Edward School saw some changes and improvements. The school was renovated in 1929 with a loan of \$1600 from the Local Government Board. Raised from its cement foundation and turned to face south, the building was re-set on a full cement basement. Proper indoor cesspool lavatories and a coal burning furnace were added. However, there was some displeasure with the work done on the interior. The board withheld some of the contractor's fees until the walls and ceilings were done properly. The result was a modern well-furnished schoolhouse.

The Depression that followed the twenties affected King Edward School as it did so many other institutions. In 1931 the school board had to request that the teacher, Miss Mildred Baldwin, accept a reduced salary. Often, because of crop failures and

ne poor financial conditions, the board could not make payments of any kind. In the spring of 1932 it was forced to discontinue the services of Miss Baldwin and raise the possibility of closing the school together. Fortunately, school resumed in the fall.

With the Second World War and the increased prosperity that followed it, King Edward School enjoyed a sounder future. Mill rates increased and attendance improved. The ratepayers voiced their confidence by voting against the formation of a larger school unit administration in 1945.

The school was electrified in 1954 and a teacherage was moved to the site to house a resident teacher. With the expansion of Highway Department property in 1959, the school board sold the stable which had been in disuse and used the proceeds to enlarge the school grounds.

By the mid-60's attitudes toward rural education and its administration had changed. In 1963 King Edward School had become part of Regina School Unit No. 21 in an effort to consolidate school management in the Regina area. For many ratepayers modern urban schools provided a better quality of education than the small one-room school could — with its eight grades and one teacher. It made good sense to have their children bused to nearby city schools. Others voiced their regrets that the old school would be closed.

For practical purposes the school was finally closed in June, 1966, after the school term was completed. The building remained standing for several years until it was torn down in the early 1970's. After fifty-seven years of service to the community, the legacy of King Edward School was its contribution to the upbringing and education of the future generations. Our ancestors, the early pioneers, had foreseen and answered this need.

School Officials *

Chairmen:

John Baker — 1908-1932
 A. H. Snell — 1932-1934
 1937-1949
 J. C. Novak — 1934-1937
 Joseph P. Baker — 1949-1964
 Frank Anwender — 1964-1966

Secretary-Treasurers:

Ed. Kirby — 1908-1911
 E. H. Brett — 1911-1912
 R. A. Robinson — 1913-1931
 Laurence A. Novak — 1932-1954
 Earle Robinson — 1954-1957
 Eric Novak — 1957-1966

* excludes trustees and local attendance officers

Teachers

John F. Demary	1909
Blanch H. Lundrigan	1910
Mary F. Currie	1910-1911

Dolena McDonald	1912
Daniel H. McInnes	1912-1913
A. C. Smithers	1913
Miss C. G. Campbell	1914-1915
Mortimer Downing	1915-1916
Mildred Hickey	1916-1917
	1918-1919
	1920-1923
Miss Martin	1917
Dorothy E. Mooney	1920
Miss G. E. Burley	1923
C. M. Dunn	1923
Miss M. E. MacGregor	1923-1925
W. A. Wheatley	1925
	1926-1928
Miss Hamilton	1926
Mildred G. Baldwin	1928-1932
Colette M. Metz	1932-1938
Everett A. Snell	1938-1940
Leo C. Wright	1940-1942
Violet McGillivray	1942-1943
Helen E. Kaufman	1943-1944
Katherine C. Fichter	1944-1946
Winnifred Walsh	1946-1948
Maxine J. Jolly	1948-1949
Thelma D. Tunison (nee Chamberlain)	1949-1950
Joyce M. Comba	1951
Loretta C. Siefertling	1951-1952
Anne Chorneyko	1952-1953
Lola K. Robertson	1953
Loreen E. Reid	1953-1955
Vera J. Onstad	1955-1958
Bertha Fischer	1958-1959
Tillie Ostlund	1959-1961
Marcella Horsman	1961-1963
Winifred A. Drake	1963-1966

Kirby School District 1916 to 1966

written by Leo Ulrich and Helen Ulrich Flavell

Archives and the local minute book records show that on July 19, 1916, residents met at the home of



Kirby School, 1927. Top Row, L. to R.: Phyllis Williams, Josephine Ulrich. 2nd Row: Howard Denton, Bob Ulrich, Edgar Petersmeyer. 3rd Row: Richard Ulrich, Warren Petersmeyer, Clarence Williams. 4th Row: Helen Denton, Ivy Balderston, Leo Ulrich, Harry Wallace. Front Row: Getchel Williams, Carl Denton, Gardner Williams, Mildred Ulrich, Nora Davidson.



Students of Kirby School, about 1935. Top Row from L. to R.: Florence Morrison, Vera Davis, Doris Zakrison, Noma Davis, Gordon Williams, Lucille Dickey, Eddie Baker, on horse — Margaret O'Neil, on ground — Billy Flett, Holly Williams.

John and Belle Ulrich in an endeavor to have a school district organized. There were 20 children in the area, ranging from five years to 16 years of age inclusive, with no means of an education. Belle Ulrich was Chairman, and H. J. Shilling Secretary of the meeting. First trustees were W. Spicer, J. Balderston, and John Ulrich.

Land was purchased from C. W. Williams on the N.W. quarter of section 1, T. 15, R. 20, west of 2nd. Debentures for the amount of \$1,508.00 were applied for and granted on January 8, 1917. Building got underway in the summer and the doors opened for business on January 8, 1918, with Gladys Goldie, the first teacher.

Among names submitted to the Department of Education for the school were Kirby, Kitchener, Golden West, Swamp Angle, and Tiparie. The Department chose Kirby, and so the school was named after one of the first residents of the district.

Like many early buildings the school was cold. In wintertime everyone had to hug the big old stove, set in one corner of the room, to keep warm and there were days when classes did not get underway until nearly noon. There was lots of exercise and jogging around the room, however. Students were happy, though. They came by sleigh and buggy, by horse and pony back and by foot. In winter our parents would heat bags of oats to keep our feet warm to and from school. Some who could afford them had foot warmers. The majority of teachers boarded at the Jack Balderston home, one mile from the school.

Years passed with the usual measles and mump epidemics, a few broken arms, the death of one of the pupils, Mildred Denton, a 12-year old grade four

girl; Dale Shilling getting struck by lightning while waiting a storm out in the Balderston barn, and a few stubble fire scares with threats to the school buildings. Another incident worth recalling was during the dirty thirties, when one of the boys drove his horse and buggy to a nearby dugout for a drink. Both were soon bogged down in the blow dirt which had filled in the ends of the dugout. The animal had to be unhitched and the buggy and horse pulled from the mire.

It was always a frightening day when the school inspector paid a visit; he usually appeared unannounced like the big bad wolf.

In May, 1928, ratepayers decided it was time for a new school. They borrowed by debenture \$4,000.00 at five and one-quarter percent interest. The first school was sold to Dave Kirby for \$200.00, who used it for a workshop on his farm. Years later it was torn down.

Mike Kartusch was the first teacher in the new school which opened in the fall of 1928.

Twelve years went by, enrollment dwindled. Finally, in August, 1940, trustees decided not to open the school that fall, due to low attendance. The students were transported to four different schools: Yankee Ridge, Boyle, Bratt's Lake, and King Edward.

Fifteen years elapsed; another generation was growing up — a school was needed. In 1955 ratepayers decided to move Kirby school a mile over to No. 6 highway on an all-weather road. Land was purchased from Jack Stuart on the N.E. quarter of Sec. 1, T 15, R 20; the basement dug, the building moved and readied for classes. In August, 1956, the students were "back home". This time Mrs. Della Matz was the first teacher.

Ten years down the road brought another change. In 1966 the doors closed for good on the premises but those years gave another group of children a chance to complete their public school education in their own district.

Les McKinnon was the last teacher who rang the last bell on the last day which ended a 50 year era for Kirby School. The school was sold and demolished and the land returned to the owner of the farm.

Kirby School district was situated in an area edging Estlin, Rouleau, Wilcox and Regina and one wondered at times which town they belonged to — however Estlin was the main Post Office.

We were proud of our district — we still are. If our forefathers could look back today, they too would be proud of the sons and daughters who have followed their footsteps and remained on the land. Proud also of those descendants who ventured further afield and now have business connections or are

ADDITION TABLE

1 and 1 are 2	2 and 1 are 3	3 and 1 are 4	4 and 1 are 5	5 and 1 are 6	6 and 1 are 7	7 and 1 are 8	8 and 1 are 9	9 and 1 are 10	10 and 1 are 11	11 and 1 are 12	12 and 1 are 13
2 - 3	2 - 4	2 - 5	2 - 6	2 - 7	2 - 8	2 - 9	2 - 10	2 - 11	2 - 12	2 - 13	2 - 14
3 - 4	3 - 5	3 - 6	3 - 7	3 - 8	3 - 9	3 - 10	3 - 11	3 - 12	3 - 13	3 - 14	3 - 15
4 - 5	4 - 6	4 - 7	4 - 8	4 - 9	4 - 10	4 - 11	4 - 12	4 - 13	4 - 14	4 - 15	4 - 16
5 - 6	5 - 7	5 - 8	5 - 9	5 - 10	5 - 11	5 - 12	5 - 13	5 - 14	5 - 15	5 - 16	5 - 17
6 - 7	6 - 8	6 - 9	6 - 10	6 - 11	6 - 12	6 - 13	6 - 14	6 - 15	6 - 16	6 - 17	6 - 18
7 - 8	7 - 9	7 - 10	7 - 11	7 - 12	7 - 13	7 - 14	7 - 15	7 - 16	7 - 17	7 - 18	7 - 19
8 - 9	8 - 10	8 - 11	8 - 12	8 - 13	8 - 14	8 - 15	8 - 16	8 - 17	8 - 18	8 - 19	8 - 20
9 - 10	9 - 11	9 - 12	9 - 13	9 - 14	9 - 15	9 - 16	9 - 17	9 - 18	9 - 19	9 - 20	9 - 21
10 - 11	10 - 12	10 - 13	10 - 14	10 - 15	10 - 16	10 - 17	10 - 18	10 - 19	10 - 20	10 - 21	10 - 22
11 - 12	11 - 13	11 - 14	11 - 15	11 - 16	11 - 17	11 - 18	11 - 19	11 - 20	11 - 21	11 - 22	11 - 23
12 - 13	12 - 14	12 - 15	12 - 16	12 - 17	12 - 18	12 - 19	12 - 20	12 - 21	12 - 22	12 - 23	12 - 24

SUBTRACTION.—By reversing the above Table Subtraction is learnt, thus: instead of saying 1 and 1 are 2, say 1 from 2 and 1 remains; 1 from 3 and 2 remains.

MULTIPLICATION TABLE

2 times 1 are 2	3 times 1 are 3	4 times 1 are 4	5 times 1 are 5	6 times 1 are 6	7 times 1 are 7	8 times 1 are 8	9 times 1 are 9	10 times 1 are 10	11 times 1 are 11	12 times 1 are 12
2 - 4	2 - 6	2 - 8	2 - 10	2 - 12	2 - 14	2 - 16	2 - 18	2 - 20	2 - 22	2 - 24
3 - 6	3 - 9	3 - 12	3 - 15	3 - 18	3 - 21	3 - 24	3 - 27	3 - 30	3 - 33	3 - 36
4 - 8	4 - 12	4 - 16	4 - 20	4 - 24	4 - 28	4 - 32	4 - 36	4 - 40	4 - 44	4 - 48
5 - 10	5 - 15	5 - 20	5 - 25	5 - 30	5 - 35	5 - 40	5 - 45	5 - 50	5 - 55	5 - 60
6 - 12	6 - 18	6 - 24	6 - 30	6 - 36	6 - 42	6 - 48	6 - 54	6 - 60	6 - 66	6 - 72
7 - 14	7 - 21	7 - 28	7 - 35	7 - 42	7 - 49	7 - 56	7 - 63	7 - 70	7 - 77	7 - 84
8 - 16	8 - 24	8 - 32	8 - 40	8 - 48	8 - 56	8 - 64	8 - 72	8 - 80	8 - 88	8 - 96
9 - 18	9 - 27	9 - 36	9 - 45	9 - 54	9 - 63	9 - 72	9 - 81	9 - 90	9 - 99	9 - 108
10 - 20	10 - 30	10 - 40	10 - 50	10 - 60	10 - 70	10 - 80	10 - 90	10 - 100	10 - 110	10 - 120
11 - 22	11 - 33	11 - 44	11 - 55	11 - 66	11 - 77	11 - 88	11 - 99	11 - 110	11 - 121	11 - 132
12 - 24	12 - 36	12 - 48	12 - 60	12 - 72	12 - 84	12 - 96	12 - 108	12 - 120	12 - 132	12 - 144

DIVISION.—To apply this Table to Division reverse it, thus: instead of saying 3 times 1 are 3, say 3's in 3 are 1, or go once; 3's in 6 are 2, or go twice.

ARITHMETICAL TABLES

<p>Numeration.</p> <p>Units.....1 Tens.....12 Hundreds.....123 Thousands.....1,234 Tens of Thousands, 12,345 C. of Thousands, 123,456 Millions.....1,234,567 T. of Millions, 12,345,678 C. of Millions, 123,456,789</p> <p>The number represented in the last line is read: One hundred and twenty-three million, four hundred and fifty-six thousand, seven hundred and eighty-nine.</p> <p>Numerals.</p> <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">ARABIC.</th> <th style="text-align: left;">ROMAN.</th> </tr> <tr><td>1.....</td><td>I.....</td></tr> <tr><td>2.....</td><td>II.....</td></tr> <tr><td>3.....</td><td>III.....</td></tr> <tr><td>4.....</td><td>IV.....</td></tr> <tr><td>5.....</td><td>V.....</td></tr> <tr><td>6.....</td><td>VI.....</td></tr> <tr><td>7.....</td><td>VII.....</td></tr> <tr><td>8.....</td><td>VIII.....</td></tr> <tr><td>9.....</td><td>IX.....</td></tr> <tr><td>10.....</td><td>X.....</td></tr> <tr><td>20.....</td><td>XX.....</td></tr> <tr><td>50.....</td><td>L.....</td></tr> <tr><td>100.....</td><td>C.....</td></tr> <tr><td>500.....</td><td>D.....</td></tr> <tr><td>1000.....</td><td>M.....</td></tr> </table> <p>Cubic, or Solid Measure.</p> <p>1728 Inches, 1 Solid Foot 27 Feet, 1 Solid Yard 42 Feet, 1 Ton Shipping 128 Feet, 1 Cord Wood</p>	ARABIC.	ROMAN.	1.....	I.....	2.....	II.....	3.....	III.....	4.....	IV.....	5.....	V.....	6.....	VI.....	7.....	VII.....	8.....	VIII.....	9.....	IX.....	10.....	X.....	20.....	XX.....	50.....	L.....	100.....	C.....	500.....	D.....	1000.....	M.....	<p>Long Measure.</p> <p>12 Lines.....1 Inch 4 Inches.....1 Hand 12 Inches.....1 Foot 3 Feet.....1 Yard 6 Feet.....1 Fathom 54 Yards, 1 Rod or Pole 40 Rods.....1 Furlong 8 Furlongs.....1 Mile 3 Miles.....1 League 694 Miles.....1 Degree 1760 yds. or 5280 ft., 1 Mile 6075-81 ft., 1 Nautical Mile</p> <p>Dry Measure.</p> <p>2 Pints.....1 Quart 4 Quarts.....1 Gallon 2 Gallons.....1 Peck 4 Pecks.....1 Bushel 36 Bushels, 1 Chaldron</p> <p>Avoirdupois Weight.</p> <p>16 Drams.....1 Ounce 16 Ounces.....1 Pound 14 Pounds.....1 Stone 25 Pounds, 1 Quarter, C. 28 Pounds, 1 Quarter, E. 4 Quarters, 1 Hund'w't. 20 Hundredweight 2000 lbs., Can.....1 Ton 2240 lbs., Eng.....)</p> <p>Paper.</p> <p>24 Sheets.....1 Quire 20 Quires.....1 Ream</p>	<p>Time Measure.</p> <p>60 Seconds.....1 Minute 60 Minutes.....1 Hour 24 Hours.....1 Day 7 Days.....1 Week 4 Weeks.....1 Month 12 Months, or 365 1/4 Days 100 Years.....1 Century</p> <p>Arithmetical Signs.</p> <p>+ Plus, sign of Addition. - Minus, sign of Sub't'n. × Sign of Multiplication. ÷ Sign of Division. = Sign of Equality. ∴ Sign of Proportion. √ Sign of the Sq. Root. ° Degree, ' Minute. " Second, ∴ Therefore.</p> <p>Troy Weight.</p> <p>24 Grains, 1 Pennyweight 20 Pennyweights, 1 Ounce 12 Ounces.....1 Pound</p> <p>Cloth Measure.</p> <p>24 Inches.....1 Nail 4 Nails.....1 Quarter 3 Quarters, 1 Flemish Ell 4 Quarters.....1 Yard 5 Quarters, 1 English Ell 6 Quarters, 1 French Ell 37 Inches.....1 Scotch Ell</p>	<p>Apothecaries' Weight.</p> <p>20 Grains.....1 Scruple 3 Scruples.....1 Dram 8 Drams.....1 Ounce 12 Ounces.....1 Pound</p> <p>Square or Land Measure.</p> <p>144 Sq. Inches, 1 Sq. Foot 9 Sq. Feet, 1 Sq. Yard 30 1/2 Yards, 1 Square Rod 40 Poles.....1 Rood 4 Roods.....1 Acre 640 Acres.....1 Sq. Mile</p> <p>Days in the Month.</p> <p>30 days hath September, April, June and November; February has 28 alone, And all the rest have 31; But Leap Year coming once in four, February then has one day more.</p> <p>Measure of Capacity.</p> <p>4 Gills.....1 Pint 2 Pints.....1 Quart 4 Quarts.....1 Gallon 9 Gallons.....1 Firkin 36 Gallons.....1 Barrel 33 Gallons, 1 Hogshead</p>	<p>Land Survey Measure.</p> <p>7.92 Inches.....1 Link 100 Links.....1 Chain 1 Chain.....66 Feet 10 Sq. Chains.....1 Acre</p> <p>English Money Table.</p> <p>4 Farthings.....1 Penny 12 Pence.....1 Shilling 20 Shillings.....1 Pound</p> <p>A Florin is 2s.45c. A Half-Crown is 2s. 6d.60c. A Sovereign is 20s.\$4.86</p> <p>Aliquot Parts of a Pound.</p> <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">s.</th> <th style="text-align: left;">d.</th> <th style="text-align: left;">£</th> </tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>0</td><td>is 1 half.</td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>8</td><td>.. 1 third.</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>0</td><td>.. 1 fourth.</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>0</td><td>.. 1 fifth.</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>.. 1 sixth.</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td><td>6</td><td>.. 1 eighth.</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td><td>0</td><td>.. 1 tenth.</td></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td>8</td><td>.. 1 twelfth.</td></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td>3</td><td>.. 1 sixteenth.</td></tr> </table> <p>Of a Shilling.</p> <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">d.</th> <th style="text-align: left;">s.</th> <th style="text-align: left;">£</th> </tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>is 1-half.</td><td>2 is 1-8th.</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>.. 1-third.</td><td>1 1/2 .. 1-8th.</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>.. 1-fourth.</td><td>1 .. 1-12th.</td></tr> </table> <p>Of a Ton.</p> <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Cwt.</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Ton.</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Cwt.</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Ton.</th> </tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>is 1-half.</td><td>2 1/2</td><td>is 1-8th.</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>.. 1-4th.</td><td>2</td><td>.. 1-10th.</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>.. 1-5th.</td><td>1</td><td>.. 1-20th.</td></tr> </table>	s.	d.	£	10	0	is 1 half.	6	8	.. 1 third.	5	0	.. 1 fourth.	4	0	.. 1 fifth.	3	4	.. 1 sixth.	2	6	.. 1 eighth.	2	0	.. 1 tenth.	1	8	.. 1 twelfth.	1	3	.. 1 sixteenth.	d.	s.	£	6	is 1-half.	2 is 1-8th.	4	.. 1-third.	1 1/2 .. 1-8th.	3	.. 1-fourth.	1 .. 1-12th.	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holding positions at various points throughout Canada and U.S.A.

And to think it all began back there in 1916 in a little \$500.00 school house which wasn't even red.

Sixty-six years is a long time! It's hard to keep track of all the people who came and went in the district. Some remained only a brief time, other several years and some of the original names are still among the taxpayers.

We feel, however brief their stay, each and every one was a link in the building of what we have today and so in this record on the Estlin history, we who are still here can only pay tribute to the following who have tilled the soil for so many years, to those who came, those who left and to those who still remain. We apologize to those we have missed.

Residents we remember over the years include the following families: Bond, Spicer, Kinsey, Trovillo, Reidy, Balderston, Shilling, Chernick, Metzkie, Taylor, Zakrison, Citron, Carter, Mrs. Patterson, Kelly, O'Neil, Risto, Copeland, C. W. Williams, Dentons, Art Williams, Wallace, Arnold, Kirby, Rudd, Templeton, Bazinet, Roth, Ross, Park and Hollis Williams, Petersmeyer, Chadwick, Dickey, Brown, Davis, Ulrich, Todd, Howard, Stuart, Runge, Mayer, Gooding, Wolfram, Sjoberg, Sanborn, Sakundiak, Brandt and Stewart.

Kirby School Trustees and Secretary Treasurers 1916 to 1966

John Ulrich	1916-31	Trustee & Sec. Tres.
Jack Balderston	1916-26	Trustee & Sec. Tres.
W. Spicer	1916	Trustee
H. J. Shilling	1917-27	Trustee
Andrew Baker	1927-42	Trustee
Ben Metzkie	1928-33	Trustee
Hollis Williams	1932	Trustee
Reuben Brown	1932-33	Sec. Tres.
Alec Cain	1933-37	Trustee & Sec. Tres.
Edward Roth	1934-42	Trustee
Evelyn Dickey	1934	Sec. Tres.
Hollis Williams	1938-41	Trustee & Sec. Tres.
Ian Forbes	1941-42	Sec. Tres.
Park Williams	1942	Trustee
Anna Mayer	1947-48	Secretary
Leo B. Ulrich	1955-66	Trustee
C. Willis Williams	1955-61	Trustee
John Mayer	1955	Trustee
Anna Mayer	1955	Sec. Tres.
Wilfred Ulrich	1955-59	Sec. Tres.
Gordon Williams	1956-66	Trustee
Lorraine Brandt	1960-66	Sec. Tres.
Peter Sakundiak	1962-66	Trustee

Kirby School Teachers 1918 to 1966

Miss Gladys Goldie	1918
Miss Lizzie Broder	1918-19
Miss E. E. Vincent	1919-24
Miss Morin	1924-25
Miss M. Gross	1925-26
Miss K. Craven	1926-27

Mr. S. B. East	1927-28
Mr. M. Kartusch	1928-29
Mr. W. Steele	1929-30
Miss E. Baldwin	1930-31
Miss C. Malden	1931-32
Miss N. Larsen	1932-33
Miss J. Vance	1933-34
Miss L. Douglas	1934-38
Miss M. Winkler	1938-39
Miss A. Corman	1939-40
Miss D. Matz	1956-57
Mrs. Beryl Clarke	1957-58
Mrs. Onstead	1958-59
Miss A. Baker	1959-60
Mrs. D. Boehme	1960-62
Miss G. Nelson	1962-64
Mr. Les McKinnon	1964-66

School Day (Reminiscences)

by Kathleen R. (Craven) McKenzie

Kirby S.D. 3803 was situated on a dirt road a mile from my boarding house — the N.W. quarter of 1-15-20-W2nd. The school stood on a acre of land in the midst of farms. There was a stable and outdoor plumbing at the back of the acre. The year was the fall of 1926 and rural electrification had not yet come to these parts.

My boarding place was with Mr. and Mrs. Jack Balderston. They were a kindly, gentle couple — English by birth. Their family were two grown sons and three daughters, the youngest was Ivy — affectionately called "Bubbles". She was in grade four. Prior to my coming here Mrs. Balderston had requested an interview. Apparently I passed her test, for she became a friend.

The school was the usual type of that day — a one-room structure with a stove in one corner at the back. Whoever got there first laid and lit the fire. In winter it was a cold experience! But this is a memory that lingers!

I seem to remember we began our day by all standing and repeating "The Lord's Prayer" and singing "Good Morning Merry Sunshine." Rural schools provided all the grades but since numbers were not large, little competition.

My youngest pupil was five years old and my oldest was nineteen. The latter had been needed at home and now wished to return and complete her Grade Ten Departmental Examinations in June. So, after Christmas she came. She was an eager and willing student and I rejoice to say she passed.

In the district there was a sickly boy who could not attend. His mother thought I should tutor him after four o'clock. That fall she picked me up at the Balderston home and drove me to her home where we did our best until time for the evening meal. My day was diversified.

One day the farmers were burning stubble and the

wind kept sending the fire our way — both pupils and teacher were afraid, so I phoned home — immediately men came from all directions. The fire was quickly put out. We were thankful for rural telephones!

School inspectors posed a threat for all in the rural school. Ours treated us kindly. We passed the tests and the reward was a Permanent First Class Certificate.

In every classroom amusing things happen. Suffice it to mention one. It was a mild day in winter and during the lunch hour one of the boys got his overalls quite wet. I suggested he should hang them up to dry. After a little while I failed to see Richard's overalls. I asked where he hung them. The reply, "On the flag pole" — much to the delight of the pupils! So, very briefly Kirby School flew an unusual flag.

Community life just did not exist in that district. Regina beckoned the country side. The reflection of its lights could be seen over sky to the north. People had cars, but the roads were low and the gumbo heavy. Many went away for the winter.

In good weather the walk to school was a pleasure. In wet, or cold weather it was something else. On occasion Mr. Petersmeyer overtook me, and gave me a ride the rest of the way. He drove Edgar and Warren to school. I recall on one occasion, he informed me he thought I expected too much of a Grade IV boy to spell "indefatigable." I argued he did spell it correctly and he could read it. I was endeavoring to apply what Dr. Quance had taught at Normal.

Another unusual experience for me happened prior to Christmas. I had hoped to get to Regina. Mr. Balderston suggested he had a horse as "quiet as a lamb" and I could drive it to the city. So, Ivy and I set off after school one Friday night. I had no experience in driving. As we approached Rowatt the train pulled in. I was fearful that the horse might be frightened and run. What to do? So, I turned the horse around. If it ran we would be headed for home! It didn't budge. We continued our drive. Our long drive in a cutter finally ended on pavement in Regina. It was a heavy pull for a horse. However, Saskatchewan being Saskatchewan, the weather changed quickly and we had a howling blizzard. One of the men came out and got us home. How the horse and cutter returned I have no idea.

The last fifteen minutes on Fridays I used to read to the pupils. They loved "Uncle Tom's Cabin." I recall one of the boys asking, "Couldn't we all stay just a little longer to hear more of the story?"

There are other things to remember. The choir the frogs made in the spring. It seemed to be just outside my window, as I prepared lessons for the next day. Or, in winter, the radio just below my room playing

and singing "Bye-Bye Blackbird." It was the winter of 1927. I think of both those things when I hear frogs in summer or "Bye-Bye Blackbird."

It was quite a year. I would not want to have missed it. The snow had come early in October and few drove their cars after that. When I left the end of June there was still some ice back of the Balderston barn.

In July, 1927, Andrew L. Hall and I were married. In 1953 Andy suffered a severe heart attack and died. Life changed greatly. After working in various offices I met and married E. W. McKenzie. Ernie died in 1975 — and so life goes on.

One recalls the days and months at Kirby School, with pupils and friends, with affection.

Springdale School #263 by Dick and Diane McAllister

The first record of Springdale's existence was in 1893. It was situated somewhere on the N half of 32-16-19-W2nd. Many of the children were from the Zichydorf village or colony which was on the N half of 21-16-19-W2nd. Many of the present residents in the district originated from that colony, namely Deberts, Bolens, Aamons, Anwenders, Wingerts and Sillers.

In 1906 permission was granted by the Department of Education to move the school to the NE quarter of 21-16-19-W2nd, but for some unknown reason this never came about. The most likely reason

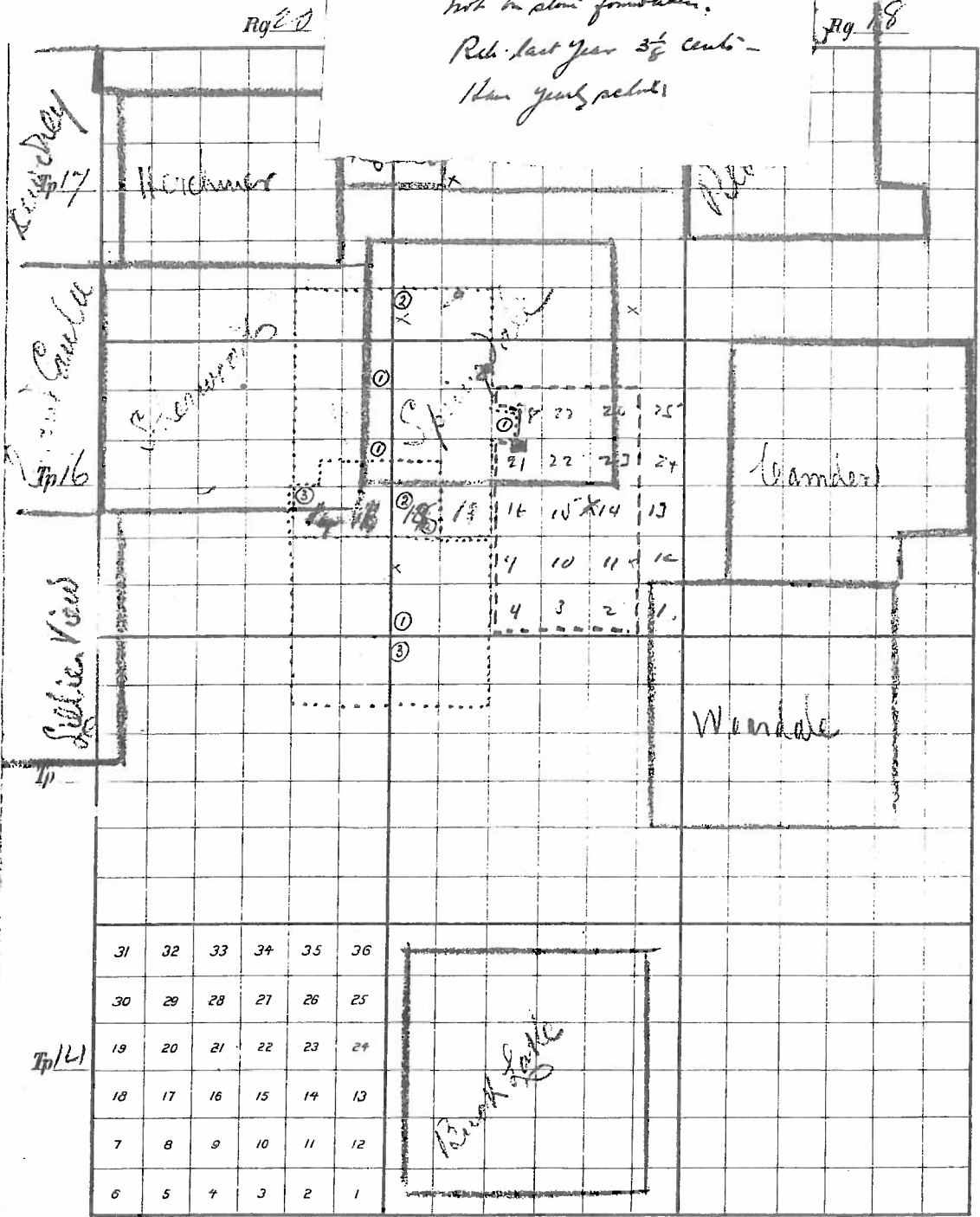


Pupils at Springdale School taken Dec. 20, 1937.

was that by this time many of the village residents were moving away to live on their homesteads.

In 1910 the school was moved to SW quarter of 23-16-19-W2nd to a more central location for the homesteaders. Most of the records are unavailable from that time until 1934. However, it is known that in 1925 a new brick school was built on the SE quarter

Shaded 50
 From School Plan - ...
 Up over 6 years - cost 500
 Not in plan formation.
 Rel. last year 3 1/2 cents -
 How year's profit



- suggest.

Konescription für Maters namen Names of Fathers Sebastian Müller Ryma P.O.	Holoni Lichyldorf Namen der Kinder Names of Children	Jahre Age
	Jos. of Müller	10
	Rosalia Müller	5
	Lorenz Debert	11
Matthias Debert	Matthias Debert	10
Michael Polen	Peter Polen	8
	Michael Polen	5
Leobold Saman	Anna Saman	14
Georg Feller	Martin Feller	10
	Katharina Feller	14
	Margulena Feller	8
Michael Polen	Franz Polen	11
	Georg Polan	9

Peter Polen	Michael Polen	11
	Johan Polen	8
	Rosalia Polen	6
Johan Polen	Fallin Polen	14
	Jakob Polen	11
	Johan Polen	9
	Peter Polen	6
Jakob Polen	Karbara Polen	13
Paul Weissmüller	Paul Weissmüller	12
	Johan Weissmüller	6
Jos. of Ewendler	Margulena Ewendler	8
Heinrich Saman	Margulena Saman	13
Jos. of Herman		
Nicolaus Herwel		
Anna Reitter		
Andreas Saman		
Jos. of Mingerot		
Peter Schels		

Namen Vaters	Children
Sebastian Müller	3 J. W. Quae Section 16 Town 16 Rang. 19
Paul Weissmüller	2 N. W. Quae Section 16 Town 16 Rang. 19
Andreas Saman	— S. E. Quae Section 16 Town 16 Rang. 19
Matthias Debert	2 N. E. Quarter Section 14 Town 16 Rang. 19
Jos. of Ewendler	1 N. W. Quae. Section 14 Town 16 Rang. 19
Heinrich Saman	1 N. W. Quae. Section 10 Town 16 Rang. 19
Johan Polen	4 N. E. Quae. Section 10 Town 16 Rang. 19
Nicolaus Herwel	2 S. E. Quae. Section 10 Town 16 Rang. 19
Leopold Saman	1 S. W. Quae. Section 2 Town 16 Rang. 19
Georg Feller	5 S. E. Quae. Section 2 Town 16 Rang. 19
Anna Reitter	— N. W. Quae. Section 2 Town 16 Rang. 19
Peter Reitter	— N. E. Quae. Section 2 Town 16 Rang. 19
Michael Polen junr	2 S. W. Quae. Section 18 Town 16 Rang. 19
Michael Polen alt.	2 S. E. Quae. Section 18 Town 16 Rang. 19
Peter Polen	3 N. W. Quae. Section 4 Town 16 Rang. 19
Jos. of Hermann	— N. E. Quae. Section 4 Town 16 Rang. 19
Jacob Polen	1 S. E. Quae. Section 22 Town 16 Rang. 19

of 15-16-19-W2nd. In 1960 Springdale school closed for lack of students. The few remaining ones attended King Edward School. 1964 saw the school being assimilated by the Unit Board, and it disappeared

entirely in 1968 when Mr. Frank Anwender demolished it, and the title for the land was returned to Mr. Anwender.

Due to the fact that records are missing, or may have been destroyed, we do not have the complete list of teachers who taught at Springdale School in the years prior to 1931.

From 1931 to 1935 the teacher was Catherine Metz of Wilcox.

- 1936-37 — Mary Catherine McKinnon
- 1938-39 — Mervin Brown
- 1940-41 — Mary McGarry
- 1942 — Rose McCrank
- 1943 — Mrs. Paquin
- 1944-45 — Clauda Lalonde
- 1946 — Rose McCrank
- 1947-48 — Mrs. M. P. Hauglion (who was formerly Clauda Lalonde)
- 1949 — Mrs. McGugan
- 1950 — Miss Dosman
- 1951-53 — Mrs. Marankowski
- 1954-56 — Della Mae Matz
- 1957-59 — Mary Semchuk

Weardale School District #817 by Edith Clarke Frisk

The following account would, for the most part, have been impossible, due to the fact that nearly all of the records of Weardale School were destroyed when the building was demolished. However, through the courtesy of the Provincial Archives, and from two rescued school registers, and my memory, I have compiled these facts.

On February 20, 1903, the residents of the area of later Weardale School District decided it was time for Education to be brought to their families, and called a meeting of those interested. Of the population of 37, there were 17 children between the ages of five and sixteen years; below five years there were seven children. A good number came out to the meeting, and agreed that a petition be sent to the Department of Education, North West Territories, District of Assiniboia, proposing that a School District be formed. On behalf of the assembled group, the petition was signed by David Boyle, Cyrus Ferguson and William Regan. The name of "Alma" was suggested for the S.D.

April 7, 1903, a letter came from the Department of Education stating that an order had been signed to form a School District. The name had been changed to "Weardale", spelled thus, as "Weirdale" had been used for a name of a hamlet north east of Prince Albert.

On April 4, 1903, the first school meeting was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. Ferguson to organize a school board. Chairman elected for the meeting was Mr. Cyrus Ferguson, with Mr. T. R. Clipsham as secretary-treasurer. Three trustees were

West 2nd Meridian

Rg. 19

Rg. 18

Camden S.D.

7-16	6	5	Robert Rogers	3	C.D. (14)
5-6	Way Slough	W. Pagan Jr. W. Pagan Sr. (2)	George Loveroch	3-6	
		3-2	H. Harrison		
4-15		2-9	(X)	2-8	
2-5	3-0		Hy. Cornell	2-7	
			Slough		
2-4	1-9	C. Ferguson P. Jeffrey (2)		2-1	Ed. Cleveland
		2-0			
Geo. Boyle (2)		Jno. Henry (5)	Slough		
1-3	D. Boyle (2)	1-8	1-7	1-6	1-5

Alma

S.D. No.

- 1 WRITE THE NAME OF EACH RESIDENT RATE PAYER ACROSS THE QUARTER SECTION ON WHICH HE RESIDES.
- 2 INDICATE NUMBER OF CHILDREN OF SCHOOL AGE RESIDING ON EACH QUARTER SECTION THUS - (2)
- 3 INDICATE THE PRESENT OR PROPOSED SCHOOL SITE THUS - (X)
- 4 INDICATE THE POSITION OF ALL RIVERS, CREEKS, LAKES, SLOUGHS, SWAMPS, LARGE RAVINES ETC.
- 5 INDICATE THE POSITION OF BRIDGES THUS -

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with the provisions of The School Ordinance in that behalf, that, by order of the Commissioner of Education, the following lands, namely: Sections 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34 and the west halves of Sections 14, 23, 26 and 35 in Township 15 Range 18; Sections 3, 4, 5, 6 and the west half of Section 2 in Township 16 Range 18; the east halves of Sections 13, 24, 25 and 36 in Township 15 Range 19 and the east half of Section 1 in Township 16 Range 19, all west of the Second Meridian, have been erected into a School District under the name of The Weardale School District No. 817 of the North-West Territories.

J. A. CALDER,
Deputy Commissioner of Education.

elected from the following: Thomas Rogers (seven votes), George Loverock (six votes), Dave Boyle (six votes), C. Ferguson (four votes) and H. Harrison (one vote).

On May 15, 1903, a meeting of the residents was called to vote on having the Weardale School District formed. Voters were: William Regan, George Loverock, David Boyle, Thomas Rogers, Charles T. Walloe — all voting "yes". At the same meeting a request was sent to the Department to borrow, by debenture, \$900 to erect the school building and to buy the site. This was granted by the department on June 17, 1903.

June 13, 1903, Henry Harrison of St. Mary's



First Weardale School.

P.O., N.W.T., was secretary of Weardale School. St. Mary's was a Catholic Colony two and one half miles west of Kronau where Margaret and Eldon Dunbar now farm. The old cemetery and well are still there. The church was not used for years and finally, in 1939, was moved to Riceton, repaired, and used as the Catholic Church there. The St. Mary's Colony was on the stage coach trail from Balgonie southwest to Milestone. It crossed the Wascana Creek on the bridge north of the Frisk farm buildings — the only bridge in the immediate area at that time.

In 1907 the minutes of the Board meeting were recorded. The rate was set at seven dollars per quarter. Chairman was Dave Boyle, Secretary-Treasurer was I. J. DeBoice, at a salary of \$40. The first teacher mentioned is a Miss Bader, the other being Harry James Hofford, who resigned two months later. Alice

Beattie Clarke, taught at Weardale School sometime before 1910.

In 1910 there is a report of the School District to the Department of Education signed by Sylvester Cann, chairman, and I. J. DeBoice, secretary-treasurer.

Teachers:

1910 — R. Roy McKenzie

1911 — Bertha M. Anderson

1912 — M. C. Sharpe

1913 — Roy F. Stewart

1914 — Dan McInnes

On February 19, 1914, a letter was sent to the Department from V. A. Dunbar, chairman of Weardale school board, re the construction of a new school building. The Board wanted to borrow \$2200 by debenture for this project. The new school was to be built on the same site as the old one.

The Department replied on June 24, 1914, stating that they would not allow the expenditure of \$2200 for the new school, as the limit was \$1800, with ten equal payments at six per cent interest. The new school was built in 1915. It was an exceptional building for that time, with windows on south and west, girl's and boy's cloak rooms, and a separate room for the library. It had a large verandah across the front facing east. Later, a basement was put under it and a furnace installed, with a large register above it in the floor of the school. Indoor toilets were installed — a great improvement from the out-door ones!



Weardale School and barn.

There are no government documents for the years 1914 to 1933.

However, we do have the Board members: V. A. Dunbar, V. Kartman and Ves Cann for 1917. Teachers for that year were J. S. Collins and E. F. Douglas, with the following pupils: grade eight: Willard Dunbar and Margaret Kartman; grade seven: Eldon Dunbar, Ruth DeBoice and Frank Leslie; grade five: Burton Dunbar and Stella Hanna; grade four: Viola Hanna, Murl Dunbar and Harold Kartman; grade three: James Leslie; grade two: Edgar Leslie; beginners: Melvin Leslie, Wilda Ferguson and May Kart-

man. Other pupils mentioned are Phillip Brown, William and Steve Hunchak, Geordie and Irene Wigglesworth and Frederick Bolter.

Some of the teachers of the years 1918 to 1931 were : Miss Mary McColl, Miss Rose McColl, Miss



Weardale School — approx. 1920. L. to R.: Vergie Carter, Margaret (pupil) and Harold Kartman, Jim Leslie, Burton and Eldon (behind) Dunbar, Frank and Edgar Leslie, Murl Dunbar. Front Row: Muriel McElmon, Arthur Kartman, Edith Clarke, Melvin Leslie, (behind).

Jean E. Beattie (my aunt), Miss Mame Jasper, Mrs. Eva Rushton, Miss Margaret Kartman, Miss Kelly, Miss Rene McAdams, Miss Marie Gillis, Miss Mame Meek.

1930-1931. Teacher — Miss Dorothy East. School Board: Charles Torville (chairman), O. Holland and J. E. McElmon, secretary John Kennedy. Pupils — Grade one: Jim Burwell and Myles Kennedy; grade two: Thelma Koons and Arlene Biddle; grade three: Birdene Biddle and Marion Koons; grade four: Norma McElmon, Walter Koons, Bob Beaumont, Tessie Siller and Manuel McCrystal; grade five: Francis Darragh, Donald Kennedy, Johnny Siller, Willard Biddle, Geraldine Darragh; grade seven: Jack McElmon; grade nine: Hazel Holland; beginner: Howard Kennedy.

1935-1936. Teacher — Miss Edna Mary Seamans. School Board: John Kennedy (chairman), Charles Beaumont (Secretary-Treasurer) and Charles Torville. Pupils — Grade one: Myles Kennedy and William McCrystal; grade three: Phyllis McCrystal; grade four: Lawrence McCrystal, Desmond McCrystal, Mervin Lafoy; grade five: Howard Kennedy and Gordon Madill; grade seven: Myles Kennedy, James Burwell and Martha McCrystal; grade eight: Agnes McCrystal; grade nine: Norma McElmon and Robert Beaumont; grade ten: Donald Kennedy.

July 13, 1949. It is an end of an era, and Weardale School District #817 is out of operation. There are only two children left to attend the school, namely,

Thelma Dunbar in grade nine and Geraldine Dunbar in grade six. These two students commuted to Boyle School #1800 in Estlin, at the rate of \$2.50 per day for 200 days.

Weardale School disorganized in 1959, joining Boyle School and becoming a Consolidated School District. Weardale was sold and demolished, complete with all of the records except two registers, snatched at the last moment by Mrs. Maxine Beaumont.

Weardale was situated four miles east of Estlin and two and one quarter miles north, on the west side of the road. The school grounds were on the south side of Charles Beaumont's yard, and the teacher often boarded with the Beaumont family.

Reminiscences Of Weardale As A School, Church And Social Center

by Edith (Clarke) Frisk

Alice Beattie of Gray, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Beattie, taught in old Weardale School about 1909. She boarded at the DeBoices. The old Weardale School was moved to the adjacent farm where Jack Kennedy farmed. The old school building became his shop and garage, and was used as such until recently, when Bob and Maxine Beaumont tore it down. The Charlie Beaumonts came in 1927; this was Bob's father and mother. The school teachers frequently boarded at this home. Crawford's lived there at one time and boarded the teacher.

The new Weardale School was a nice roomy building, distinguished by a spacious veranda across the front, an unusual addition to a school. On muddy spring days, or a rainy day we spent our noon-hour and recess out on the veranda. In summer many a noon lunch was eaten out in its cool shelter. A great place to leave our muddy boots.

The new school had a basement, and a furnace, which improved the heating of the large school room. I still feel chilled when I remember how cold our hands and feet were after our three and one quarter mile drive with team and covered cutter in sub-zero weather. Whenever our parents suggested staying home on a stormy or very cold day, we vigorously protested. We hated to miss a day of school. We used to get out and run behind the cutter to get the blood circulating again. On mild days we towed a hand sleigh, for the thrill of riding behind the team and cutter, or swing away out in the field beside the track. It was great sport.

Mr. Jack Kennedy was very generous to lend us enough smooth worked land for a ball diamond out west of the school yard behind the barn. Weardale had a young team of baseball players, the Dunbars, the Leslie's and Harold Kartman, who became very

proficient. They played at various picnics all summer. Once a year they had their own picnic on the fenced Weardale School grounds, charging admission at the gate — 50¢ for adults and 10¢ for children. This paid the expenses and made prize money available for the baseball tournament and the foot races. There was always a three-legged race, sack race and wheel-barrow race.

The Ladies Aid helped Mrs. Dunbar and the other mothers of the ball team make uniforms for the ball team members.

A Mr. and Mrs. Nichols and Teddy Wigglesworth lived near the school. Teddy was an English bachelor, who played the organ for the school and church.

Wilda Ferguson was in the same Grade as May Kartman and I. She came to school from the north on the road past Kennedy's and the school.

The McElmon family came to school in a surrey with the fringe on top, in the 1920's, pulled by one horse. It was very elegant, with real leather upholstery on the seats, and the mud guards over the wheels were also made of leather.

Church services were held in Weardale School for many years. The Methodist minister lived in the manse at Richardson and conducted services there and at Weardale and Grand View (Estlin). Often joint meetings of the Church Boards were held at Weardale, the most central point. This was the period of World War One and the early 1920's. In 1915 the minister was the Rev. Aubrey W. Ingram. There were about a dozen active families attending Weardale when church attendance was at its peak: Wm. Brown, S. Cann, I. J. DeBoice, V. A. Dunbar, F. Fowler, O. Holland, J. Irwin, W. D. Johnston, V. Kartman, J. Kennedy, J. E. Porterfield, and C. Torville.

In the winter there were no connecting roads for team and sleigh for these three communities. Church services were often cancelled due to stormy weather and impossible road conditions. In the summer, however, there was church every Sunday. In the late 1920's, with a population shift, and better roads, cars, and improved communication, the attendance dropped at Weardale. For a few years the Methodist

minister at Richardson shifted his service to St. Johannes School. This was two miles west of Kronau, near where old St. Mary's Colony had been in the early days, before 1900. The Rev. Mr. Blewett was the minister.

The Weardale Ladies Aid was an active group. They raised money to buy equipment for the church, such as hymn books, collection plates, etc. They had an oil stove, kettle and pots to heat water for coffee, lunches and meals for the social events at the school. There were dishes and cutlery there that the ladies had bought. We pupils at Weardale School enjoyed hot school lunches in the winter, thanks to the equipment brought and placed in the school and church by the Ladies Aid.

The school was the Social Center for the area, and everyone brought a gas lamp to light the school and stage. There was a piano in the school that we used for our concerts and programs. For the Christmas concerts the school board erected a stage for our plays, skits and drills, with curtains to pull across the front. Everything sounded so much clearer and better from a stage above the seated audience.

Showers, parties and picnics were held at the school. The Sports Day was the big event of the summer. The school yard was fenced and someone took admission at the gate. Hard ball teams were invited to enter, and our own Dunbar-Leslie-Kartman baseball team challenged all comers. We had a huge freezer of home-made ice cream, the freezer being powered by Jack Kennedy's gas engine from Hattie's washing machine.

In the latter 1920's we had dances in the school, and a great time was had by all! Someone would play the piano and a guitar or violin would accompany them. If we were really lucky, we would have a saxophone player. The boys paid fifty cents and the girls brought some lunch and got in free. It seems to me in "The Dirty Thirties" that the boys were charged only twenty-five cents admission. We sometimes had "Hard-time" dances, when the girls wore their every-day gingham and flour sack (bleached) dresses, and the boys wore their every-day shirts and pants. That saved wear and tear on our good clothes!!

God hath not promised skies always blue,
Flower-strewn pathways all our lives through,
God hath not promised sun without rain,
Joy without sorrow, peace without pain.

But God hath promised strength for the day,
Rest for the laborer, light on the way;
Grace for the trial, help from Above,
Unfailing sympathy, undying love.

(The above poem sustained and supported Marian (Clarke) Cleveland all of her life.)

Stories by Russell Clarke

50th Anniversary of Estlin

by Russ Clarke — This article was found in University Archives and was dated in Leader Post, Regina, Wed., Aug. 8, 1962

Estlin (Special) — Some 250 oldtimers and present day residents of Estlin representing nearly 100 families gathered recently at the cenotaph on the legislative grounds in Regina to commemorate the 50th anniversary of their hamlet.

Estlin farmer, Carl Webster, who has farmed in the district for 48 years, stood in the shadow of the war memorial and welcomed the guests to the anniversary picnic.

"It will be recalled as a day of many memories," he said. All about him people were gathered in friendly knots renewing acquaintances and retelling old yarns. Some met for the first time in dozens of years. Nostalgic memories warmed old friendships and took the chill off the evening air.

Began in 1912

Carl Webster reviewed briefly the beginning of the new hamlet in 1912. During the First World War and the 1920's small towns boomed and prospered. Then in the dry thirties the land and the towns on the prairie began to shrivel. "But through all the years the church has remained and is the focal point of the community," he said. "It held the people together in times of prosperity and in times of trouble."

Dr. Ralph Black, son of Mr. and Mrs. Claude Black, had travelled with his family some 2,000 miles from Torrance, California, to be present at the anniversary celebration. He was given a souvenir spoon engraved to commemorate the occasion.

The young doctor, who got his public and high school education at Estlin, said "In the daily routine of life in California I am constantly reminded of the privileges I enjoyed as a youth in a small community."

Roots Important

"I would particularly like to impress on the children here today the importance of putting down roots in your home town," he said, "Later in life you will

remember the associations and treasure the values that only your home community can offer you."

The dray, the kids, the dogs, and half the citizens met the "daily" coming and going.

The early-day station agent was an important character. Meeting the train was a ritual with him. Donning a peaked pillbox cap and a leather dispatch satchel he consulted a huge gold railway watch anchored to his blue vest with gold chains. The sleeves of a collarless white silk shirt were covered with black satin elasticated "shirt-savers" that the kids called bloomers — behind his back. When both he and the wail of the train whistle announced the arrival of the "daily", kids and dogs scuttled to safety.

Not Unique

At the far end of town, painted railroad red, the buildings of the section foreman nestled in buck brush that reached nearly to the eaves. All of this, and a couple of shabby warehouse buildings used to store binder twine and rock salt, completed the hamlet of Estlin. It was not unique. There were already 500 or 600 similar towns dotting the prairie landscape.

Early day immigrants gave the young hamlet its color, its character and its characteristics. Fertile soil was the lure of the new country in the west and regardless of former occupation new arrivals almost always turned to farming. But gradually craftsmen and tradesmen got off the plow seat to return to their first love. Thus Estlin got its first, last and only blacksmith. A Swiss ironsmith, a true craftsman, who welded and molded red hot steel into intricate patterns and wreaths. He adapted his skill to meet the needs of the settlers. From works of art he turned to setting wagon tires, sharpening shares, and repairing broken machinery.

Daily Must

The smoking forge, ringing anvil and showering sparks lured the youngsters and the idlers of the day into the blacksmith shop. The accent, philosophy, and humor of the craftsman made a visit to the shop a "must" on the daily rounds. Only the wail of the locomotive as it thundered past the station, shower-

ing ashes and spurting steam, could have lured them away — and then only briefly.

Runners-up for the prize and one-time neighbor to all at the picnic were Mr. and Mrs. Roy Welliver of Rio Linda, California — they lost the long distance race to the Blacks by only a few miles.

Sylvester “Ves” Cann, now of Condie and Regina, came forward to receive recognition as the only resident of Estlin to file there on homestead land. “I came to the district that is now Estlin in 1902, at that time my closest town was Regina,” he said. He remained at Estlin until 1920 when he moved to farm at Condie. “Ves” Cann at 86 also won the prize for the oldest “oldtimer” present at the reunion picnic.

Steel Laid

In 1911 and 1912 the Grand Trunk Railway laid steel southeast of Regina through what is now Talmage and Northgate to complete the first direct route from the capital city to the United States. Every seven miles the surveyors drove a stake in the ground to mark a town site. Stake No. two was to become Estlin, named after an early railway official.

By the end of the First World War Estlin was a typical prairie town. It comprised three grain elevators, a lumber yard, blacksmith shop, harness shop, tinsmith shop, restaurant, livery barn, pool room, general store and post office, a white-washed stockyard and a bank one day a week.

There was also a loading platform that creaked under the strain of unloading “steamers” and threshers from flatcars. There was a gasoline warehouse with tanks as tall as farm silos standing near the side track. Farmers and villagers came there to fill cans and barrels with kerosene for their lamps or with gasoline for one-horse engines and the occasional automobile and gas tractor.

There was a church, sports ground, a community hall, and a hitchin’ rail on either side of the main drag. The wooden posts were chewed, the iron rails were bent and in true TV western style the street was either a quagmire or swirling in dust.

A focal point of the hamlet was the railway station and platform. Nearly everything and everybody came or went by rail.

Fires were the scourge of the small town. They changed the slim skyline of Estlin many times. A call on the party line brought teams, tanks, buggies, cars, and fire extinguishers. Every citizen in the community volunteered as a firefighter. But the fire always won. Throughout the year the hamlet lost a grain elevator, two stores, a lumber yard and a house, but not a single life.

A December day in 1926 was a gloomy one for the local taxpayers. They watched a new two-room school go up in billowing black smoke while the students with the unconcern of youth saw nothing but

endless holidays stretching ahead. But the parents and the trustees were undaunted. In three days books and desks were assembled in the hall. Scholars dragged unwilling feet across the temporary threshold summoned by the same familiar brassy bell that fate had saved from the holocaust.

Church Important

The history of Estlin church goes back to the early days before the turn of the century. The early pioneers built a Methodist church in 1898 two miles north of the present town site. When the hamlet was incorporated in 1912 it was moved to the northern outskirts, where in 1925 with others in a cross-Canada movement, it became a United church.

Many towns on the prairies shrank in size during the drought of the '30's. The auto and rubber tired farm equipment revolutionized farming after The Second World War. People went further faster, and the little towns were left behind. Shops and stores closed, even grain elevators were sometimes moved away, but the community remains and the church and the fertile soil remains to nurture the roots of future generations.

Operetta Presented

by J. Russell Clarke, from the Leader Post

The Young People under the direction of Mrs. Russell Clarke presented a three-act Operetta in the Memorial Hall. Mrs. O. Lewis was accompanist. The stage was set to represent a rustic flower garden with two swings entwined with roses on which Ann Lewis and Geraldine Dunbar performed. Leads were taken by Arlene Dunbar, soprano; Roy Black, baritone; Leeta Dunbar, contralto; Thelma Dunbar, mezzo soprano; also Ralph Kennedy and Wilbert Bonsor. Chorus consisted of: Joan Lewis, June Betcher, Maxine Seibel, Joanne Kearns, Myrna Dunbar, Dennis and David Kearns, Glen Cleveland and Neil Clarke. Ballet dancers: Marlene Smith, Gloria Allen and Marve Gaye Doyle. Acrobatic dancers: Gloria Allen, Irene Whitehead and Doreen Young. The dancers were pupils of Miss Veronica Green, Regina.

At the Country Dance

by J. Russell Clarke, from the “Country Guide”

The lights from the hall windows throw yellow fingers across the frosty prairie guiding eager people as they gather for a Friday night hoe-down.

In parkas they come, in jackets and furs and ski pants; in felt hats and station wagon coats; they come in overalls and overshoes that smell like Brinkle and Bossy; they come in nylons and angora berets, but the flavor changes now — it's ashes of apple blossom, and a-night-in-Kresges!

The local orchestra winds it's way through the crowd to the creaky stage. The drummer sits behind a

battery of instruments — his bald head shining, black eyes gleaming. Located strategically at his left side is a non-descript tin can! You see he has a quid of snuff behind his lip. The pianist limbers up the keys with mobile fingers, his hair is slick and debonair, parted down the side, straight as a survey line . . . Back in the corner the fiddler with sad grey eyes sees his violin into tune . . . Then the trumpeter blows his horn, adjusts his gold front tooth, puffs up his cheeks and sounds the call to dance.

The customers have shed their furs and outside clothes, and whirl around the floor — the teen age girls as bright as a summer flower garden. Their mothers are just as gayly clad — perhaps a little concealed wool to pamper an aching back — but, to the outward eye, chic, and young and eager, too! Who wants to be a wallflower and catch nothing but a draft?

The boys are well turned out, trousers knife-edge sharp; heavy windsor knots; well Listerined; well Brilliantined, and Aquavelved too! They dance a “circle-two”, “All-men-left” and leave their girls behind, rushing quickly through the matrons, lingering as they meet a shimmering beauty in changeable taffeta. Then it’s her mother’s hand he has next, and . . . “Everybody dance!”

This is it! A ruddy face glistens, redder now, as he takes her gingerly on his arm. He feels all feet and thumbs, and is! If he could only hear the down beat above the thumping of his heart . . . She is very charming — for a mother — and . . . Jeepers! . . . can she dance, even better than her daughters!

The old men with sagging coutours prance around, click their heels and grin — a debutante in their arms, ignoring wall-flower wifey’s wilting look . . . They’ll pay!

Then the square dance — Shorty calls it standing on a chair so all can see and hear. “Ladies cross your lily white hands”

“Dip and dive . . .” . . . Faster . . . Faster, until the lanterns hanging in the porch begin to sway. And now a dreamy waltz — a chance to catch your breath, your chin nestled in a curly mass of fragrant hair . . . A song . . . A sigh . . . A dream. . .

The dream has ended. Something else is tugging at your nostrils, coffee’s boiling in the kitchen. Partners sort out for supper. . . Who’s the new young man? . . . Who has the teacher on the string? . . . Wagging chins and nodding heads speculate from the sidelines as tomorrow’s gossip is born. . .

While the dancers rest and eat, it’s childrens hour. They have the floor and frolic up and down. Crisp hair ribbons wilting now, white-stockinged knees are smudged, little black bow ties askew, and tiny shirt tails wriggle out of trousers.

Then, “On with the dance!” . . . One by one the children fall asleep and are tucked in with coats and blankets, on the benches, on the tables — soon there’s kiddies everywhere, limp and peaceful . . . And so, on . . . into the night.

Finally, with reluctance the orchestra plays “Home, Sweet Home”, weary people sort out their children and their clothes, bundle into furs and robes and wend their way homeward.

At last they are all gone. The fingers of light from the windows no longer probe into the darkness, the traveller is guided by a silver moon wearing a halo of shimmering frost . . . The hall is still and deserted, the country dance is over . . .

The Moon No Handicap Now True Story of the Moo in the Mow — by J. Russell Clarke, from The Leader Post

Estlin: This little hamlet in the southeastern suburbs of Regina is unique.

It has the first rural bonspiel of the year on Nature’s ice — even before some clubs have their “annual meeting.”

It has 42 members in it’s junior choir and is the only rural church represented at the Christmas Choir Festival in Regina.

It is only a 12-minute-drive from the city limits, yet two out of three people have never heard of it.

The “wheat” farmers of the district have chicks and children and live on their farms — not one moves to the village for the winter! Some are ever so diversified that they have their own cattle — but not the mooing contented type. Estlin breeds a special nursery rhyme beast that is apt to take a jump over the moon.

Harvie and Pauline Webster are typical Estlin citizens; with wheat, chicks, a child, and a cow — and thereby hangs this tale.

The husband was detained in the city, so the wife went out to do the four p.m. chores. She gathered the eggs, fed the chicks, and then went to the cow barn. No cow! She looked across the bald flat prairie. No cow! Behind the granaries. No cow! Oh well, she’d go to the loft and put down feed for Bossy’s supper — she’d be hungry after her ramble. And so, up the stairs, through the door at the top, and —

Pauline is usually a calm, rational young lady, but today she did a double-take and fled to the house. The crank on the phone spun, the bells jangled with alarm (fortunately it was one of those occasions when “the line” wasn’t busy.)

“Hello! Vera! Harvie’s in town and the cow’s in the loft! She’s lying on a pile of hay chewing her cud.”

“Hello! Who’s speaking? You have the wrong number!”

"Oh no I haven't! This is Pauline. Harvie's in town and the cow is in the loft . . . Send Wally over quick!"

So Wally went "quick", and there Bossy was, the calmest of all, staring back with velvety blue eyes.

"She seems to like it up here — we'll just leave her here till Harvie comes."

Harvie soon came and was greeted with the now well-worn phrase: "The cow is in the loft!"

It was well past Hallowe'en and months before April Fool. Nothing registered.

"The cow is in the loft! She really is."

"Yeah!"

"Yeah?"

Oh well he was going to the barn anyway. Hmm, no cow downstairs! No cow in the pasture . . . or in the yard . . . or in the nearby fields!

"She's upstairs in the loft, Harvie!"

"Uh-Huh." But he went to look.

She met him at the door of the little hallway. She was just getting ready to come down for supper.

Harvie recoiled, clear to the bottom of the stairs, hesitated a moment, then went back with a long piece of rope. With pushing and pulling she got her bovine bulk around the narrow corner at the top, then mincing delicately as her eleven hundred pounds permitted, and skidding on her stern, she made the return trip, gathering herself together at the bottom to walk with ladylike circumspection to the stall.

In this modern day of atoms and condensed milk, if you do happen to have a cow, it isn't necessary to feed them! They just go to the loft and look after themselves.

Three Kinds of Curlers

Early Birds From the Suburbs — by J. Russell Clarke, from The Leader Post

Curlers in the Regina Bonspiel are divided into three classes. Those who are curling in their own back yard, like the members from the local clubs. Those who come from far away, and those who come from the "suburbs," like Esstin, Richardson, Lumsden, and other towns, nested around the city.

The city boys shoulder their brooms and hike across the street. The far-away curlers pack their bags, kiss the wife goodbye, and hop the nearest train. But, we who live in the "suburbs"? . . . Well, it goes something like this.

Johnny Esaw and Lloyd Saunders give the draw over the radio. It just happens that way, but we get the nod for 8 a.m. The alarm clock hasn't been on duty since last fall, but we finally find it in the back of Fibber McGee's closet under the sun helmet.

It's still pitch dark when it jangles us awake at 5 a.m. The cows and chickens eye us suspiciously as

we fumble around the barn doing the chores. The "little woman" shuffles around getting breakfast, but tomorrow morning if we hit the dawn draw we'll be eating corn flakes!

Finally the radio station comes on the air, it's 50.8 degrees below zero, and the wind is north west at 18. A cold wave is coming down from Snag where it is 79 degrees below and still dropping. It had looked bad enough last night, but this was worse. The car is hunched out on the road behind a six foot drift of snow that blocks the way to the garage and shelter.

We take a fresh warm battery from the basement and with fingers crossed bolt it into place. The tools blister even through thick woolen mitts. As the hood clatters down, a shower of frost shimmers into the air. Far to the southeast the dawn is struggling through a crystal fog, we'll have to hurry!

The door is frozen shut and the hinges squeal in protest as we pry it open with a screw driver. From habit we depress the clutch — that is we try to, but it feels as though it was gummed with molasses, then gradually, finally, little by little it oozes to the floor. Peculiar things happen to grease and oil when it is 50 below.

The switch is on, the choke is out, the accelerator is pumped half a dozen times to spray gasoline into the manifold, and finally, half reluctantly lest we fail, We snap the starter button. We're on the edge of the seat, and not just because the fiber covers are 50 below too!

The starter growls, slowly first, then finally over, and over, and over, but not a sign of life, then just in time a little huff, huff, HUFF-HUFF, and the engine roars to life — the sweetest sound ever heard!

A cloud of steam envelops the car and wafts away to join the morning mist. Finally the heat from the motor thaws the frozen rubber belts, the antifreeze loses its gelatin form, and the gauges find their normal place. And then at last with tires squealing on the frozen snow we are on our way.

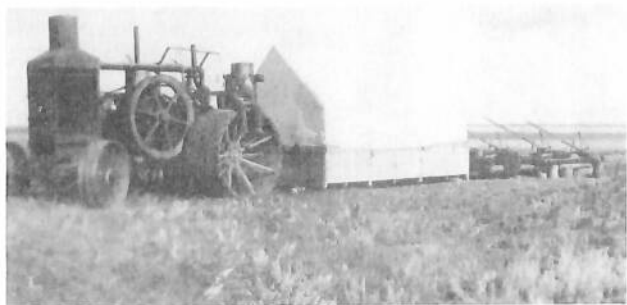
Ah, but that is not all. The roads have drifted in. We shift to second and take a lunging run, the car tosses like a corvette in a heavy sea, the snow cascades like the salt spray and we're navigating by the "seat of the pants" — thus we muddle through.

Further on it's worse again: This time someone is stuck in the middle of it. Yeah, you guessed it, another outfit trying to make the 8 o'clock draw. We exhaust ourselves and freeze our socks getting him through, then we barge into it and he helps us. At last we are on the highway with just time to make it.

Ice 14 at the Callie, and whom do we meet — you guessed it again, the same snowbound outfit — we might better have played it off at home. But that's fate, and that's curling, and we'll do it again and again, because here we come back again this year!

Estlin Pictures of Interest

Early Family Life



Hart Parr tractor and tent covered building and breaking plow.



Estlin house — Jack Blumer, Paul Elsaesser.



Mel Richenberger, Jack Blumer and Paul Elsaesser.



Jack Blumer, Mel Richenberger, Estlin house — 1910-1920.



Fancy dress costume class — Elsa Blumer (right), chess men.



Jack and Elsa Blumer, Lillian Frei, 1922.



A pioneer's straight furrow.



L. to R.: Frances Webster, Ila Fay Welliver, Eileen Wilkening, Dorothy Runkle, Murley Wilkening, Ben Welliver, George Wilkening, Jack Webster, around 1921-1922.

Horse-drawn Machinery



Claude Black and Mules.



Burt Copeland hauling hay from Edgar Petersmeyer's section.



Grain Cleaning, 1920.

Old Time Machinery



Copeland outfit, pulling 15 disc plow.



Breaking up raw prairie on the Len Holdton place. T. Webster in buggy. Engines are Rumely Oil Pulls.



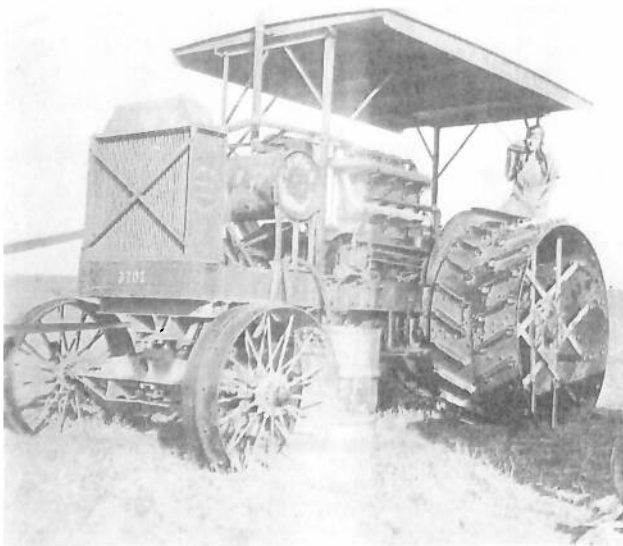
Glenn Copeland on elevating grader. Harry Copeland driving Avery 40-80, 1918 or 1919.



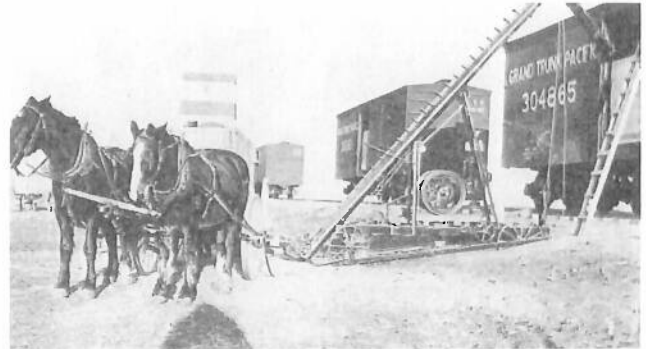
Jack and Elsa Blumer, 1920.



Breaking land on the Jenkins farm.



Elsa Blumer on Sawyer Massey tractor, Estlin.



Loading grain at Estlin, 1920.



Milne Spicer cutting wheat for the Frisks with his Fordson, Oct. 1921.



John Ulrich outfit on his farm, 1928.

Threshing



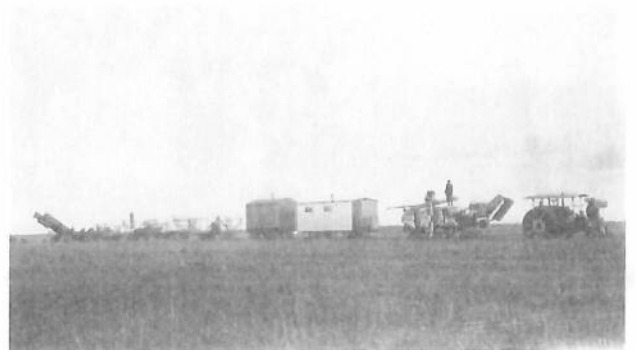
Estlin farm threshing 1910-1920.



Cook cars for threshing crew. A. E. Bonsor farm.



Threshing outfit on A. Bonsor farm.



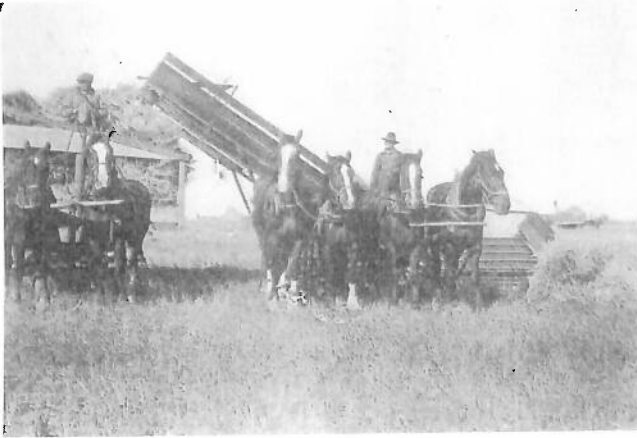
Threshing outfit on the move!



Snow covered stooks.



Threshing on John Ulrich farm, 1928.



Blumer farm — loading stooks for threshing.



Myles Kennedy eating in field in harvest.

Transportation



Frisk's 1912 Hudson — taken 1920.



Mrs. Hartman and Annabelle Boyle, 1913 Model T.

FROM SASKATOON STAR-PHOENIX ZOOM, POP! 22 CARS HUSTLED ACROSS PRAIRIES IN 1906 — By Vera-Marie Stilwell — written in 1966.

There were 22 cars hustling across the Saskatchewan prairies in 1906. Now 59 years later 399,915 motor vehicles are registered with the provincial motor licence office in Regina.

Before 1906 it was unnecessary to register motor vehicles or to have a licence. But one year after Saskatchewan became a province, it was acknowledged that the horseless-carriage was here to stay, and laws were put into effect to keep track of man's newest luxury.

The 22 car owners also had the pleasure of making their own licence plates. They were given a number and could carve it, hammer it, or paint it on, as they pleased.

This practice continued until 1912 when the government started issuing its own licence plates. In that year 2,268 vehicles were registered.

There was one type of licence then, and one type of plate for all vehicles. But over the years distinctions, based on size and type of vehicle, were introduced. Now there are 28 classes of licence plates and 46 registration classes.

The cost of registration in 1906 is thought to have been \$3.00. There are no official records stating the cost or the type of cars registered in that year.

The present lowest registration fee for a car is not much more than in those early days, \$10.00.

In 1922 registrations in the province were 60,352; in 1932 they stood at 91,352; in 1942 they stood at 128,580; 1952, 237,014; 1962, 372,219, and in 1964, 396,742.

The licence plates in 1966 will have a white background with green lettering. The first date of issue will be March 15. Expiry date of the 1965 plate will be April 30.

The first driving licences were issued in 1931. Those who had a motor vehicle registered got their licence free; those who didn't had to pay 50 cents. But in 1932, all drivers were required to purchase their operator's licence, whether they owned a car or not.

It wasn't until 1949 that operators had to take a driving test before they were issued a licence. Between 1949 and 1954 the tests could be given by the city police, or the RCMP. Tests have been given by the highway traffic board since then.

The cost of a licence is \$4.00. There are three types — learner's, operator's and chauffeur's. In each of these categories there are three licence colors — white, blue and red.

These are given according to the number of traffic violations committed.



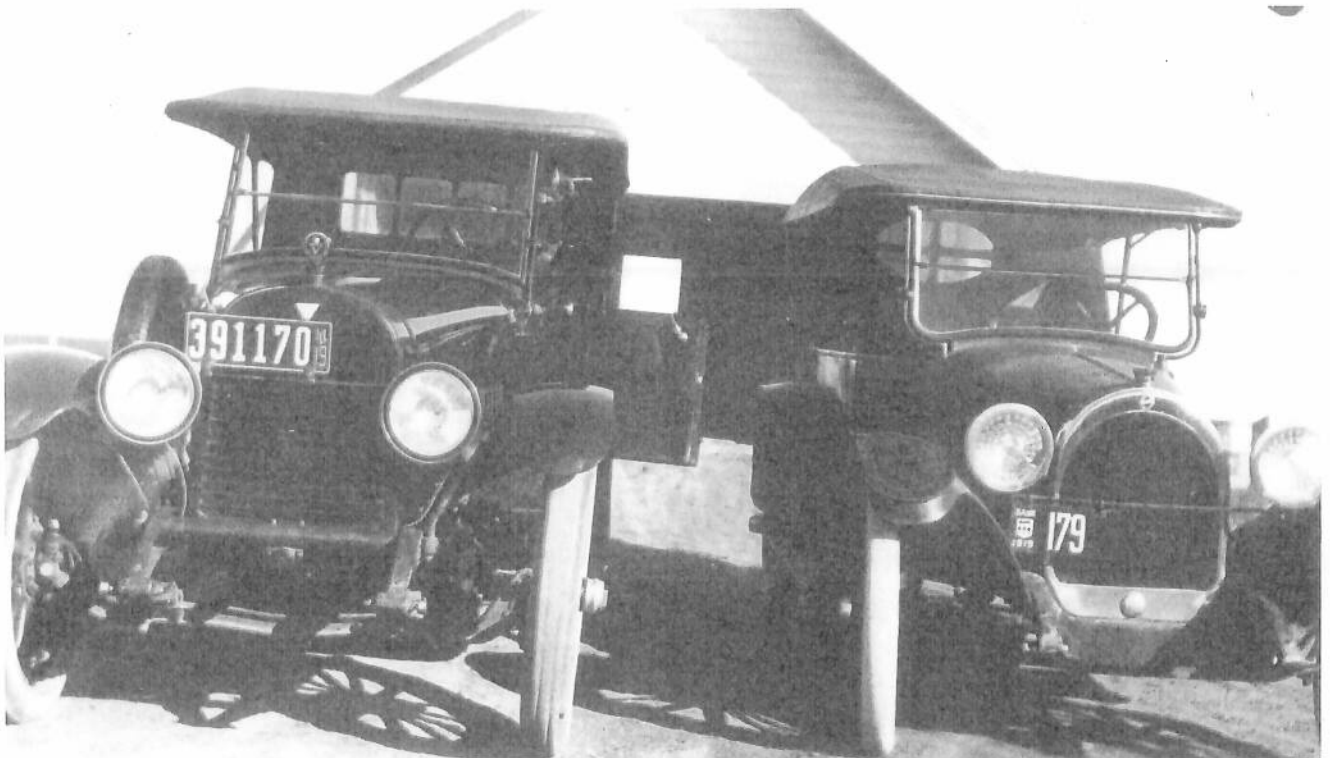
J. Blumer, Model T.



Carl Webster, 1919. Threshing in this field at Estlin, pilot from Regina.



Mode of transportation — Mr. and Mrs. Ridley and children, 1920.



Bert Copeland's 1919 Hudson car with Illinois licence, Oldsmobile car with Saskatchewan licence.



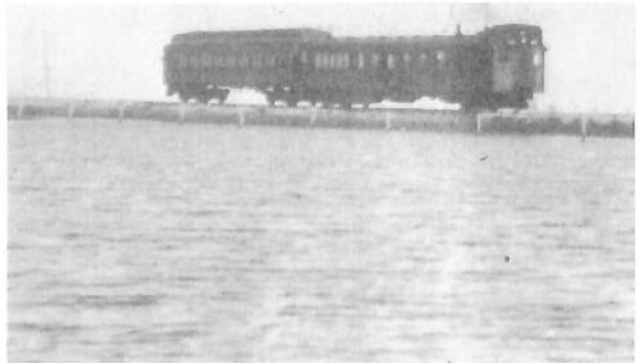
Frisk's enclosed cutter — Mar. 1923. Dorothy Frisk student — Miss B. A. Turner — teacher.



Ivan and Rhoda Ridley in the "school cart".



Snow plane, Joe Dackers, taken in Estlin.



Skunk Diesel Passenger Train.

Farm Life



J. Revill car and wagon.



Denton reunion.



Denton reunion.



Melting snow for livestock — Carl Webster, Jack Webster and Harold Webster.



Threshing done, crew helping to clean out barn.



Marian Clarke feeding the chickens, March 1919.



Dragging the roads 1920 — Robert Frisk.



Frisk's pigs 1920's.

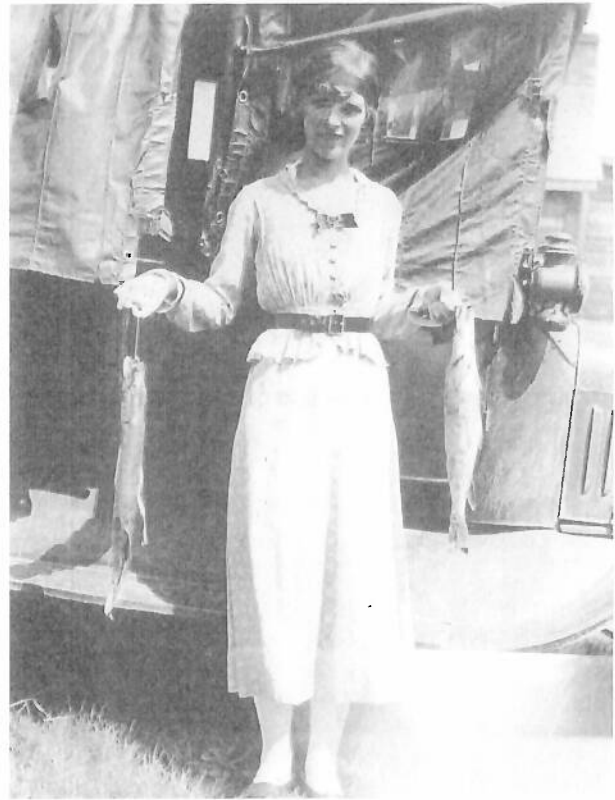


Butchering days April 1920.

Recreation



Hauling water with tank and six horse team in the spring.



Elsa Blumer, 1920.



Grandpa Clarke made soap every fall before they went home to Macomb, Ill.



Bob Cross blowing snow at the Harvie Webster farm.



Jack Blumer, 1920.



Taylor, Richard and Family in earlier days along with some Copelands.



Community Picnic at Mareans'.



Gerald Myers and Dave Runkle with their strings of fish.



Carnival at Gray, Mar. 1977.

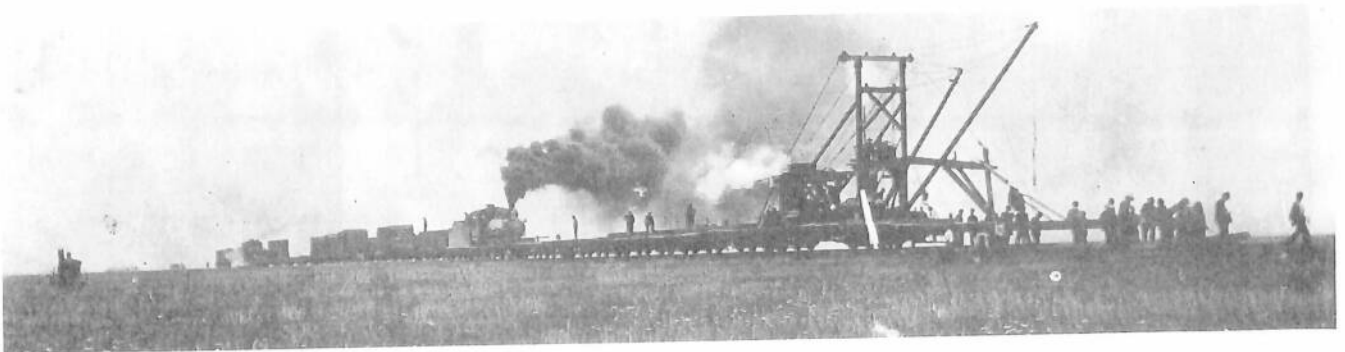


A three-act play. Back Row: Wallace Clarke, Gerald Myers, Kathleen Bojuk, Ed B. Betcher, Bob Beaumont. Front Row: Russell Clarke, Pauline Webster, Joy Beach, Marnie McQuoid.



Karen, Darrel and Shelley Cross, in carnival costume.

Estlin



Steel gang crossing Estlin, laying the railroad, July 5, 1912.



Estlin sports day — 1914 or 1916.



Road Elevator, 1914.

Oddities



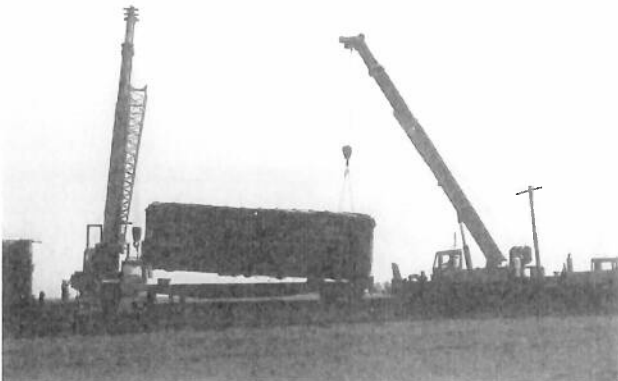
Copeland farm, unloading coal at granary, 1910-14.



Train wreck, 1979, Estlin.



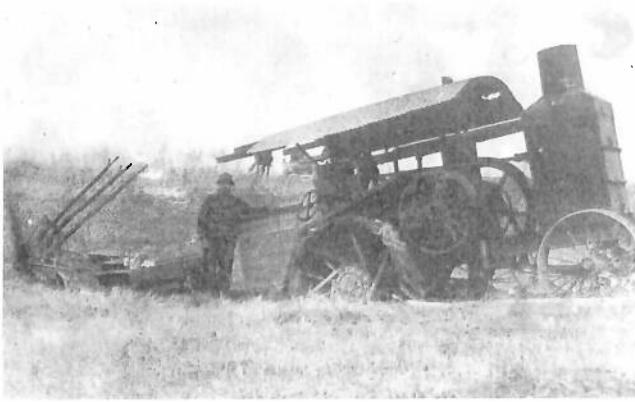
Group of 7 people — 2 standing on their heads — Albert Copeland, Jim ?, Glenn Copeland, Grant Halbeck, ?, ?, Clarence Copeland with axe.



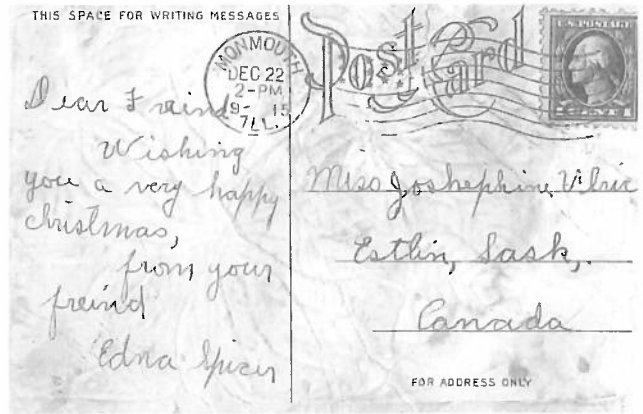
Train wreck, Estlin, 1979.



Curtin farm — Water! Chickens finding dry ground.



Hart Parr 30-60 tractor pulling breaking plow. Bert Copeland's outfit.



Post Card from Edna Spicer, Dec. 1915.



Carl Webster, Billy Boyle, Ervin Webster and Harold Webster standing in water, 1917.



Spring Flood — Estlin 1917.



Pile of wheat on Beaumont's farm, 1944.



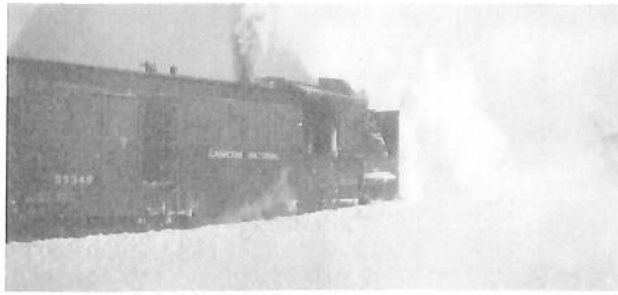
Curtin farm — winter 1946-1947.



Fred Jenkins and two turnips.

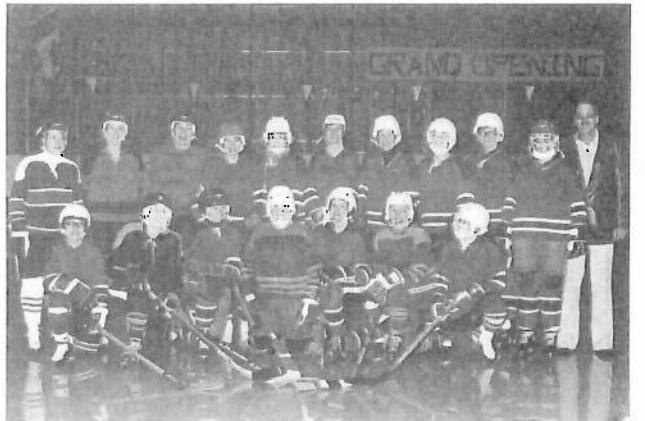
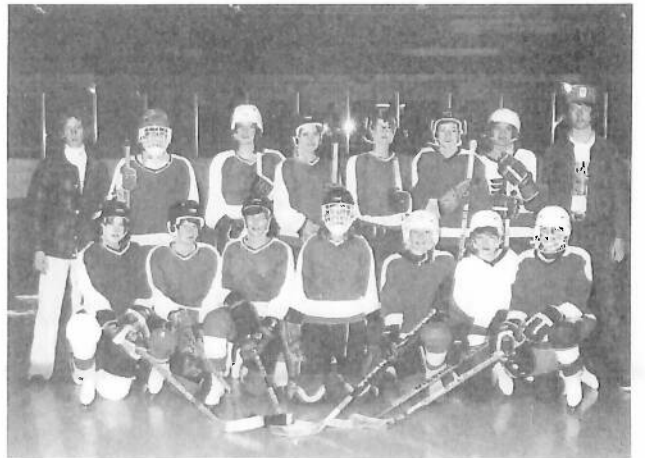


Road washout — spring flood, 1947.



Snowplow clearing railway — 1918 or 1920.

Sports





Roll of Honour

Estlin Honor Roll

World War I

Everett Boyle
Edwin Cross
Frank East

World War II

Edward J. Baker
Andrew Beattie
E. Keith Bradshaw
Jean Brown
Wesley M. Cain
Edward Carson
Percy Culling
Adam Debert
Carl Denton
George Doyle
George M. East
Keith E. East
Edwin Girsberger
H. Douglas Godwin
Jack Heffernan
John P. Howard
John T. Jefferson
Donald J. Kennedy
Myles Kennedy
*Fred A. Marean
Armand McCrystal
Donald J. McQuoid

Doris (Bird) Myers
*Leslie J. Olmstead
Warren Petersmeyer
Ivan Ridley
Stanley C. Smith
Everett Snell
Jack Snell
Vodden Snell
Thorb Thompson
Wilfred Ulrich
Douglas Wallace
Harry Wallace
John Wiks
John Wilkening
Murley Wilkening
Douglas C. Williams
Glen A. Williams
Harry A. Williams
Kenneth M. Williams
Getchel Williams
Gordon Williams
Gardner Williams
Hollis Williams
M. Clarence Williams
Orville C. Williams
Alfred J. Wingert
David Zakrison

World War I



Everett Boyle.



Edwin Cross.



Frank East.



Edward J. Baker.



Andrew Beattie.



Gene Brown.



Wesley Cain.



Edward Carson



Percy Culling.



Carl Denton.



George Doyle.



George M. East.



Keith E. East.



Edwin Girsberger



Jack Heffernan.



John P. Howard.

World War II



John T. Jefferson.



Donald J. Kennedy.



Myles Kennedy.



Fred A. Marean



Armand McCrystal.



Donald J. McQuoid.



Doris (Bird) Myers.



Leslie J. Olmstead.



Warren Petersmeyer.



Ivan Ridley.



Stanley C. Smith.



Everett Snell.



Jack Snell.



Vodden Snell.



Thorb Thompson.



Wilfred Ulrich.



Douglas Wallace.



Harry Wallace.



John Wiks.



John Wilkening.



Murley Wilkening.



Glen A. Williams.



Harry A. Williams.



Kenneth M. Williams.



Getchel Williams.



Gordon Williams.



Gardner Williams.



Hollis Williams.



M. Clarence Williams.



Orville C. Williams.



Alfred J. Wingert.



David Zakrison

In Tribute
Estlin



Mr. and Mrs. Hugo Pohjavuori

From the sophisticated city life of Helsinki, Finland, to the vast expanse of the Saskatchewan prairie farm land, was the bridge which Kerttu Pulkkinen had to cross when she became the bride of Hugo Pohjavuori.

The year was 1929 when Hugo brought his bride to the land he was to farm in the Kronau district for fifty years.

In the early days it was an endurance test just to go for groceries. It meant hitching a team to drive to Kronau where they boarded a train to Regina for a

day's shopping. The economy of the times and the country took their toll on even the hardest. However, the Pohjavuori's continued to farm there for fifty years.

They have three children; Yarmo, Ritva and Laura. It is the pleasure of these children and their families to thank them for a lifetime of love.

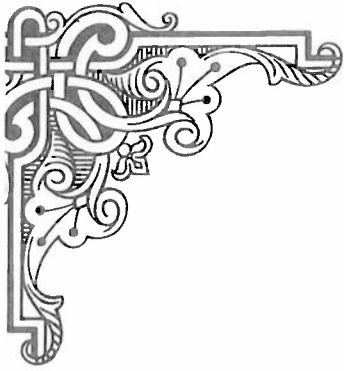
Ritva, Ross and Leslie Wheaton.

Laura and Joop Van de Laar.

Yarmo, Patti, Sheree Lee, Marlin and Jamie Pohjavuori.

Memorials for Estlin

In Memorial



Douglas Grant Clay
(April 23rd, 1953 — June 23rd, 1982)

“He had a dream, never to be fulfilled.”

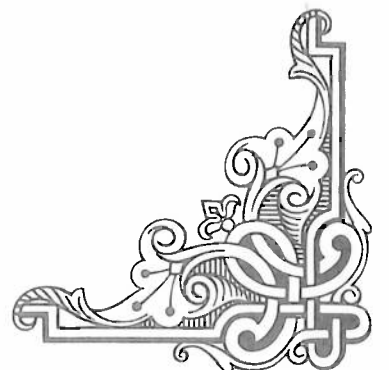
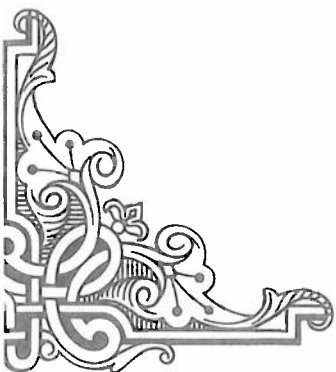
A tribute of love and remembrance to a very dear husband, father, son and brother Douglas Clay, who was tragically killed when his spray plane crashed June 23rd, 1982.

There was a quality of excellence about Doug’s twenty-nine years. It existed in his work and play and in his love of people. He was the prime caring factor in many lives. He was a man of great devotion to his family, his friends and the causes in which he believed.

To us he was a person so very rare
Content with home and always there.
His life was unselfish, for others he lived
Not to receive but what he could give.
Loving, kind and always considerate in all his
ways

Upright and just in all his days.
So sincere and true in heart and mind
What beautiful memories he left behind.
Just as you were, you will always be
Loved and cherished in our memory.

Wendy and Robyn
Mom and Dad
Diane and Orval



In Memorial

Victor and Augusta Kartman

“Let us live in a house by the side of the road, and be a friend to man.”

A fitting tribute to Victor and Augusta Kartman, local pioneers, who, like many others, left friends, family and comfortable homes, to venture into the unknown.



Their arrival from Chicago in 1910 to the 160 acres they had earlier purchased nine miles southwest of Kronau, was followed by years of hardship, hard work, struggle and building — building toward their own future as well as that of the community.

The family was blessed with four children, Margaret born in Sweden, Harold in Chicago and May and Arthur on the bald prairie of Saskatchewan.

Victor Kartman served as Recording Steward for seven years on the official board of Weardale, Grand View (later Estlin) and Richardson Methodist Church circuit. He also acted as secretary of Weardale school for a number of years and was always a member of the board while a resident in the district.

He thoroughly enjoyed his appointment as delegate to the School Trustees Conventions in Regina and Saskatoon. Also he was gratified on being chosen as lay delegate to the church conferences.

Upon his return, brimming with enthusiasm, he would present the new ideas and resolutions to the organizations he represented. He seemed to be able to ignite the energy of the district to carry on in spite of hardships and adversities.

The Kartman children attended Weardale school which was also the center for family worship, the social center of the

area for picnics and baseball throughout the summer, and for concerts, card parties and dances during the winter months. Many neighbours became lifelong friends, even though some moved away in early years.

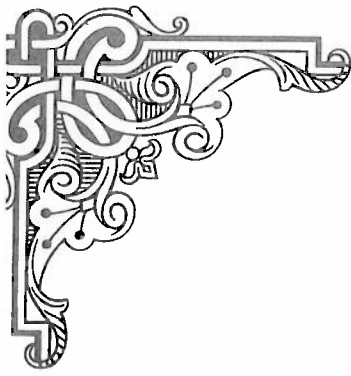
A “hot-bed” was the Kartman’s favorite hobby during the spring months. Cabbage, cauliflower, tomatoes, etc. were planted and later sold to neighbours who turned out to purchase and stay for a friendly visit — and likely for a cup of tea or coffee. People seemed more relaxed in those days and there was not the mad rush experienced today.

Mrs. Kartman was especially generous in helping any less fortunate families, and friends were always welcome at her table.

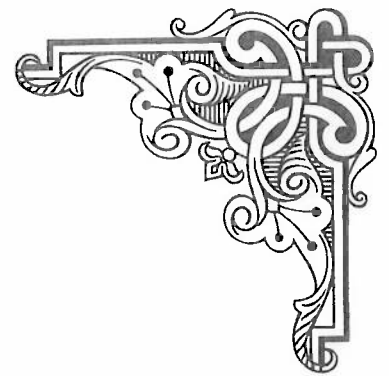
The Weardale School Board had asked Mr. Kartman, also a carpenter, to donate his services to put a new floor in the school. One day in January or February 1912, he started out with a team and sleigh to get the lumber from Kronau. The children and Mrs. Kartman were at home and early in the day a storm came up, which by mid-afternoon was a full-blown blizzard. They were all frightened, too much so to go and feed the stock. Mr. Kartman didn’t return and the family waited up all night. Mrs. Kartman, fearing for his safety, cried and prayed for his safe return. She had always told her children if they got into trouble to not be afraid, but ask God to help them and everything would be all right as He would never fail them. The children believed and remembered this and when their father did not return, young Harold said, “Don’t worry Ma. God won’t let anything happen to him.” After hearing her little son say this, the mother’s fears subsided and she too was calmed.

The next morning the storm had passed and about noon Mr. Kartman drove in with the lumber. He had made it to Weardale school in the storm, put his team in the barn, lit a fire and lamp and read books most of the night.

One had to be strong to endure the hardships that went with pioneering but those who live in Estlin and area today, can be proud of their forefathers who came and persevered, so their descendents might have a better life. Victor and Augusta Kartman were such pioneers.



In Memorial



Mr. and Mrs. Garfield Ridley
and son
Ivan Ridley

Ever remembered by daughter
and sister Rhoda

Mrs. Rhoda Albulet,
110-9303 Salish Ct.,
Burnaby, B.C. V3J 7B7



George and Edna Ellis

The Ellis family, George, Edna, Herb and Lucille moved to Estlin in the summer of 1954.

George, a section foreman for the CNR, moved his family to the section house, then to the station. That old station served as a refuge for many people stranded due to rain or snow storms.

Edna was a kind woman who opened her home to anyone in trouble. She made sure par-

cels were brought in from the elements, though it was not her duty.

George was an avid curler and spent many hours at the rink. Herb left to work in the city and Lucille sang in the choir, attended school and was married in the small church in 1959, thus leaving the community.

George and Edna moved to Bechard when the Estlin section was closed in the early 1960's.

Lucille (Ellis) Scott

