



Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Carlson.

### CARL DAHL STORY — by Judith (Dahl) Granrude

Carl Dahl attended Roosevelt school until 1916. During the war years, hired men for the farms were scarce, so he worked with the threshing outfits both at home and for others.

Being a born mechanic, he was handy with motors and machinery. Two winters, he attended Hemphills Trade School in Saskatoon, where he took a course in motor mechanics.

He worked for a few years at Sam Swanson's Flour and Feed Mill in Weldon. When Mr. Swanson moved his feed mill to Meadow Lake, Sask., he also worked there.

Carl was always very particular about everything he did: a trait which has stayed with him all his life. He was very fond of his well-groomed team of bay ponies, Dick and Dan, hitched to his shiny top buggy in summer or his cutter in winter.

Carl worked for several years as a grain buyer for the Searle Grain Co. at Weldon and Thaxted, Sask.

On Dec. 1, 1923, he married Judith Christianson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hans Christian-



Carl Dahl Family: 1973, Gail Miller, Ron and Dianne Erickson, Richard Miller, Judith, Carl, Dolores Miller.



Carl, Judith and Dolores Dahl.

son. Judith Christianson had also attended Roosevelt school. She worked as a clerk in Pollock's store in Kinistino, as well as at Furman's store in Weldon.

Later, they purchased N.E. 28-48-22-W2, and started farming. They have one daughter, Dolores, born Jan. 4, 1929, who is married to Richard Miller, and lives close by.

Carl purchased S.W. 34-48-22. They farmed and raised hogs until 1974, when they sold their farm to a nephew, Blaine Dahl, and retired to their new home in Weldon.

They have spent many of the last winters in Arizona. After retiring, they are still busy. Judith with her housework, sewing and carpet bowling. Carl is more than busy caring to for the yard and filing saws for all the carpenters in this thriving community.

### HISTORY OF ERNEST DAHL AND FAMILY — by Hjordis Dahl

Ernest was married to Hjordis Hanson on October 9, 1931. Of this union two children were born, Avis Jacqueline June 25, 1933 and Dennis Clifford June 18, 1936. The children were born in the Weldon district on a farm we rented from Arthur Steen. In 1937 we bought a quarter of land in the Glen Mary district which was our permanent home until September 1974 when we sold our farm, stock and equipment to various people. The land was sold to Bill Dubois and we bought his house and lots in Weldon where we now reside and supposedly retired!

Avis Dahl was married to Geoge Foll and (youngest son of Josie and Jacob Folland). They have three children, June Marie, (now married to Ray Hawrish, and they have one daughter, Rhonda Gail), Gary Dennis and Brenda Lee.

Dennis married Norma Goudal of Shellbrook, daughter of Ernie and Eleanor Goudal. Of this union three children were born, Leslie Craig, Beverley Arlene and Bradley Wayne.

Like many other people, the "Dirty Thirties" was terrible for us. Ernest worked at ice sawing and hauling, also cord-wood hauling — anything



Ernest and Hjortis Dahl, 1944.

to make an 'honest dollar. In January, 1942, Ernest enlisted in the armed forces and was sent to Ottawa where he remained until September, 1942. He was given an honorable discharge from the army and sent home for health reasons.

We lived in Regina for nearly four years where Ernest was employed in various jobs; some time with Simpsons-Sears; The Industries who make oerlikken guns for the government; Palm Dairies and the C.P.R. Express, driving a truck and often delivering money to the bank and having guards along.

In 1946 we returned to the farm and besides raising stock and farming, he carpentered for the Kinistino Unit building schools in various places. Needless to say mama came in for more than her share of the work where one was a cross between a draught horse and a mountain goat. November 20th, 1950, we lost our home by fire and nearly everything we had and no insurance either. Previously Ernest had bought a small log hut from Section 29 people to use for his farrowing sows. We were forced to live in that until 1952 when we built a house. In February 1953, Ernest was hired by Sask. Wheat Pool for construction of elevators all over Saskatchewan until 1962 in October when he was forced to quit due to a bad arm injury. Then we bought the farm of Lorenz

Sorby and leased eighty acres at Horse Shoe Bend from the government for hay making.

Gradually economic conditions improved for all with better wages, cattle and pig prices and the wonderful cream cheques that paid for most things. The subsidy on cream was wonderful until Mr. Trudeau started having a family and seemingly needed my money as I never got any more from the government.

Now people say, "How do you enjoy retirement?" Well so far I haven't seen any sign of it but am thankful for our health and ability to take care of our home and sometimes be useful to others.

#### **HISTORY OF MR. AND MRS. MATHIAS J. DAHL AND FAMILY — written by their daughter Judith**

Mathias J. Dahl was born at Gudbrandsdalen, Norway, on May 2, 1861. His mother, Randine Jorgenson, born January 9, 1828, married Johannes Christopherson Dahl. Dad had two brothers; Christian, born March 1, 1853, and died April 6, 1879, and a younger brother, Nikoli, five sisters; namely Maria, Annie, Clara, Julia, and Constance.

At the age of two years, he came with his parents, brothers and sisters to America by sailing ship. Due to poor weather conditions, it took them two months to cross the Atlantic Ocean, instead of the usual one month. Needless to say, the food rationing was very skimpy at the last.

They settled on a farm in Minnesota, near Thief River Falls, where he grew up and attended an English school.

In 1882, he married a girl named Annette, I don't know her surname. Their son, Rudolph, was born on October 30, 1883, and Jennie was born October 30, 1885. Shortly after this, his wife died, and he was left alone to care for two small children, besides farming and milking cows etc.

Karen Boe was born March 17, 1868, in the same part of Norway as Mathias. She was seventeen years old when she left her mother and three brothers, Andreas, Johannes and Ivar, and came with her older sister, Anne, and four brothers, Christian, Ole, Carl and John in 1885, to America and settled near Thief River Falls, Minnesota, too. Mathias and Karen met, and on July 8, 1888, they were married. (Incidentally, shortly after this, Dad's sister Clara, married Mama's brother, Christian Boe. They immigrated to Canada in 1894, and settled in what is now known as Glen Mary or Viking district. (I believe Ole Boe came at the same time.)

Seven children were born to Mathias and Karen Dahl in Minnesota. Oliver — June 7, 1889, Rosalia — December 22, 1891, Daura — April 25, 1893, Isabella — June 29, 1896, Mathilde — February 4, 1898, Agnes — May, 1900 and died about three months later, and Carl — October 31, 1901.

Through correspondence with Christian Boe, the Dahl's and many other neighbors from Thief



Mathias and Annette Dahl; Baby Rudolph, 1885.



Dahl Children, 1902: Laura, Isabella, Rosalia, Mathilda, Baby Carl.

River Falls, Minnesota, got interested in Canada. They wanted to come and see for themselves what it was like in this land, where they could get a quarter section of land for \$10.00. So in the summer of 1901, my Dad, Mathias J. Dahl, Mr. Evin Pederson, and Mr. Hans Langly decided to come. The train only came as far as Prince Albert then. When they arrived here, Dad was told that a Mr. Deschambeault had filed on S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  2-48-22, of 2nd. He had built a log house on it; had cleared and broke a few acres, but then he died. His widow decided to let the homestead go and it was now up for sale. The law stated that whoever took it now, had to live there within a few weeks and make more improvements, breaking up to fifteen acres. Dad really wanted this land but it wasn't convenient for him to stay right then, as he still had his farm and family in Minnesota. He sent word to his son, Rudolph, who was an engineer on a Steam threshing outfit in North Dakota, asking him if he would come and live on this homestead and make some improvements until Dad could come back in the spring. Rudolph and Papa's brother, Nikoli, who was also working on the same outfit, came here September 1901, and Dad went back to his family. Carl was born then, October 31, 1901.

In April 1902, having sold their farm in Minnesota, Dad loaded a big railroad car with four horses, seven head of cattle, enough hay and feed for the trip, a water barrel, which they could fill whenever the train stopped at the sidings for water. In the same car they also loaded machinery, furniture, other household things, including an organ.

Mr. Gustav Olson with some of his sons, and Mr. Evin Pederson also had carloads, with this same train. In about one week, they were in Prince Albert, North West Territories. They unloaded all their belongings onto their wagons, and started out to their new homes. When they arrived at Bindin Ferry (now Birch Hills Ferry), the river was too high to cross. So they camped there about a week until the water went down, and it was safe. At this time, I believe, Dad also filed on homestead, N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  22-47-49 W. of 2nd meridian.

Before Dad left Thief River Falls, he made arrangements with Oscar Olson, a grown son of Mr. and Mrs. Gustav Olson, to assist Mama with the children and luggage on their trip to Prince Albert later. They arrived in July, 1902. They stayed at an immigration house there until Dad came for them.

As Mr. Thomas Swanson Sr. had rented this land from Mrs. Deschambeault for one year, he and his family were living in the house. Dad, Mama and children lived in Louis Ballentyne's house, which was close by. The Ballentyne's were living on the reserve at that time.

Mr. Swanson had seeded ten acres of barley there in June, and had a very heavy crop of green feed to cut late in July. They had five



M. J. Dahl Family, 1909.

horses on the binder and two men to get the job done.

Mr. Swanson soon had the house finished on his homestead, and they moved into it. Then Dad and Mama and children moved into their own log house, which was very comfortable.

Dad took out logs and had them sawed into lumber at a mill at Glen Mary, operated by either a Mr. Ellis, or Joe and Philip Thompson. In 1903, he had a big comfortable new home for his family. This year Dad had seeded twelve acres. Esther was born August 16, 1903; the first of their babies born in Canada.

Anyone passing by and needing food or lodging overnight were always welcome in our home. Mama was a good cook, hard worker and generous, so there was always sufficient for all who came. It was also a Sunday gathering place for all friends and neighbors, especially the Olsons.

More new settlers were coming all the time, so in January of 1903, Iver Neshem Sr. wrote to the Department of Education of N.W.T. to tell of the need for a school in this area. In April 1905, a meeting was held at the M. J. Dahl home. The first school board was elected; namely Iver Neshem, M. J. Dahl and Knute Svenkeson. A school was built that year and opened Oct. 1, with Mr. J. A. MacIntosh as teacher. Oliver, Rosalia, Laura, Isabella, and Mathilde were among the first pupils to attend Roosevelt school No. 1286. All the Dahl children attended this school, walking across country. It was about one mile from home. Always on cold or rainy days, Dad would take us. He had some beautiful, fast horses. I, Judith, was born August 24, 1905. Pastor and Mrs. Njaa and family were frequent visitors at

our home, so it was only natural that they would come when there was a new baby. They said I had such long thick, dark hair; so when Mrs. Njaa came, she tied a pretty ribbon in it when I was only three days old. Oh! to have that dark hair now!

Ernest was born July 9, 1908, and on August 7th, the same year, he was an uncle when Vera was born to brother Rudolph and Caroline Dahl.

There were no churches or Sunday Schools here in those days, so the children received their religious instructions in the homes. Occasionally, some minister or missionary would come and hold services in the homes. Pastor S. H. Njaa, a Norwegian Lutheran minister from United States came in 1903. The majority of the settlers were Scandinavians and from Minnesota or North Dakota. He held services quite regularly and frequently spent the night at our home. My uncle, Chistian Boe, was among those who organized a Norwegian Lutheran Congregation, with Pastor Njaa as pastor. The Norden Norwegian Lutheran Church was built about 1907 and served a large area. This church was built on the S.E. corner of S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  4-48-49 W of 2nd. This was about four miles straight east of our home. There were services only once a month as the pastor served such a large territory. I don't think we ever missed a service. Of course the women always worked for the church, too. They organized "The Norrona Ladies Aid" which was very active. Mama was one of the members. They met once a month in the homes. After devotions and business, there was knitting, sewing and quilting for the sale they held at their annual picnic; and of course, all the visiting, catching up on local news (no telephone in those

days) and coffee and **lunch**. The offering was taken when each lady put in her ten cents.

Pastor H. D. Gronlid was the next pastor, coming in about 1908. He was a fine young Christian man and we children really adored him. He lived at Bagley and served several congregations. He drove a beautiful team of horses hitched to his shiny buggy. In winter, it was a nice cutter, and the bells on the horses sounded like music and could be heard for miles. We always looked forward to the times he would spend a night or two at our home. He was very musical; played our organ and sang, teaching us many beautiful songs. Mama was a good singer, too, and I know she appreciated it.

The young people also formed a choir, mostly directed by Margaret Neshem, who was the only one who could play by notes. She played the organ at church, too. Choir practises were always held in the homes where there was an organ. Nearly all the young people came, whether they could sing or not, as it was a nice social gathering for them. Of course the usual lunch was served.

Other pastors that served Norden Church were M. N. Knutson — 1914-15; C. M. Knardahl 1917-21, T. Thompson 1915-16; Pastor Sorhue, Evangelists Mr. Hanson and Mr. Storebo. Pastor J. P. Tanberg 1921-1941, J. A. Korshaven 1941-45, Joel Dobbe, 1945-46, M. G. Odland 1947-51, John J. Lokken 1951-1955, L. E. McFarlane 1955-57, C. Stalwick 1958-62, A. Nelson 1962-68.

1917 was a very hot, dry summer. This Saturday afternoon in late July was no exception. Dad was working on the homestead, about five miles away. He would be home that evening. Carl and Joe Hanson had gone to the river to fish and were spending the night there, coming back on Sunday. Mama hadn't been feeling well that day and had been resting on the sofa. Esther and I had done most of the work, getting things ready for Sunday. I had gone upstairs and was in our bedroom. I heard Mama call me to come down quick because the house was on fire. When I came to the stairway, which came up from the kitchen, it was very smoky and I was scared, but ran down. The fire had started in the entry near the kitchen and spread rapidly through the whole house, fanned by a warm wind. The rain barrel was empty as there hadn't been any rain. The well was far from the house, so there was no way to stop the fire. There was only Mama, Esther, Ernest and I at home. Ole Hadland lived only  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile away. He saw the fire and hurried over to help. He managed to get the sewing machine, one chair, dresser and wash stand out of the downstairs bedroom. Then by breaking the window next to the bed, he pulled out the bedding. Then the walls all caved in. That was when little Ernest saw the big pot on the kitchen stove, boiling furiously. Mama was cooking chickens for Sunday dinner. "Oh! Mama," Ernest cried "the chickens are alright," just then the floor caved in and the stove and chickens too.

It was a terrible time for us to see everything we had burned up. But maybe the shock was worse even for Dad and Carl when they came home. Thanks to the good neighbors who helped us out with the necessities until we could get organized. Dad pulled up two 8' x 12' grain bins, one for washing, cooking and eating in; the other one for sleeping in. It wasn't long until Dad had a 14' x 16' house built, with an upstairs, for us to move into, and we were really comfortable there. As always, Mama could somehow make room for anyone who asked to stay overnight. Mama had always milked several cows and the cream cheeses were never more welcome than they were then.

Due to a shortage of water for the stock here, they decided it would be best to build a larger home on the homestead, where there was a better supply. This they did, and we moved into it in 1919, I believe. Dad had also purchased the N  $\frac{1}{2}$  of SW  $\frac{1}{4}$  22-47-22, which was along the south side of the homestead.

In 1939, Dad and Mama had an auction sale. They had a two room house built in Isabella and John Leland's yard. They were not so well then, and needed someone nearby to help them.

In the morning of December 23, 1943, Dad passed away suddenly. He was 82 years, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$  months old. Mama was quite poorly by now. She went to live with Laura and Martin Hyggen, until she passed away on November 16, 1947, at the age of 79 years and 8 months.

Marriages — Mathias and Annette Dahl, 1882; Mathias and Karen Boe-Dahl, July 8, 1888. Deaths — Annette, 1886; Mathias, Dec. 23, 1943; Karen, Nov. 16, 1947.

Marriages — Rudolph and Caroline Plant-Dahl, 1907; Rudolph and Annie Sorenson-Dahl, 1924. Deaths — Caroline, Feb. 1922; Annie, 1931; Rudolph, Dec. 26, 1968.

Marriages — Oliver and Thilda Fjeld-Dahl, Jan. 23, 1911. Deaths — Thilda, June 2, 1971.

Marriages — Martin and Laura Dahl-Hyggen, April 9, 1911. Deaths — Martin, May 10, 1952; Laura, Dec. 24, 1975.

Marriages — Ole and Rosalia Dahl-Hadland, Dec. 7, 1913. Deaths — Rosalia, April 19, 1975.

Marriages — John and Isabella Dahl-Leland, Sept. 1916. Deaths — Isabella, July 15, 1973.

Marriages — Percy and Mathilde Dahl-Johnson, Sept. 1935.

Marriages — Carl and Judith Christianson-Dahl, Dec. 1, 1923.

Marriages — George and Esther Dahl-Ruf, July 20, 1926.

Marriages — Sam and Judith Dahl-Granrude, Nov. 23, 1930. Deaths — Sam, May 11, 1971.

Marriages — Ernest and Hjordis Hanson-Dahl, Oct. 9, 1931.

#### **NIKOLI DAHL — by Judith Granrude**

Nikoli Dahl, Mathias Dahl's brother, filed a homestead S.E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  4-47-22 W. of 2nd. I don't recall

his wife's name. They had two daughters, Evelyn, born in 1902, and Gladys, born in 1904. They left many years ago, to live in Vancouver, B.C. Mr. Ivar Nyland, now deceased, bought the farm, and it is owned by his grandson, Terry Peterson.

As far as I know, all the Nikoli Dahl family are deceased.

### **OLIVER AND THILDA DAHL — by Mervin Dahl**

In spring of 1903, the Mathias Dahl family arrived at Weldon from New Folden, Minnesota.

Ole and Christian Boe, Mrs. Mathias Dahls' brothers, had arrived in the 1890's with the intention of ranching, but the excessive rainfall resulted in no hay so the cattle had to be sold in late summer. The ferry operator had built corrals on the ferry to transport the cattle at so much a head, but when the first load started crossing the river, the rest of a very large herd swam the river, resulting in considerable financial loss to the ferry operator.

Ole and Christian Boe had to go to work for the lumber mills after the cattle were sold.

Ole and Christian Boe who were instrumental in bringing immigrants from United States to Canada, and especially their relatives, have received a mention in the History of the Norwegian People in Canada.

Oliver, the second oldest son's recollection of their new home was swarms of mosquitoes and black flies. The first summer was spent in a small log building approximately 14 x 20 feet. This was home for Oliver, his parents, his brother Carl and four sisters. Oliver was thirteen years old at the time of his arrival in Canada.

The closest railway was Prince Albert, and all groceries and necessities had to be purchased there. A trip to town took three days with oxen or horses so setting up a homestead meant a great many days of travel. Oliver's father homesteaded one-quarter and bought another



Oliver and Thilda (Fjeld) Dahl: Mervin, Orva and Roy.

that had ten acres cultivated, for five hundred dollars.

In 1907 when Oliver was eighteen years old, he homesteaded his own quarter section. The first summer he broke twenty acres with two oxen. The living accommodation was a 16 x 16', storey and a half log house.

In 1911, Oliver married Thilda Fjeld who had arrived at Birch Hills in 1904 from Middle River, Minnesota.

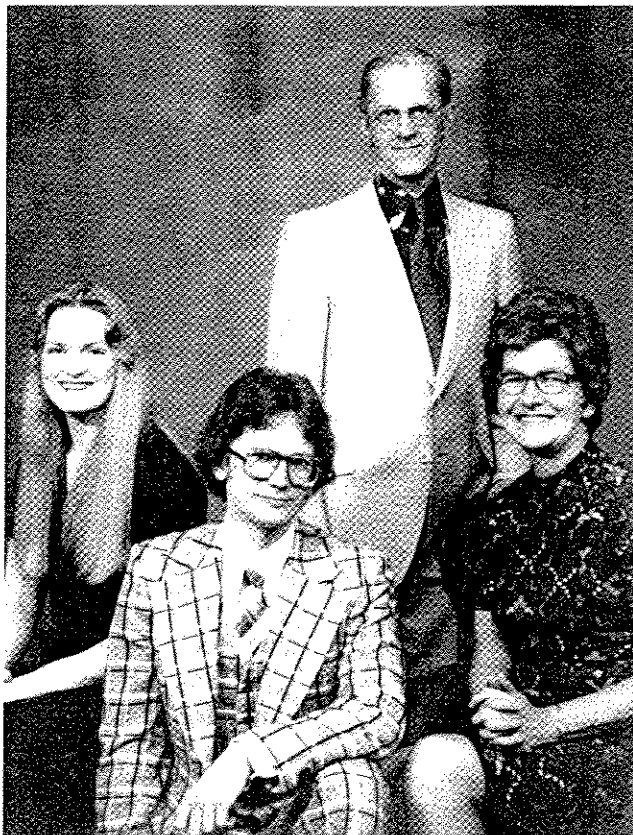
There was no official record of her having arrived in Canada, since Grandpa Fjeld had hid her, and her sister Jennie under a pile of lumber in the immigrant car. Grandpa Fjeld could not milk the cows on the way to Canada, and since only one person was allowed to travel with the livestock, Thilda and Jennie had to be hidden whenever the train stopped.

In 1918 Oliver purchased a new Ford Model T Car. Although he loved fast horses, Oliver accepted the change to the horseless carriage without resistance, but with an eye to progress.

Oliver and Thilda Dahl had two sons, Roy and Mervin and a daughter, Orva. With the arrival of a family, Oliver accepted the responsibility of being a Trustee of the Queen Maud School District.

Later he served a six-year term as Councillor of the Rural Municipality of Kinistino.

The Dahl family had the misfortune to lose their daughter, and sister Orva in 1963; Roy in 1974; and mother, Thilda Dahl in 1971.



Mervin Dahl Family: Christie, Keith, Mervin and Mildred.

At the time of this writing, on Christmas Eve, 1977, Oliver is in good health at age 88, and is a guest at the Jubilee Lodge in Kinistino.

Son, Mervin, who still owns the original Dahl homestead, moved to Prince Albert in 1962 to become Manager of the Prince Albert Community Clinic; an organization which may receive a mention when the history of prepaid Medical Care in Saskatchewan, and Canada is written.

He followed in his father's footsteps, and served a four-year term as Councillor of the Rural Municipality of Kinistino.

Mervin and his wife, Mildred, have a son, Keith, and a daughter, Christie. Keith, who received his B.Ed. from the University of Saskatchewan in 1975, is at present studying in Saskatoon, taking Resource Technology. He was married to Janet Hildebrand October 7, 1977.

Christie is a nurse at the University Hospital, Saskatoon, and was married to Ron Swenson on June 18, 1977.

#### **ROY DAHL — by Mrs. Julia M. Dahl**

Roy Dahl was the oldest son born of parents Thilda and Oliver Dahl of Weldon, Sask. His father, an early pioneer, was born at Holt, Minnesota, in 1889. He came to Canada with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Mathias Dahl, around the year 1903. His mother, Thilda Fjeld, born at Langdon, North Dakota, came with her parents Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Fjeld; another pioneer family, arriving in Canada in 1905. His parents were married in 1911. They settled on a farm eight miles north of Weldon where they spent most of their life.

Roy, the oldest son, was born May 10, 1911, on the home farm. He took his schooling at Queen Maud. After finishing school, he farmed with his Dad and did various jobs around. He sawed wood and crushed feed for farmers in the community. He also worked a couple of winters sawing logs in the bush. He spent part of two years at Yellowknife, North West Territories, working at construction and masonry work.

In the year 1938, he got married to Julia Anderson, daughter of another pioneer family; Ida and Juluis Anderson of Kinistino, Sask. Her Dad came to Canada from North Dakota in 1893. Her mother, Ida, came from Norway in 1911.

Shortly after they were married, Roy was employed by the Saskatchewan penitentiary in Prince Albert from 1939 to 1945. He returned and spent his remaining years farming. He was active in the community. About twenty years after returning to farming, he spent many winters sawing ice on the Saskatchewan river close to the Weldon Ferry for the farmers around. At that time there was no power in the country so the farmers packed ice for cooling and water. It was a great service to the people in the community.

Roy and Julia saw the change of farm-power from horses to tractors; small ones at first to the huge four-wheel-drive type of the present day; also the change of threshing machines to com-

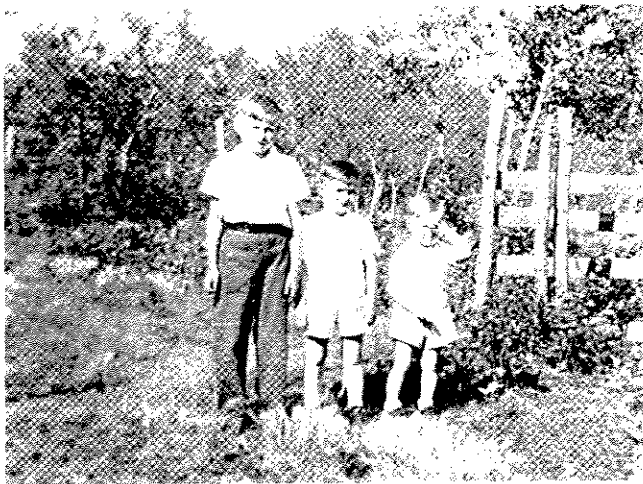


Roy and Julia Dahl, 1938.

bines. Roy, as a young man, used to work on threshing outfits in the fall. Julia as a very young girl still going to school, helped out at her neighbours during the harvest season even before the thirties. She spent two winters working for Mr. and Mrs. N. Pollock of Kinistino and two years 1936-37 at the Fred Porters (Senior) farm in the Crescent Hill area. In 1959, Roy built a new modern home on the farm.

Roy and Julia have three sons. The oldest son, Blaine, resides in Prince Albert, Sask. where he has been a teacher and principal for many years. He is also very active in farming. Blaine has also played with an orchestra for many years, "The Melody Makers". The second son, Earl, resides at Sudbury, Ontario, where he has been manager of an A. W. Drive-in for many years. He was on the Police Force in Prince Albert, Sask. for a number of years. Earl also played with the Melody Makers before leaving Saskatchewan. Kenny, the youngest son, resides at Edmonton, Alberta, where he works at dry-walling. He worked for a year at Lanigan Potash in Saskatchewan and at other construction jobs before he moved to Edmonton. They are all married. Roy and Julia have eight grandchildren.

In 1969 Roy suffered a severe heart attack from which he did not totally recover. He passed



Blaine, Earl, Kenny Dahl, 1948.



Four Generations, 1940, Mathias, Oliver, Roy, Blaine Dahl.

away May 24, 1974, at the age of 63. He was predeceased by one sister (Mrs. Orva Anderson) in 1963 and his mother, Thilda, in 1971. Left to mourn his loss are his loving wife Julia, sons Blaine, Earl, Kenny and their families; his father, Oliver Dahl of the Kinistino Lodge and Mervin Dahl of Prince Albert, Sask.

After returning to farming, Roy and Julia spent 31 years on their home farm in the North Weldon area where his wife Julia still resides.

#### **RUDOLPH ANTON DAHL HISTORY — by Vera (Dahl) Miller.**

Rudolph Anton Dahl was born in Thief River Falls, Minnesota, on Oct. 30 1883. He was confirmed in the Lutheran church there. He passed away in the Nursing Home at Wakaw, Sask., on Dec. 26, 1967.

Before he came to Canada, he had all his education in Minnesota. He took a course in steam engineering and received his papers. He and his uncle, Nikoli Dahl, worked on steam threshing outfits in North Dakota.

His father came to Canada in the summer of 1901, and filed on a homestead north of Weldon, but could not stay. He sent word for my father,

Rudolph, to come in the fall of 1901 and stay on the homestead until the spring of 1902; then he returned with horses and machinery and household goods.

When my father arrived in Prince Albert, he walked all the way to Hans or Ole Christianson's and stayed there until he got settled for the winter on his father's homestead, east of Liberty Hall on N.E. 32-47-22-W2.

He worked on his homestead and did various jobs besides. He operated steam threshing outfits in the Kinistino area. He worked for a Mr. Patterson and a Mr. Plant. He also worked on the railroad being built towards Kinistino, using his own team of horses.

He met my mother while working for W. J. Plant. She was the youngest daughter of W. J. Plant (my grandfather). W. J. Plant was one of the earliest settlers in the Kinistino area. He raised cattle and farmed. Grandpa and Grandma Plant came from Eastern Canada. My



Rudolph and Caroline Dahl, 1907.





Rudolph Dahl Children: 1921, Gordon, Ina, Vera, Fern, Leslie, Beulah.

mother, Caroline Olive Plant, was born in Kinistino in 1887 and lived all her life in that area. She passed away in Feb. 1922.

There was not much to Kinistino until the railroad came through. I believe the post office and a small school which my mother attended were south of the present town site. She sat with Mabel Dunlop at school. The late Dr. Shadd was one of their teachers.

My mother and father were married in 1907, by Rev. S. H. Njaa. I was also baptised by him. I was born in 1908 on the homestead. My father sold his homestead to Hans Christianson and moved into Kinistino for a short time before moving to a farm about 4 miles north of Kinistino. My parents had a family of seven; Vera, Ina, Gordon, Marshall (deceased), Fern and the twins, Leslie and Beulah.

I went to school at Roosevelt for the first year. I stayed with Grandpa and Grandma Dahl. The next year, Ina and I went to school at Norden. The following year Gordon came, too. My father sold this farm as it was a long walk for us. He bought land in the Viking district, N.E. 23-47-21-W2. The school was on our land and we could walk home for dinner.

My mother was not very well the last few years. When the twins were born they were too much work for her, so Grandma and Grandpa Dahl and my aunts took care of them from the age of 6 months until school age. I was only 10 years old, and the twins, the youngest, were only four years old, when my mother passed away. It was a very sad time for us. We children went to Sunday school at Viking school and were confirmed in the Norden Lutheran Church by Rev. Tanberg of Weldon.

We all loved music and dancing. Our father played the violin at dances and house parties. Mrs. Dunlop told me that one time at their place, my father jigged so hard that the stove pipes fell down.

My father married again to Mrs. Annie Ham-

mond (nee Sorenson) in 1924. She had a daughter, Bertha, who grew up as a sister to us. Our new mother was a great help to us. It lifted a great burden from my shoulders. I baked bread and washed clothes in between school when I was very young before Mother died. Our new mother passed away in 1931. My father retired in 1952 and lived in Kinistino until 1967. My parents are buried in the Norden Lutheran Cemetery. My parents had 32 grandchildren, 27 great grandchildren and 1 great-great grandchild.

I am the eldest of the family. We are all married.

Mrs. James Miller (Vera). We have one son, Lorne James. He is married and has 2 children and 1 granddaughter.

Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Garby (Ina). Her husband is deceased. They had 6 children and 5 grandchildren.

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Dahl have 6 children.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth McInnes (Fern) have 6 children and 8 grandchildren.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Bell (Beulah) have 6 children and 8 grandchildren.

Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Dahl have 4 children.

Step-sister, Mr. and Mrs. Irving Perry (Bertha) husband deceased. They had 3 children and 4 grandchildren.

#### ALLEN DEMERAIS

I, Allen Demerais, was born in the Victoria Hospital in Prince Albert on June 20, 1937.

I was raised in the Coxby district. I went to school at Buttlers and took my high school at Weldon.

We moved to Thunder Bay, Ont. for about a year and a half where I worked with my brother, Hover, on a Cartage Co. I then came back and worked briefly for Gertz Const. I went to work at the Anglo Rouyn mine at La Ronge which has



Rose, Stella, Allan Demerais.

## "TRAILS WE TROD" HISTORY — by Judith Dahl Granrude

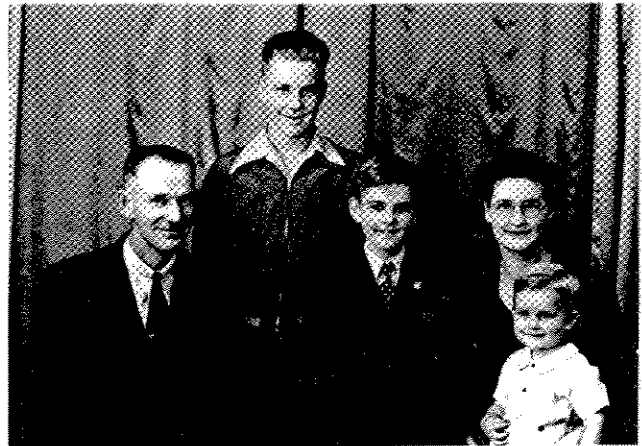
I was the youngest girl of Mathias and Karen Dahl's family. Ernest was three years younger than I. We children were assigned special tasks to do according to our ability. I don't remember that any of us ever complained. Ernest and I would haul wood on our sleigh for the kitchen stove in the winter. We piled it neatly in the large wood-box Papa had made and set beside the stove, in our large farm kitchen. There was a large pond by the house where we spent many happy hours. I learned to skate wearing my brother Oliver's skates. They were the kind with straps and laces tied on to our shoes. Naturally, they were much too large for me. How happy I was one Christmas when I got my own skates, which were fastened right on the boots, and the right size! I have enjoyed skating ever since. Also in the winter, Carl, Esther, Ernest and I would play games; some quite educational too; especially for Ernest and I. I also enjoyed the times when my older sisters, especially Rosalia, would play the guitar and sing many favorite songs.

Christmas was an exciting time for us: new dresses and suits to wear to the Christmas concert at Norden Lutheran Church. At first, the carols and recitations were all in Norwegian, but as time went on, there were more and more in English. I remember the first time I heard "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing". It was sung there by Deliah and Florence Breiman. I had never heard anything so beautiful.

At home on Christmas Eve, one of the special dishes we had for supper was "sot suppe" (fruit soup). Was it ever good the way Mama cooked it. Before we went to bed, we all would hang up our stockings, even Oliver, who was a grown man by then. We could hardly wait for daylight the next morning, when we would all rush downstairs to see what Mama and Papa had put in them. We just never did believe in Santa Claus.

The winter when I was nine years old and Esther was eleven, we started taking music lessons from Margaret Neshem. She was the only one then who played by notes. She played the organ at church for many years. They had a piano at home, and that was something we had never seen before. We admired her very much. We drove an old horse, named Pat, hitched to a cutter. It must have been about two miles to Neshems. That was quite a drive, for two little girls, in the winter time. After our lessons, Margaret would give us a delicious lunch of fresh brown bread with jam and hot chocolate. I believe we only took about nine lessons. After that, we picked out other pieces we wished to play. Later, when we got an organ at school, we played for all the singing and marching there.

I started school when I was six years old, I think. We were about one mile from school. We walked across country. However, whenever it was rainy or very cold and stormy, Papa would



Sam Granrude Family: 1970. Sam, Bob, Edmund, Judith, Dale.

always take us either in the sleigh in winter, or the democrat in summer. We had many fine teachers there, and, of course a few that we didn't think too much of. It was a happy time in our young lives and we learned our lessons well. I finished my eight grades there, and thought that was enough of school. But after two years I changed my mind, and started grade nine in Weldon. For some reason that school didn't appeal to me, so I asked my parents if I could go to the Christian Boarding School at Battleford, where Esther was taking her high school. Besides the regular Provincial course of study for high school we also had a class in Bible every day. We had morning and evening vespers, besides piano lessons. I had classes in music history, theory and harmony. I played in the school orchestra, choir, and accompanied many soloists, etc. I sang in the Ladies Chorus and other special groups. I truly have many fond memories of the years I spent there.

Sverre Granrude was born in Eidsvold, Norway, on July 19, 1908. He was the youngest son of Olaf and Hedda Granrude. They immigrated to Canada in 1911. They settled on a homestead in the Buttlers school district. When Sverre started school, the teachers or pupils could not say Sverre, so they called him Sam; the name he used the rest of his life.

A complete history of the Olaf Granrude family can be found elsewhere in this book.

In the spring of 1926, while attending a house party with my brother, Ernest, I met a very fine young man, named Sam Granrude. Some time later, he asked if he could come and see me, and I thought that would be fine. To make a long story short, we were married November 23, 1930. We moved into a little house on his farm, NE¼ 12-48-23 W of 2nd in the R.M., of Birch Hills. Sam was farming with his father and brothers. Due to early rain and snow that fall, the Granrude's, like many others, did not get their crops threshed. They did it the following spring. During the depression years of the "30's", there was

a lot of hard work, which was discouraging at times, and doing without many necessities; but it was also a very friendly and good neighborly time. During this time we were blessed with two fine boys, Robert Stanley (Bob) on May 24, 1932, and Edmund Vern, on July 14, 1936. They both started school at Buttlers where their father had attended. The years we lived there, we attended the Rose Hill Lutheran Church, where I played the organ. I was also a member of the Rose Hill Ladies Aid for many years.

On April 28, 1938, Sam's mother passed away after a lengthy illness. His father, now alone in a large home and not too well, was lonely. So that fall we moved in to live with him. On April 14, 1941, he passed away. On August 4, 1944, our youngest son Dale Garry, was born. In March 1945, we sold our home quarter of land to Lawrence Turner, and purchased Mr. Gust Wagner's Garage and house in Weldon. By the end of April, we were living there and Sam was in business. On Sept. 4, 1945, another son was born, Orval Meredith. He only lived for eighteen hours and is resting in Rose Hill cemetery with his grandparents.

Sam, being a good mechanic and business man, did well there and enjoyed the work. During these years, he was on the Village Council; also on the Kinistino Union Hospital Board during the planning and building of the hospital. He was a member of the Central Regional Hospital Board. Due to health problems, caused mainly from welding and exhaust fumes from motors, etc, he sold the garage business to Micky Oakenfold and Harold Steen in spring of 1948. In this transaction, he obtained N.W. 1/4 21-47-22 West of the 2nd, from Mr. Oakenfold. In April 1949, we purchased the "Weldon Creek Farm" from Mrs. Emma Olsen, N.W. 1/4 33-47-22nd W of 2nd, just

north of Weldon. In fact, several acres there are part of the Weldon townsite.

We moved there during Easter vacation. Mrs. Olsen and her daughter Edna moved into the house we had in Weldon, which she had obtained in that transaction.

Later we also purchased S.E. 1/4 19-48-22W. of 2nd and N.W. 1/4 13-47-22 W. of 2nd. Four winters in the '60's, we spent a few months in Arizona and California, enjoying the warm, sunny climate.

We attended the Weldon Lutheran Church, and I was organist there for many years. I still am occasionally, as well as playing for weddings and funerals. The boys all attended Sunday School there.

We continued to farm until after combining in 1970. Sam entered the hospital, where he spent much of the time, until his untimely death, May 11, 1971, at the age of 62 years and nine months.

Later that summer, I had a house remodeled in Weldon and I moved into it on October 31, 1971. I am still here; enjoying good health and keeping busy with church activities, quilting, carpet bowling, shoveling snow in the winter; gardening and cutting grass during the summer months.

Robert Stanley Granrude (Bob) started school at Buttlers, and was there for the first six years; then took the remainder of his schooling in Weldon. After that, he farmed with his father for several years. He also drove one of the first school buses into Weldon.

On August 30, 1952, he married Joyce Braaten, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Einar Braaten of Glaslyn, Sask. They lived in Weldon for a while, then on his farm, S.E. 1/4 9-47-22 W. of 2nd. They had three children; Allan Stanley, Nancy Mae, and David Robert. Bob and Joyce were divorced, and later Bob married Marion.



Nancy, David, Allan Granrude, 1958.



Bob, Daneka, Marion, Vanda Granrude, 1964.



Sharon, Dale, Gale, Kevin and Garry Granrude, 1967.

daughter of Mrs. Ocelia Asals and the late Mr. Herb Asals. To this union two girls were born; namely Vanda Lee and Daneka Davine (Dannie). For several years, he worked on ranches in Alberta. Then he was manager of a general store and post office at Standoff, Alberta, for two years. They moved to Calgary, where he was manager of an A & W drive in for two years; then partsman and bookkeeper at a Service Station there.

At present they live in Weldon, where he has a confectionary store and coffee bar. Marion drove a school bus for two years at Standoff to Fort MacLeod, Alberta; four years in Calgary, and is now in her third year driving a school bus to Birch Hills.

Allan has worked in a Potash mine most of the time since he finished his Grade Twelve, and is now assistant foreman. Nancy — married Michael Cadrain on August 10, 1973. They live at Edson, Alberta, where he has an "Auto Body Shop". On March 13, 1977, their daughter, Deanna Joy, was born. They are a very happy threesome. David is still mostly working around home. Joyce married Bill McConnell and lives on their farm at Glaslyn, Sask. She has two more children, Cindy Lou and Todd William.

Edmund Vern Grandrude started school at Buttlers and later attended school in Weldon. After finishing school, he started working at the Co-op store there; then for a while in Prince Albert and later at Safeway and O. K. Stores in Saskatoon. It was a while later, that he married Deanna Thompson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Severt Thompson of the Lake Park district, on



Deana, Ed, Sherr, Lori, Duane Granrude, 1967.

July 25, 1959. Lori Ann was born while they lived in Saskatoon. In 1961, they moved to Prince Albert where Edmund and Bob built the first miniature golf course there. During the winter months, he was manager of the new Kinsmen Arena for several years. Sheri Dawn and Duane Edmond were born during this time. At the present time he is selling real estate for United Agencies, in Prince Albert.

Dale Garry Granrude attended school in Weldon. After that, he farmed with his father. Several winters, he worked with Edmund at the Kinsmen Arena in Prince Albert. Later, he worked at C & D Service Centre in Kinistino, during the winter months.

On March 15, 1969, he married Sharon Loden, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gust Loden. They have two sons; Garry Kenneth and Kevin Dale. After Dale's father passed away, and mother moved into Weldon, they moved into the homeplace. He was renting the farm at that time. They later purchased it, and are still living there and farming; besides working at many other jobs. January 12, 1974, they surprised everyone when Gale Marie was born.

#### OLAF GRANRUDE FAMILY — by Henry Granrude

I, Henry Granrude, was born in Eidsvoll, Norway, in 1902. My father, Olaf, was born in Eidsvoll, Norway, on Nov. 16, 1863. My mother, Hedda, was born in Eidskogen, Norway, on March 28, 1864. We were a family of 9 children; 5 boys and 4 girls. One boy and one girl passed away in Norway at an early age. My brothers and sisters were; Alfred, Anna, Borghild, John, Henry, Kristine and Sam. We all attended school in Norway except Sam. He was too young.

I started school in Norway when I was six years old. I attended there for three years before coming to Canada. There were a lot of children going to school there, so we attended every other day which meant a lot of homework.

Our farm in Norway was about 10 acres of land. There were two houses on it. We lived in one and rented the other out. We had apple and



Bill and Borghild (Granrude) Jackson, 1942.



Borghild, Vivian, Doris Jackson and grandson.

was a railroad conductor. We lived in Prince Albert for about 12 years. We had two girls; Doris was born July 9, 1923, and Vivian was born Aug. 3, 1927. They attended school in Prince Albert until we moved to Vancouver in 1934.

There they finished their schooling. Doris took a business course and Vivian graduated from nursing. She is nursing in Vancouver General Hospital. They are both married. Doris married R. T. Falconer, an officer in the Army. They have five children; Ronald, John, Bruce, Lawrence and Diane.

Vivian married Ian Blake. He is a chartered accountant. They have three children; Patricia, David and Karen.

My husband passed away in 1944. I live in a High-Rise in Vancouver. I like Vancouver very much.

### **IRMA (HADLAND) JACKSON**

Irma Charlotte was born in 1916 at the farm home at Weldon, Sask. I attended Roosevelt school from 1922 to 1929, then I took Grades 9 and 10 by correspondence. In 1939, I went to Nipawin for the winter and did housework. I came back for the summer months and helped at home. I returned to Nipawin again in the fall to the same job.

I went to Vanscoy, Sask., and worked in a post office for a short time.

Later on, I went to Saskatoon and got a job as a waitress at the King George Hotel. It was rather hectic and quite an experience. Then I came home for a while and went to help out at Ole Olson's farm.

In the spring of 1945, I started working at the Swen Cafe in Kinistino for "Shorty" Lee Poo.

In 1945, I married Harold Jackson. We lived at his folks for a while, then moved to Kinistino and lived upstairs at J. R. Graham's office so that I would be close to work. Later we bought a house and moved it to the farm. Since then, I've been driving into Kinistino and still work at the Swen Cafe for Shorty's son, King Lee.

### **MATHILDE DAHL JOHNSON**

I was born in Thief River Falls, Minnesota, February 4, 1898. We moved to Canada in 1902. I was to carry a small pail of plums off the train, but I forgot them. My older sisters teased me about this for a long time. The Swanson family who lived in the house on our place had a little boy about one year old, so mother loaned them my high chair. I sure missed sitting in my chair.

It wasn't long until Swansons moved into their own home, and we moved into this better one. It was wonderful. Shingles on the roof, plastered between the logs and white washed outside and inside. It had a fair size room downstairs and same upstairs. Our sister Esther was born there. Later we moved into the new big house that Dad built.

There were many sloughs on the way to school, where Oliver used to trap muskrats. I



Percy and Mathilda Johnson Family: Eunice, Ron, Audrey.

started school when I was six years old, and Oliver would take me on a little sleigh. He would go along the ice on skates and get his rats. Plump!! The ice broke and I got real wet. Oliver comforted me and said we would soon be to school and I could stand by the big box stove heater and get dry.

I always helped Oliver hold the hind legs of the muskrat as he skinned them. I asked him if I could trap some rats too. He loaned me a trap and said I could have all the rats in a small pond by the barn. I think I got four rats there, and my! was I ever rich.

Sometime later Oliver did not get up in the morning, so I took a cup of cold water and poured it on his face. He did not move or say anything. A few days later I got half a pail of water from the pond to wash the floor. I set it down outside for a minute, then he came by and poured the whole half pail of water over me. I did not say anything, I thought I had it coming to me. I got another pail of water and went to wash the floor.

When I was thirteen years old our teacher really advised my parents to take me to an eye specialist. I was very near sighted. That was my first trip with my parents to Prince Albert. He fitted me with glasses so I could see farther and clearer, but forbade me to do any reading, sewing or playing by notes. This was a very hard trial for me. So for six years or more. I helped Mother and also neighbors when the mothers had to spend ten days in bed. I took good care of mother and baby, as well as other children and did the housework. It was then that these mothers encouraged me to become a nurse. Oh! no, I thought, that is way above what I can do. Well I inquired about it and found out I needed more education. Hm! Well, I was mature now, so decided to take a chance, I did not ask doctors or anyone. I got my grade ten, which at that time was required before training for a nurse, took

my three years nurses training, and got my R.N. I started doing private nursing.

Three of my patients died in the flu epidemic in 1925-1926, and I was almost played out. Early spring of 1926, I got the flu, too, but Mother was much worse than I. I recovered quickly. I nursed mother, a bed patient for months. How happy and thankful we all were when she recovered, and was all well for years to come.

Later I worked for Dr. White in the hospital in Birch Hills. I had a small Maternity hospital there at first and enjoyed it immensely. As I thought of the future, I thought I would start an orphanage, as I loved children so much, and I didn't expect to ever marry and have any of my own. Well after about eight years or so of nursing in my own hospitals in Birch Hills, (the last one was Dr. White's three story house) another orphan, a grown man, came to work for me. He had a good education and was also a nurse. By this time it was more of a general hospital. I really felt sorry for this man. His parents both died before he was ten years old and he was more or less left to care for himself. This man was John Pearson Johnson, better known to us as Percy, born in England December 19, 1888. When he was twenty-one years of age he came to Canada; worked at different jobs in many places, got his education and nurses training. Anyway on September 8, 1935, we were married.

We quit the hospital and moved to a farm in the Coxby district. We adopted two children while there, Ronald in May 1937 and Audrey in June, 1938. We sold the farm and moved to Alberta. Teachers were very scarce then, so Percy taught school for a few years. In April, 1946 we adopted our third child, Eunice. They are all such a real joy and comfort to me.

Later I started a rest home for elderly people, first one at College Heights, Alberta, near Lacombe. After several years I sold that one and started another one at Langley, B.C. When I was almost seventy years old I thought it time for me to retire. Percy had retired some years before this and it wasn't until then that I knew how blind he was. We took him to Vancouver and they advised him to get a white cane. I mapped out a route for him and went with him a few times. After that he managed fine by himself and he still goes for three short walks each day. We retired to Kelowna, B.C. in about 1965 and in 1972 we moved to Oliver, B.C. My eyes are no better than they have been, but I can still read with two pair of glasses on. I also knit and make many quilts and spreads for friends and for missions. To sum it all up the Lord has been wonderful to me, for all the joys I have had with my work and all. So my husband, children and grandchildren are all fine and happy. I have so much to be thankful to the Lord for.

John Pearson Johnson and Mathilde Agna Johnson.

Ronald Johnson had his name changed to Ron Gannon.

Ron and Mary Gannon were married in 1972. Mary had two sons and two daughters by a previous marriage. They live at Haney, B.C.

Audrey and Norman Somerville were married in 1973. They live in Edmonton, and have no children.

Eunice and Harry Elliott were married in 1965 and have two sons and two daughters. They live in Langley, B.C.

**OSCAR N. JOHNSON FAMILY — by Amelia Parsons and Gladys Olsen**

The turn of the century, 1904 and on, brought an influx of settlers from different countries, mostly Scandinavians, into this area, known at that time as the Glen Mary District. Colourful publicity lured settlers from all corners of the world to file for the so-called "free" homestead. Settlers had to pay a ten dollar fee for 160 acres to Dominion Lands, which included a clause to clear ten acres a year for three years. Homesteaders laboured hard to build homes, mostly log houses, and make way for crops under primitive conditions. The fortunate few who had horses more often than not lost them to a lethal disease known as swamp fever. However, the settlers discovered a brighter side; they could live off the land. Prairie chickens, partridges, ducks, rabbits, as well as big game were plentiful. During the summer berries were plentiful; saskatoons, choke and pin cherries, strawberries, raspberries and blueberries and cranberries from the "Pines", often times sufficient supplies for winter preserves. The North Saskatchewan River was a likely place for fish, Gold Eyes, a popular and tasty catch; muskrats lived in the sloughs and were trapped for their valuable pelts.

A vast majority of the settlers were unable to speak and write English. Also, those with large families and school age children were faced with education problems. However, amongst them was a settler who could speak and write English, the late Mr. Oscar N. Johnson, who with his wife Ragnild (Rose) Huset, goods, chattel and stock moved across the border from Ware, Minnesota, U.S.A., filing for Homestead Entry for N.E. Quarter section 10-48-22-2 on March 7, 1904. They had been married in Marshall, Minnesota on January 13, 1903 and in 1905 moved to the homestead in what was later known as the Queen Maud, South Valley area.

The settlers prevailed upon him to seek inquiries about the problem of education. Although he did not have any children of his own at this time, he did obtain information, applied and received a grant from the government towards the building of the first school in this area. He gave of himself towards its construction and upon completion it was named Queen Maud School in honour of the Queen of Norway. He formed the School Board Executive, and was himself a member for many years along with fellow pioneers, organizing the Queen Maud



Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Johnson, 1903.

School District. Queen Maud school provided space for large enrollments for many years.

Mr. Johnson applied for postal service into this area, becoming postmaster and carrier under the name of South Valley Saskatchewan Post Office. His weekly route included the pickup and delivery of mail to and from Nesham's farm residence post office to Weldon Village post office and back to South Valley post office, his own residence. Both Mr. and Mrs. Johnson worked hard to maintain regular service for many years. Upon his resignation, the post office was amalgamated with Weldon Village post office, thus he became a Commissioner to Administer Oaths in 1918 and rendered services in that capacity.

Through the efforts of Mr. Johnson, the Glen Mary Rural Telephone Company was extended into this district. The telephone was an oblong type on the wall with a crank to ring numbers and there were many subscribers to a circuit. Through the courtesy of the telephone company, they arranged a long ring at 6:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. to provide the correct time during harvest time.

Another of Mr. Johnson's contributions to the community was to aid in the forming of the Rose Hill Cemetery. Those so desiring could buy family plots which included several burial plots, this being a means to establish this new cemetery.

After I left Wessels, I went and lived with my Dad. I came to Washington in 1942, and have lived here since. In 1946, I married James Gray. We have four children: Rita and Kevin of Seattle, Darrel of Leavenworth, Washington, and Colleen of Miami, Florida.

James is a machinist at Boeing Airplane Co. He has worked there for 25 years. I work as a cook at one of the dorms at Seattle University. I have been employed there for 10 years.

### ANNA (DAHL) LEBACKEN

Anna Dahl was born at Thief River Falls, Minnesota, on April 25, 1868. Her parents were Johannes and Randine Jorgenson-Dahl. They were a family of three boys and five girls. In 1887, she married John Lebacken. Their children were Warner Atlanter, born Oct. 13, 1889, and Ruth Othelia, born April 20, 1894.

In 1903, Anna Lebacken and children came to Canada. She filed on a homestead in the Viking district. They lived in a small log house there during the summer months and spent the winter months in the States. She hired the neighbors to clear and work the land for her. After three years, the time allotted them to prove up the homestead, she sold it to Carl Dahlsjo, and moved back to the States, living for a while in Minnesota as well as at Minot, North Dakota and Spokane, Washington.

Warner came back here in 1906 and filed on a homestead, N.W.-33-47-21, where he lived and worked. Anna later sent \$1000 to her brother-in-law, Christian Boe, to purchase S.E. 6-48-22, for her. Anna and Ruth then came. She had a small log house built there for them. She later sold 150 acres of this to Jacob Folland Sr., keeping 10 acres for herself, on which she had a house built.

Anna was a fine seamstress, so did a lot of sewing. As time went on, an addition was built on, making the house more comfortable. She sometimes boarded children who attended Roosevelt school. Ruth also went there for Norwegian classes. Anna later sold the ten acres to J. Folland, too.

In 1922, she bought a quarter of land twelve and a half miles north of Kinistino, where she lived most of her time until her death in 1946. Her husband, John Lebacken, died in 1922. Ruth remained on her mother's farm until she sold it to Ernest Holmquist in 1962. She is now residing in Marquis Towers in Prince Albert.

Warner married Annie Kristina Kross on June 11, 1912, and lived on the homestead. They had three daughters; Irene Orva, born Feb. 13, 1913. She married Percival Arnold Mindrum on Aug. 25, 1930. They have three children; Twila, Jean, and Lea. They all reside in Calgary. Pearl Hazel was born Dec. 25, 1917 and died in Nov. 1974. She married Louis Quant in 1936. They had one son, Fred, who was married and lives in Port McNeil, B.C. Dolores Lorna was born Feb. 29, 1928, and married Stanley Pike on June 11, 1949.



Anna (Dahl) Lebacken.

Their children are Heather and David. They all live in Vancouver, B.C.

Besides farming, Warner had a sawmill and planer north of their place near the river. About this time, Annie had a Maternity Home in Kinistino. Warner later sold the farm to Thorvald Anderson and moved his mill to Prince Albert. Annie died while in Prince Albert, in 1950.



Willie Kross, Ruth Rosent, Annie (Kross) Lebacken, Warner Lebacken, 1949, 37th Wedding Anniversary.

CHIL



After disposing of his mill in P.A., Warner moved to High Prairie, Alta. Warner was a shrewd businessman and did well financially. He passed away in Aug. 1953.

Ruth married Svenky Svenkeson in 1914. They lived on his farm where their two children were born. Clifton was born on March 7, 1916. He married and lives in Vancouver, B.C. They have four sons; Junice, born Sept. 1917, married and lived in Saskatoon. They had one son, Wayne, living in Calgary. Junice passed away in Saskatoon in 1956.

Ruth's third son, Billy Rosent, was born in June, 1922. He married and lived at Glenallen, Alaska, where he did long-distance trucking between Glenallen and Los Angeles. He owned and operated a hotel and motel for several years which he later sold for \$100,000. His hobby was painting with oils. He had many lovely paintings. He passed away Dec. 1969. To show their high regard for Billy, his many friends donated \$1,500 to the Cancer Fund.

His wife resides in Mesa, Arizona.

#### **JOHN LELAND FAMILY — by Alice Leland**

Isabella Dahl married John Leland September 16, 1916. In the fall of that year, they moved to Sunburst, Montana, where Kenneth was born July 7, 1917. In July 1918, they moved back to Weldon and resided in the village. Violet was born November 30, 1918. It was during the winter of 1918, that the flu epidemic swept across the continent. John, Isabella, and Kenneth all had the flu. Isabella was very ill, but eventually recuperated. In the spring of 1919, they moved north of Weldon to S.W. of Section 10, Township 47, Range 22.

In the years that followed, four more children arrived on the scene; Gladys in 1921, Alice in 1924, Edwin in 1928, and Vernon in 1936. Kenneth was killed in action in France, August 15, 1944.

In June 1946, John and Isabella bought Andrew Lindgren's home, and moved to the village



John Leland Family: Gladys, Violet, Edwin, Alice, Kenneth, Vernon.



Pte. Kenneth Leland, Regina Rifles. Killed in action, Aug. 15, 1944.

of Weldon. John retired from farming at the age of 70. Isabella died July 15, 1973, at the age of 77.

Violet and Sam Walso now live in Weldon on the same site where Violet was born. Gladys presently lives in Calgary, Alice in New Westminster, and Edwin and his family in Regina. Vernon and Sylvia and family live on a farm, south of Weldon, on the site of Rev. Njaa's home in 1904.

From Isabella and John's union, at the time of writing, there are 8 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

#### **HANS A. LIEN — by Lawrence Powers**

Hans Andreas Lien and Kristiane Larson were married on March 23, 1890, in Norway. They moved to the North Dakota, U.S.A., in the spring of 1892. They then moved to Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, in the spring of 1902, then on to a homestead NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of 16-46-22 W2nd just north of Weldon, to settle down to farming.

Their children were Josephine, Oliver, Inga (my mother, who was born in North Dakota, U.S.A. on August 1, 1896), Hans, Annie and a boy who died in infancy.

Hans was very active in all types of community work. These were the formative years of the district, so schools and churches had to be organized and built. Everyone pitched in to get this important work done.

There was also the hard work of getting their

musician and school caretaker. They have three children, Jack, Joyce, and Garnet, all of whom are married and live in Vernon, British Columbia. Mabel and Sandy now are residing in Kelowna, British Columbia.

There are just Edna and Mabel of the William McLennan family living today and Sarah of Donald McLennan family. We were close neighbors and enjoyed social gatherings. Everyone always had time for anyone in need of help of any kind, especially in the bad 30's. We were all happy even if we didn't have the luxuries of today.

### **DOLORES (DAHL) MILLER**

My parents are Carl and Judith (Christianson) Dahl. Dad was born in Minnesota, U.S.A. in 1901. Mother was born in Norway in 1901. They both came to Canada as young children. They lived on farms in the Roosevelt district and attended school there.

They were married in 1923, and after buying grain for a while in Weldon and Bagley, they moved, to farm in the Queen Maud district. Dad farmed until 1974, when they retired and moved to Weldon.

I was an only child. I attended Queen Maud School from 1936 to 1944. After finishing my High School in Weldon I attended Teachers College in Saskatoon. I taught at Mont Nebo, where I met and married Richard Miller. We live in the Queen Maud district, where Richard has worked with the R.M. of Kinistino for 28 years.

We have two daughters: Dianne is married to Ronald Erickson from Midale, Sask. They are both teaching in Yorkton, Sask. Gail, our younger daughter, is presently attending Business College in Saskatoon.

### **GEORGE MORK FAMILY — by Bertha Nilson**

George Mork came to Minnesota, U.S.A. with his parents, brothers and sisters from Bergen, Norway, at the age of sixteen. He had attended school in Norway until this time but went again in Minnesota to learn the language. He later worked on his parents' farm and on the railroad.

His older brother was senator for Minnesota for four terms.

Britta Brakke came to Minnesota at the age of six from Trondjem, Norway, with her mother, step-father and brothers. Her father, a sister and brother had died from an epidemic of diphtheria.

They settled near Morks, and when she was seventeen, Britta became Mrs. George Mork. To this union was born four sons and two daughters: Louis, Alfred, Adolph, Julius, Cora and Bertha.

Dad was an elevator agent and everything was fine. Then he heard of the wonderful opportunities in Canada, where there was free homestead land for anyone interested. They talked it over and Dad went to Canada to see about it.

Louis had been in Canada, working in southern Saskatchewan, for sometime. Mother

stayed a while longer in the States, then followed with the rest of the family. By then Dad had filed on a homestead and arranged to have a house built on it. Later on, Louis and Alfred also filed on homesteads.

The family lived in Prince Albert that summer. Dad, Louis, Alfred and Adolph worked, and Cora and Julius went to school at Connaught.

In 1912, the family moved to the homestead north of Weldon. There was a lot of hard work involved; clearing and breaking land. The farming operation was started with oxen and later carried on with horses. After a while, both horses and tractor were used. Finally they disposed of all the beautiful horses and farmed only with tractors.

They lived near the Saskatchewan River and did a lot of fishing. This was not only a pleasant pastime but the fish were good eating. There was no talk of mercury in the fish yet, as pollution was not a problem at that time.

Also in the fall of most years, blueberries were plentiful in the near-by pines. These grew low and were not easy to pick but were well worth the effort.

When the war broke out, Adolph, who was grown-up for his age, added a few years to it and managed to get into the army. He served overseas for four years and was wounded and gassed, but made everyone happy by living through it and coming back home. He bought a



Adolph C. Mork, World War I.

### **NOL ROE — by Russell Wessel**

Nol Roe came with his parents and sister to Saskatchewan from Fisher, Minnesota in 1893. The family lived for some years on the N.E. 26-47-23 W2nd. He later homesteaded the N.E. of 23-47-23 W2nd, now owned by Swen Holt. He was a lover of music and will be remembered by all who knew him for his violin music.

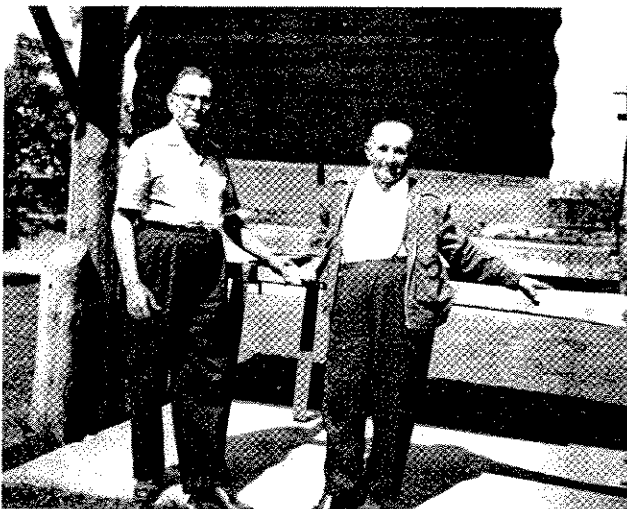
### **GEORGE ROWLAND**

George Rowland was born in 1902. His mother was Carrie Cook married to Rowland. They lived in Tofield, Alberta.

When George was about eleven, he had infantile paralysis and spent many months in hospital. When he got out of hospital, he had to learn to walk all over again and then one leg was shorter than the other.

George worked many years for a rancher and then went as a cook. Later he came to live with his aunt, Mrs. Ballendine and cousins. He was a real help to all as he did chores and worked in the field. The animals were well cared for.

He stayed with Sandy and Stella after his aunt's death. He built himself a bunkhouse and had it moved here when Sandy and Stella moved to this district, in 1959. He remained a bachelor. He died in September, 1963.



George Rowland (Right-hand Side)

### **ESTHER (DAHL)-RUF**

I had a very happy childhood and enjoyed my home very much. When I was "too young", I visited Roosevelt school one day and the teacher put me in Grade 1. He was a very kind man and I continued in that grade. I loved to read and write.

During school holidays, the Lutheran church sometimes had Norwegian classes. There I learned to read and write Norwegian.

When I was about 13 or 14 years old, I was confirmed in the Lutheran church. Pastors Njaa, Gronlid, and Thompson, were ministers I recall. I loved to hear them sing. I also enjoyed the choir

practices at our home, and at the homes of Uncle Chris Boe and I Neshem's.

When I was about 15 years old, I became a Seventh Day Adventist. I hoped to go to their Boarding Academy at Battleford, Saskatchewan, to take my high school. I asked my parents if I could go and they consented to let me. I got ready to go to Battleford. Mathilde helped me get my trunk packed with clothes and bedding. Carl said I would be so homesick I would come home on the next train. I was homesick, but was glad I could attend a Christian school. I finished high school there, spending the summers at home.

After I finished eleventh grade and came home for the summer as usual, I visited Roosevelt school where I had attended, and finished 8th grade. The third teacher there that spring, was leaving. So I asked the School Board if I could teach until school would close in early December. I was accepted and I had a wonderful time there. Ernest, my brother, five years younger than I, was in the eighth grade. The Inspector came to visit the school one day and gave me a permit to teach until the school year closed in December. The children and I put on a closing program at Liberty Hall. Carl, my older brother, sold tickets until the hall was packed. Then he let them in free as long as there was standing room. The children did very well.

Then I went to Battleford and had to study hard to catch up with my class, but I finished twelfth grade the end of June and graduated with four young men. That fall, I went to Normal School in Saskatoon for one semester. In March, when Public Schools opened, I went to teach all that year at Viking school, staying with my brother, Rudolph. His wife was very sick at a Prince Albert hospital and died shortly after I began teaching there. It was heart-breaking for those four children at home. The twins, who were the youngest, had been with my parents since they were six months old.

Before Christmas, the school began their winter vacation, and I returned to finish my second semester at the Normal School in Saskatoon. We had most wonderful teachers. Starting in April, I again taught Public school until fall when they invited me to teach Grades 1 to 6 at Battleford, where I had taken my high school. The following year, I was Dean of Girls there and taught several classes in English.

That year a man — G. F. Ruf — became very friendly and we were married July 20, 1926, at my home near Weldon. We had a call to go to Brazil as missionaries as soon as we were married, which we did. It was very hard for me to leave all my loved ones, but we did. We went to Oklahoma, U.S.A. to say farewell to my husband's relatives; then to New York to take a ship to Santos, Brazil. Someone asked me if I was sick on the ship and I said, "Yes, homesick".

We made our home in the suburbs of the beautiful, large city of Sao Paulo for over seven years. We first studied the Portuguese language



George and Esther (Dahl) Ruf's 50th Anniversary: Mario, Esther, Karen, Clarice, Dorothea, George, Esther.

real hard. Knowing some Norwegian, German, and English, was a great help. There usually was a ship about twice a month, and we always looked forward to the mail from home.

"Daddy" (we called him) travelled all over the southern half of Brazil and would be gone two or three and maybe four months at a time. I was kind of scared to stay alone, so sometimes a young girl would stay with me, and that helped.

During our stay there, we had three babies — Clarice on August 1, 1927, Mario on May 30, 1929, and Dorothea, Sept. 28, 1930. That was real company. We soon had many friends.

After about seven and one-half years, we were invited to go to Peru. We came home on furlough in June, 1934, and spent several months visiting with our relatives in Canada and the United States. Later, we took a ship from New York to Peru. We were five years in Puno, Peru, on the great lake Titicaca, about 12,500 feet above sea level. We had to limit our exercise there, as the air we breathed was so **thin**, we got "out of breath" easily. The children had to play quiet games. I had an Indian girl help me with the heavier work. We lived in a small, comfortable bungalow. Then we had our "little Esther", Esthercita in Spanish, born August 28, 1936. The children and I went to a lower level for that event. In Puno, there was little help so far as medical help and hospital facilities were concerned.

Daddy arranged his schedule so he could spend a few of the "crucial days" with us in Arequipa. All went well and we returned by train again to Puno. All were happy to be home again in Puno for a few weeks. Then Clarice got **very** sick. No one knew what she had, so down to Arequipa I went with Clarice and Esthercita. A strong man carried Clarice to the train. We went on a night train, which took about nine

hours. In our small hospital there, some good doctors diagnosed Clarice's sickness as Typhoid! I had two adjoining rooms, with a door between, one for Clarice, and one for the baby and I. Clarice would linger between life and death for weeks. I could not leave Mario and Dorothea alone in care of an Indian girl in Puno forever. So Daddy brought all three to Arequipa and we got "sort of" an apartment on the top of the Hospital and I could spend my time, caring for Clarice in the Hospital; then hurry up to care for the baby and the others. Daddy was in Puno but also had to care for our Work in Bolivia. We had a few excellent nurses in our Hospital in Arequipa but they could not limit their services to one typhoid patient. Then Mario got sick and was at death's door and so was Clarice, so I sent a telegram for Daddy to come and help me. We had our hands full, 24 hours duty. Dorothea was well and had to care for herself and the baby as well, but needed some attention. We disinfected our hands so much, we could peel off the skin. How thankful we were when Clarice and Mario both began to improve! Then we took them to sea level to recuperate till all tests proved negative. We could live together as a family again, after about six months away from home with these serious illnesses.

After our five years in Puno, we were invited to move to Lima, Peru, a beautiful city near the ocean. It **never** rains there, but it is foggy and cloudy, and with irrigation there are huge trees, beautiful lawns and flowers all year. We loved the place but Daddy had to travel a great deal in the large Conference. There was a school, Grades 1 to 12. Our children attended school part of the time, but I also taught them at home so they would get their English. We had many kinds of food which was a treat. There were several churches in Lima, but we attended the Academy Church mostly. Our children were growing and working, taking responsibilities in the school, home and neighborhood.

In Lima our youngest daughter, Karen, was born in the British American Hospital on August 12, 1943. She was a healthy, big cheerful baby and brought us great pleasure. There were playmates and friends for all ages. Seeing our children were getting to High School and College age, we requested to go to the United States to work. And where should we be invited? To Beautiful Wisconsin! It was war years and there was a scarcity of many things. We stood in lines to buy many things. We had food stamps, etc. It was very cold in the winter but we loved it. That was when we had to separate again as a family. We took Clarice, Mario and Dorothea to our boarding Academy in Northern Wisconsin and Esthercita went to our Church School a few blocks from home, so Karen and I were busy at home, as Daddy had to travel all over the State. Separation was hard but it was the only thing to do. It took money to get the necessities, so I felt I should work to help. I kept handicapped children

so they could attend a special school in Madison. This I did for about seven years. It was hard work and rather sad, but rewarding.

Our older children were doing well and would come home for weekends about every six weeks, and for Christmas, Thanksgiving, and every summer. We always had much music in our home, and when the children were home, the very rafters would resound with joy as all talked, laughed, sang and played their various instruments. They always had jobs and worked faithfully to help with expenses. They went to college and one by one they began to get married. I always had church work to do wherever we were and enjoyed it.

My husband was an American and I was a Canadian. The laws were such in these two countries that when I married an American, I lost my Canadian Citizenship, and was not accepted in the United States. So for many years I was a "man without a country", but I somehow was allowed to travel without a passport in many countries. It was while we lived in Wisconsin those years that I became an American. So our whole family are now Americans.

After seven years in Wisconsin, we were again called to service; this time in the Dominican Republic for five years. This is a big island south of Miami, Florida. We really had a marvellous time there. The people were very friendly and we had several churches in the Capital City (where we lived) and all over the country. We already knew Spanish, from living in Peru, so could go to work immediately. Only Esthercita and Karen went with us there; Esthercita for only one year. They both studied at home to keep up their English, but both learned Spanish. Esthercita returned to attend our College in Michigan.

After five years in the Dominican Republic, we returned to Glendale, California, where Daddy was one of the pastors in the huge Glendale City Church until he retired.

I worked as a nurse in the large Glendale Adventist Hospital and that was hard work, but so rewarding. Karen also worked there during her week ends at home and during vacations. She was attending school at our boarding school Academy.

Then they asked me to teach in our large school in Glendale. This I enjoyed very much for six years. I had about thirty pupils in Grades 1 and 2. When I turned 65 years, Daddy felt I should retire too. But we always seemed to be involved in many things.

After retiring, we still live in California, but moved to a Condominium near Loma Linda, where our University Hospital is. There are many "shut — ins" and/or sick people in that vicinity, so we do a lot of visiting and are kept very busy.

Our five children are all married and scattered, but we try to visit them all once a year. They also come to see us once in a while.

Clarice works at the Headquarters of our work in Central America, where her knowledge of Spanish and French is a great help. Mario is a minister in Indiana. He has both an English and a Spanish congregation. His singing, and playing the violin or trombone, is a great blessing to all. Dorothea is a nurse so is never idle. She sings and plays the piano in church. Esthercita does secretarial work, plays the marimba very well, also plays the organ in church in Green Bay, Wisconsin. Karen has taught school for many years. Her husband is a pharmacist. Until summer of 1976, they lived in Miami, Florida. Now they live in California.

I missed the association with my dear relatives in Canada all these fifty-two years. Many have died, and we are all getting older, but we pray we may all live so close to God here, that we may live with Christ forever.

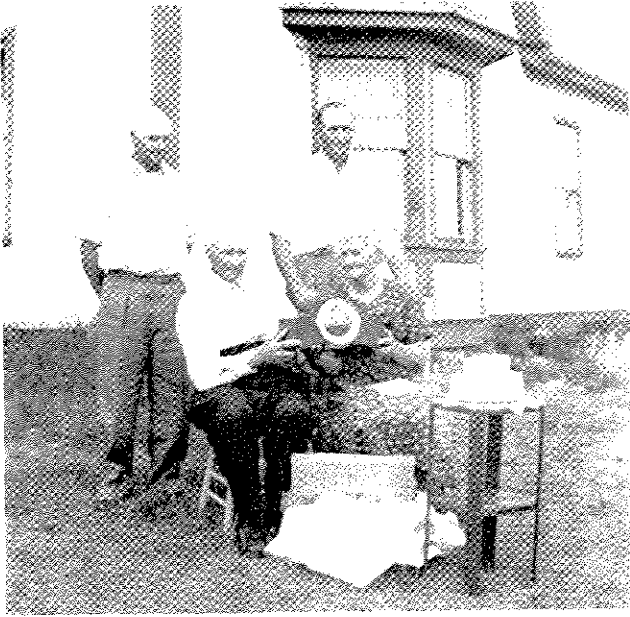
Marriages: Dad and mother (George and Esther) Ruf, July 20, 1926. Clarice and Charles Everest, June 3, 1947; children — Frederick. Mario and Frances Ruf, Nov. 9, 1952; children — Greg and Yvonne. Dorothea and John Schleifer, August 7, 1955; children — Sally. Esthercita and Wesly McNeal, June 10, 1956; children — Calvin. Eddie, Thomas and Steven. Karen and James Chambers, Nov. 22, 1963; children — Deborah. Grandchildren married. Frederick Stanley and Gail Everest, Feb. 11, 1973; children — Tiffany and Shannon. Yvonne (Ruf) and Joel Brown, July 7, 1974.

#### ANDREW SANDNESS FAMILY — by Mrs. Astrid Gratias (Sandness)

Can you imagine being (a young ambitious man in a family of thirteen children growing up on little spot of land on the side of a mountain in Norway ? Judging from the remonstrances my sister, Sybil, and I received if we didn't show the proper appreciation for fried fish seven nights a week during the Depression, I gather that the diet of that particular Norwegian family wasn't too varied either. Just the same I take my hat



Andrew Sandness, Ingeborg Gratias, Olena (Mrs. Sigurd Sandness), and Ole Sandness.



Johnny and Jennie (Dahl) Thompson, Clifford, John, Fern (Missing).



Bert Campbell, Floyd Olson, Walter Thompson, Andy Van Der Koot.

### **JENNIE DAHL THOMPSON — by Judith Granrude**

Jennie Dahl had been working with her Aunt Julia, Dad's youngest sister, in North Dakota, and it wasn't until 1903, that she came to Canada. She worked mostly in Prince Albert. In June, 1905, she married Johnny Thompson, a cowboy from Montana. They enjoyed their large ranch out by Cando, Saskatchewan, where they had horses, cattle, and sheep. They also did some farming. Their first son was born in 1920, but died when only two months old. Later, came Clifford and John; also one daughter, Fern. She married William McDonald in 1957. They have three children. At present, they live at Williams Lake, B.C.

Jennie passed away April 24, 1963. She was 78 years, 7 months.

Johnny passed away Sept. 1, 1963, at the age of 83 years, 7 months. John and Bonnie were married in July, 1964. They have two children; Cindy and Johnny.

Clifford and John continued on the ranch until 1976, when they sold most of the land, and are now residing in North Battleford, Saskatchewan.

### **WALTER THOMPSON — by Phyllis Olson**

Walter Thompson was a bachelor, farming NE¼ 9-48-22-W2, about 1944. When he began farming he had pigs and chickens.

As time went on, he began trucking pigs and cattle to Prince Albert for farmers. He would also pick up cream cans for the neighbours, and take them in, too.

His business grew until he quit farming and started to do a lot of mechanic work besides his trucking. Motors of all kinds were looked into in his own garage as well as at the farmers place, where he would go to do repairs.

Walter was also called on to witch wells and seemed to be successful at this job, too.

He was very interested in nature and spent much time planting trees and flowers, which caught the eyes of many a passer-by. In the winter, the little birds were hand-fed and became very tame. They were most interesting and provided a lot of company for him.

Walter was a good neighbour, and could be called on to help in any situation.

Having come to the age of retirement, he sold his farm to Lloyd Hyggen, and bought a home in High River, Alberta, where he now resides.

### **ANDREW THORSON**

Andrew Thorson was born in Norway, Dec. 8, 1881. He passed away on Nov. 17, 1975. His family were occupied with an apple orchard and timbering in Larvick. He and his brother, John, as did so many youths there, chose to leave Norway rather than be conscripted into the army. It was in 1902, that he arrived in New York, via cattleboat. From there, he went to Thief River Falls, Minn. Andrew came to Prince Albert around 1905, where he worked in the sawmill.

Christina Daisy Hanson was born June 20, 1885 and died in Dec. 1971. She was the eldest child of Fredrick and Milla Hanson. She went to school in Minnesota and came to Canada with her family in 1902. She and her sister, Emma, worked in Prince Albert, mostly in dining-rooms. They were very pretty with their hair piled high on their heads as was the fashion. Christina was married to Mr. Abbatt, who died within a couple of weeks from pneumonia.

Andrew and Christina were married in Prince Albert. They moved to the Queen Maud district where Andrew had a homestead. Here, their