

generations

The Journal of the Manitoba Genealogical Society

VOLUME 4, NO. 4 WINTER, 1979



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COVER: Eric Jonasson has been involved in genealogical research since 1968, and has been instrumental in the birth and growth of the Manitoba Genealogical Society. Although known in Manitoba as the Founder and first President (1976-79) of MGS, he is better known throughout Canada as the author of THE CANADIAN GENEALOGICAL HANDBOOK, which has come to be regarded as the standard textbook on Canadian genealogy. Photograph by Walter Lehner.

generations is published quarterly by the Manitoba Genealogical Society, Box 2066, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 3R4. The Editor invites articles and news items from all members of the society and from anyone else having a serious interest in genealogy. Manuscripts should be typewritten, double-spaced, with adequate margins and should be sent addressed to: The Editor, Generations, at the above address.

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Address all correspondence (including any for the library) to Manitoba Genealogical Society, Box 2066, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R3C 3R4. If you are a member, please include your membership number on all correspondence.

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Editor's Remarks

The last issue of generations for 1979 has finally arrived. It has been a moment long awaited by the staff of the journal, since it represents the adoption of the offset press method of printing.

This issue is surely pleasing to the eye with its crisp text, bold headlines, and an interesting illustration --- surely a far cry from bygone journals.

The credit for producing this journal hoes largely to Eric Jonasson, who is dipping his pen in the writer s ink for the last time as MGS President. As with all his other work for the Society, his contribution to this issue is of a calibre second to none.

So read on, and enjoy!

Stefan Jonasson
Editor

President's Remarks

This issue of generations is the fourteenth which our Society has produced. It is also the last issue in which I shall have the opportunity of addressing the Society as its President.

Over the past three and one-half years as your President, I have endeavoured to see the Manitoba Genealogical Society established and functioning. Sometimes I had to work long and hard, while other times the load was light. Sometimes I had tremendous support from a variety of individual members, while other times some members created hurdles which occasionally were difficult to overcome. Sometimes it was fun, while other times it was painfully dull and tedious. But despite the hard work, the frustrations and the setbacks, it was immensely fulfilling. It gave me a great deal of personal satisfaction to have been allowed to play a key part in our Society's beginnings and development, and the role of President has provided me with skills I did not previously possess and which I know will be beneficial to me in the future.

When I became your President in 1976, I resolved to stay until such time as the Society was functioning well on its own. I had concluded that the primary function of its first President was to see that the basic policies of the Society should be established, that capable individuals should be found to fill the vital posts in the Society's organization, that the primary functions and operations should be running reasonably smoothly, and that the seeds for future Society leadership should be planted. In other words, the function of the first President was to see the Society well established. By and large this has been accomplished, and although some aspects have been concluded more completely than others, none of those presently in the process of completion are unattainable in the near future. The attainment of these general goals which I initially set for myself therefore makes my continued presence as your President unnecessary.

Although the completion or near completion of these goals is the primary reason behind my desire to retire from my present office, it is by no means the only reason. Several developments have occurred over the past four years which also have served to influence me at this time. Most prevalent of these is the success of my book, *THE CANADIAN GENEALOGICAL HANDBOOK*, which had not been written at the time that the Society was organized. Its success has placed me in a more national light and affords me the opportunity to be a greater influence on genealogy in Canada as opposed to just influencing genealogy in Manitoba. It is an opportunity and, I feel, a responsibility which I do not wish to pass by. Another major factor for my decision at this time is the increasing independence of thought exhibited by the members of our Council and some members of our Society. Having had three and one-half years to acclimatize themselves to a formal genealogical organization, many now wish to present and implement ideas of their own regarding the directions and programs of our Society. I personally feel that my continued occupation of the President's chair will inhibit the free-flow of these ideas and will only serve to frustrate

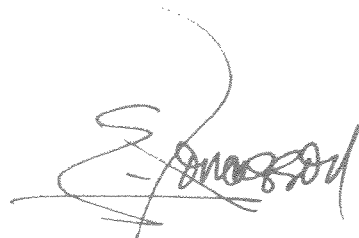
those members on whom we must depend for our future leadership. The impatience of members with ideas to present, coupled with their general reluctance to infringe upon the guidance of the founding President, is a natural development within all organizations. Its emergence in our Society and my desire not to interfere with the natural development of the organization makes it imperative that I reduce my role in the Society at this time.

One final aspect which influenced my decision is weariness. It is not the weariness which comes from helping other members with their particular problems or from participating in the activities of the Society, but instead it is the weariness that comes from occupying a position either too long or just long enough to satisfy personal desires. It is a weariness that comes from having consumed the ideas with which one started and then being placed in the position of hunting for new and fresh approaches to old problems, with no certainty of finding them. In short, it is the weariness that comes from working too long on a job without the vacation that is necessary to both renew interest and refresh the activity. The only vacation from being President of any organization is retirement, and the time is at hand for my vacation.

In many organizations, Founding Fathers who have had the fortune, or perhaps the misfortune, to be chosen as the first President have very often over-stayed their welcome and/or congregated all authority in themselves. The result of this is often an organization which deteriorates as soon as the Founding President retires - and they must all retire eventually. I do not wish to see this happen to our Society, yet at the same time I can fully understand the feelings of those other Founding Presidents. It is very unlikely that I will ever lose the paternalistic feelings that I have towards the Manitoba Genealogical Society, and although I may be retiring as your President, I will not be retiring as an active member of the Society and will remain in some capacity for as long as I am able and for as long as the membership wishes me to remain. And, like any father, I shall always watch over my offspring, regardless of how independent it becomes.

Only time will determine whether or not I have been a good President, and I leave it to the future to judge my actions and inactions. I can only say that I have tried to be the best President that I could possibly be. But despite any efforts on my part to establish and build our Society I could not have done so without the active support and assistance of many other people who laboured with me to turn a dream into a reality. I cannot thank them enough.

In conclusion, I would like to thank all members of the Society for the support you have shown me over the years, whether actively or quietly. I can only say that it has been both an honour and a pleasure to have served as your President in these formative years.



The Manitoba Genealogical Society: Beginnings and Early Development, 1975-1979

by Eric Jonasson

Genealogists are very history conscious. They must be if they wish to uncover all the available information on their ancestors. Local histories, social histories, and even the broader national and provincial histories often contain important clues to the records which were kept in the days of their ancestors, as well as providing the general historical framework around which an individual ancestor's biography can be woven. History can also provide many valuable lessons for current generations, warning against repeating past follies and encouraging the repetition of past successes. But more than the lessons it offers or the clues and frameworks it provides, history serves to record the efforts, achievements and failures of those individuals and organizations which influenced historic developments. Very often, the short references made to individuals, particularly in local and special histories, are the only memorials to their efforts and sacrifices.

The history of any historical or genealogical society is not unlike the genealogy of an individual family. Like the family itself, the society must have its founding father(s) who sets the general direction the organization is to take and who nurtures its sons and daughters for the time when the "second generation" must assume the reins of leadership. For the Manitoba Genealogical Society, the time of the second generation has finally arrived. As the last of the original officers elected at the Inaugural Meeting in 1976 and after having worked these past four years to establish and direct the beginnings of MGS, I feel that the eve of my retirement as your President is the proper time to document our society's beginnings and development as a tribute to those who have worked with me over the years to turn an idea into a reality.

The Beginnings

Everything must have a beginning, and for MGS the beginning occurred in 1975. On 9 September, Mr. Hans D. Birk, noted Canadian heraldic artist, delivered a lecture in Winnipeg on the ethnic heraldry program of the Public Archives of Canada. The lecture itself was co-ordinated by the Winnipeg Public Library, but I had the distinct pleasure of meeting Mr. Birk at the airport and escorting him around the city. We had ample opportunity to talk about heraldry and genealogy. One observation he made was that Manitoba was the only western province without a genealogical society. He said to me "Eric, you should do something about that!". I must confess that I had not really thought too much about a society in Manitoba up to that point in time, being much more concerned with my own family research and the writing of THE CANADIAN GENEALOGICAL HANDBOOK for which I was then gathering material. After Mr. Birk left, I kept pondering the possibility of a Manitoba society and, finally, toward the end of the year decided to make an attempt to start one. I designed a poster and composed a form letter explaining what I was doing, and sent them out to all Manitoba public libraries. Letters were also sent to other Canadian genealogical societies, who published notices in their publications. Then I waited for the rush!

Although the poster brought some responses, the total number was meagre - and very disheartening. After two months of disappointment, I took a more imaginative approach and contacted Peter Warren to see if it would be possible to present my idea on his Action Line program on CJOB radio. Peter said by all means, and a half hour was arranged for 12 March 1976. I don't think that I was ever so nervous in my life (never having appeared on radio before). I think Peter recognized this and very skillfully guided me through the half hour. This was the "shot in the arm" that the campaign needed and I found myself deluged with letters from interested listeners. The idea was beginning to become a reality.

Following the radio appearance, I compiled a list of all those Manitobans who belonged to other genealogical societies in Canada and sent a letter to each explaining what was happening. This action brought in more letters of interest. At the same time, I hunted for a possible meeting place for an inaugural meeting and finally settled for a room in the Investors Building, 280 Broadway Avenue, in Winnipeg. It was provided without charge by the Investors Group.

Up to this time, I had been using a letterhead which said "Committee to Establish a Manitoba Genealogical Society". In actual fact, it was essentially a committee of one, myself. However, Prof. Jack Theissen of the University of Winnipeg, who had a minor interest in genealogy and who knew Hans Birk, had agreed to lend his name to the committee for added weight. His interest was purely nominal, however. I always waited for the letter which would ask who exactly was on this "committee", but it never came. Most disappointing!

Having established a time and place for our first meeting, I drew up a set of Preliminary By-Laws for the new society and sent them, together with a covering letter, to almost 100 individuals who had expressed an interest in starting a genealogical society. Then I relaxed and waited for the big day.

The Inaugural Meeting of the Manitoba Genealogical Society was held on 16 June 1976 with 46 people in attendance (their names are embodied in our first set of minutes). Mr. Gilbert-Louis Comeault, Assistant Archivist at the Provincial Archives of Manitoba, gave a short talk on the genealogical sources in the archives, following which the first council for MGS was elected. The By-Laws were discussed and some changes made, and a decision was made to issue a special certificate to all those who became members of the society prior to 31 July 1976 to differentiate them as "Founding Members" (a list of these members can be found in generations, Vol. 1, No. 1). Coffee was provided courtesy of Ainslie Sim and Elizabeth Jonasson.

The new Council met for the first time on 23 June, and established some general guidelines to follow for the balance of the year. Ainslie Sim was appointed Editor of the Society (she owned a Gestetner!) and it was decided that two issues of a journal would be issued for 1976 and then quarterly in subsequent years. Iris Rosser was named Librarian of the Society. Committee chairmen were named, and a genealogical workshop was planned for 21 July to be held at the Teachers Library and Resource Centre in Winnipeg. We were finally off and running.

The Leadership

The success or failure of any organization is largely dependant on the activity and dedication of its leaders, and in this respect MGS has been very fortunate in having active, interested officers to provide the guidance necessary to overcome the hurdles of its infancy.

Initially, the Council of the Society acted more as an advisory body to the President than as an idea-generating and decision-making body in itself. I think that this was quite understandable, as most council members were not only new to running

a society but were new to genealogy as well. Time was needed to allow them to become accustomed to their new responsibilities and to develop ideas of their own regarding the direction the society should take. In the meantime, I attempted to fill any gaps by providing ideas on general directions and programs. Presently, the Council has evolved from its advisory position to one of idea-generating and decision-making, and its actions are a credit to all those who serve or who have served on it.

OFFICERS OF THE MGS, 1976 - 1979

ELECTED OFFICERS:

President	Eric Jonasson, 1976-1979
First Vice-President	William Rattray, 1976-1977 A. Gordon Pruden, 1978-1979
Second Vice-President	Louis (Lou) McPhillips, 1976-1978 Gerald R. Brown, 1979
Recording Secretary	Karen Shirley, 1976 Elizabeth Jonasson, 1977-1979
Treasurer	Mayme Pearson, 1976-1978 Charles Gingras, 1979
Councillors	Gerald R. Brown, 1977-1978 (resigned to become 2nd Vice-President) A. Gordon Pruden, 1977 (resigned to become 1st Vice-President) Madeline Cyluck, 1977 Rudolf Schlick, 1978-1979 Philippe Prince, 1978-1979 Richard E. Bennett, 1979 (NOTE: there were no Councillors elected for 1976)

APPOINTED OFFICERS:

Editor of the Society	Ainslie Sim, 1976-1977 (Eric Jonasson, acting Editor 1977-1978) Stefan Jonasson, 1978-1979
Librarian of the Society	Iris Rosser, 1976-1978 Dorothy Wilson, 1979
Corresponding Secretary	Elizabeth Jonasson, 1976-1979 Elizabeth Briggs, 1979
Membership Secretary	Ruth Breckman, 1979
Branch Co-ordinator	Eric Jonasson, 1976-1979 A. Gordon Pruden, 1979

These individuals have contributed greatly to the development of our society, and many of their names appear again throughout this article to attest to that fact. Most of them are now seasoned administrators of the society, and will be instrumental in setting the tone and direction of the society programs in the future.

Promoting the Society

One of the key aspects during the early years of any organization is making it known to the general public. From 1976 until the end of 1978, this was a major concern and was pursued as actively as possible. A variety of means were used in the promotion of the Society and its objectives, including radio, television, the newspapers, and printed brochures.

Two members were most active in dealing with the mass media sources (TV and radio). They were myself and Lou McPhillips, who arranged many radio interviews during the early days of MGS.

One of the best, if not "the best", means of reaching a large audience was Peter Warren's Action Line on CJOB radio in Winnipeg. As I mentioned earlier, my appearance on this program was instrumental in locating the nucleus of the Society - and the later appearances were equally important in expanding this nucleus and in making the Society known to the public. For this, we all owe Peter Warren a debt of gratitude (for the record, Peter Warren's program is the most listened to program of its type in Manitoba). Other radio and television appearances also helped to promote the Society, including CFRW radio, CBC radio, CBC TV, and CKY TV, but all to a lesser degree.

Newspapers provided some assistance in making our existence known to Manitobans, although some were much more receptive than others. Letters were sent to the "Letters to the Editor" columns of all Manitoba newspapers and helped to increase rural membership. The Winnipeg Free Press and the Winnipeg Tribune ran feature articles, in 1976 and 1977 respectively, on my personal research and on genealogy in general, but for the most part I was somewhat disappointed in the lack of coverage given to MGS in each of them. However, both have been very co-operative in reporting on the annual seminars we have held and in carrying other pieces dealing with the Society.

In addition to the media advertising, we have developed two brochures which promote our existence. One deals exclusively with the Society, describing the benefits of membership, and the other provides some basic information on genealogical sources in Manitoba and includes some general information on the Society. In addition to the brochures, we have also made speakers available to community groups to present brief discussions about genealogy and MGS, and in 1978 we sponsored a booth at the Red River Exhibition in Winnipeg devoted to genealogy, although the latter was not very successful in attracting new members.

Our advertising has enabled us to grow from 78 Founding Members (names of which can be found in Vol. 1, No. 1 of generations) in July 1976 to well over 300 members by the end of 1979. Although we are not a large genealogical society when compared with others in Canada, the potential for more rapid growth in ensuing years is much more apparent now and I feel that we will see a considerable increase in our membership in the near future.

During 1979, the Council felt that it was more important to improve the working organization of the Society and, as a result, less time was spent on promotion than in previous years. This breathing space has enabled us to eliminate some of the operating problems which have plagued us from the beginnings of the Society. With these problems resolved, a more concerted effort at promotion during 1980 should yield positive results by the end of that year.

The Publications

From the start, MGS has endeavoured to provide a well-balanced and informative journal and newsletter for its members and, by and large, has met its goals. In

fact, our journal is spoken of very highly in other areas of Canada - something of which we can all be proud.

Most of the credit for the journal and newsletter must go to a very small group of people who have laboured over the years to write, edit, type and print these publications. As well, for the past two years, a number of other members have come out faithfully to collate, staple and mail the material to all the members - no small task - and they too deserve our sincere thanks. Special mention must be given to Florence Cox who, over the past year, has been largely responsible for locating our collating and mailing "staff".

Our first Editor, Ainslie Sim (1976-77), largely handled all the steps of publication, right through to the mailing, during her tenure. After she retired in 1977, I took over the Editor's job temporarily until a new Editor could be found. This took a full year to accomplish. Our present Editor, Stefan Jonasson, took over in 1978.

Since its inception, generations (incidentally, this name was suggested by Elizabeth Jonasson) ran consistently late. This was largely due to the lack of available material to put in it and/or the lack of a sufficient number of people to prepare the material we did have. Primarily through the extended efforts of our present Editor, Stefan Jonasson, the tardiness we have been noted for in the past has been eliminated, although the journal's size has been reduced slightly to accommodate the schedule and a number of regular features which had been introduced in previous issues have been temporarily suspended. Once production becomes more uniform, however, the regular features will return and the size of the journal will increase.

One particularly important aspect of our journal, which tends to distinguish it from many other journals in North America, is its diversity. In recognition of the fact that our members come from a variety of differing cultures and are at different levels of expertise in their research, we have endeavoured to reflect these differences in generations by providing articles which deal not only with Manitoba genealogical sources, but also with sources in other countries and with the basic methods and sources in genealogical research in general. This has tended to increase the value of our journal not only to our members, but also to other researchers accross Canada who have access to copies.

Anyone perusing the past fourteen issues of generations will undoubtedly notice that the majority of articles which have appeared in it have been written by myself. While this particular aspect may have been quite acceptable in the beginning, it is not a healthy situation for the future. Input from other members and authors is imperative to a well-balanced perspective on genealogical research. Therefore, I have been quite pleased with the recent trend away from me as the principle author, and I sincerely hope that this continues in the future. Of course, I shall still prepare material for the journal, although it will be significantly less than in the past.

As our publications are the one (if not the major) means by which the Society reaches all members, it is important that we encourage and actively participate in its development in the future.

The Seminar

The Society presently has two major means by which it provides the greatest benefit to its members. The first is the various publications, and the second is the annual genealogical seminar. As with all of our programs, the seminar has

gradually matured over the years and will undoubtedly continue to do so in the future.

Our first seminar was held in 1977 at Kelvin High School in Winnipeg. The rather ominous job of organizing and co-ordinating the event fell to Gerald Brown, currently our 2nd Vice-President. His skillful handling of that seminar resulted in a successful meet and has influenced the tone and direction of subsequent seminars. The second and third seminars have both been held at Gordon Bell High School in Winnipeg and were co-ordinated by Gordon Pruden in 1978 and jointly by Gerald Brown and Rudolf Schlick in 1979. Both were equally as successful as the first.

We have been very fortunate in locating good speakers for our seminars, which have included representatives of the Provincial Archives of Manitoba, the Manitoba Office of Vital Statistics, Manitoba Crown Lands Section, the Mennonite Heritage Centre, and the Genealogical Society of Utah, as well as some of our own members. Our principle guest speakers have included Mr. Lionel Dorge in 1977, Dr. Vincent Rutherford in 1978, and Mr. Hans D. Birk in 1979.

Although the ideas and momentum for each Seminar are largely the responsibility of the Seminar Committee Chairman, no meeting of this magnitude can be successful without the assistance of a great many volunteers to handle individual tasks such as publicity, the refreshments, and the displays. We have always been quite successful in locating members to assist with the past seminars and, with their continued support in future events, the seminar itself can only continue to improve.

The Library

One of the first project the Society undertook was the creation of a library for our members. Although almost entirely dependant on donations of books from individual members, it has none-the-less grown into a small, but comfortable, reference collection under the guidance of our first two librarians.

The initial steps in the library's development were taken by our first Librarian, Iris Rosser (1976-78). Some general groundwork was laid for the policies of the Library and arrangements were made with other societies in Canada and the United States to exchange our journals for theirs. Our present Librarian, Dorothy Wilson, has seen to the cataloguing of our collection, its move to semi-permanent quarters at the Teachers Library, 436 William Ave. in Winnipeg (space provided through the graces of Gerald Brown), and the publication of the first list of our library holdings.

Now that the Library is not only visible, but usable, it will undoubtedly increase in size and value in the future.

The Branches

An organization's success rests heavily on its accessibility to its members. With this in mind, our first set of By-Laws included provisions for establishing local chapters or branches of the Society throughout the province. As our membership was quite small in the beginning, this particular aspect may not have seemed too important at first, but as time went on and our membership grew, the need for local chapters became much more apparent.

Brandon has the distinction of establishing the first branch of the Society in the province. Credit for this must go to Mrs. Gertrude Gross and Mrs. Ruth Tester, both of whom worked very hard to make it a reality. The Brandon Branch held its inaugural meeting in January, 1978.

Winnipeg followed Brandon's lead after a bit of prompting from the MGS Council. In order to understand why prompting was needed here, it is necessary to go back to the events of 1976. In that year, after the Society was formed, it was decided that regular monthly meetings should be held in order to make the Society more visible and, seeing as how the majority of our members came from Winnipeg, that is where the meetings should be held. These meetings were sponsored by the Society itself and not by any branch (none existed at that time), and were held in space provided at the Teachers Library on William Avenue. After the Brandon Branch was formed, the MGS Council agreed that it was not right that the provincial Society organize regular meetings in Winnipeg without doing the same for Brandon, or for that matter, any other place in Manitoba where a branch might start. As this was impossible to accomplish, the Council decided to phase out the Winnipeg meetings. In order to fill the obvious gap that would be created, a committee composed of Susan Bracken, Madeline Cyluck and Bill Cottrell and spearheaded by Susan Cote was formed to guide the establishment of a Winnipeg Branch, which held its inaugural meeting in November, 1978.

The current year, 1979, has seen two other branches come into being. The first, at Dauphin, was organized by Jean Tucker, and the second, at Roblin, was organized by MGS newcomer Mrs. Keith Cockerill. Through the efforts of our Branch Co-ordinator, Gordon Pruden, we may see two more branches created during 1980, one at Carmen and one at Portage la Prairie. Undoubtedly, this trend will continue until we have a network of local chapters throughout the province.

The value and benefit of these branches became apparent from the very start. Not only did Society membership increase dramatically in those areas where branches existed, but branch members became interested and active in pursuing, on a highly organized basis, the programs established or proposed by the Society. General awareness of genealogy by the general public also increased in these areas, and local Society members were given the opportunity of meeting together to discuss their problems and successes, to the mutual benefit of all. Undoubtedly, the branches will prove instrumental in the preservation and documentation of the genealogical records in their areas in the future, and will also be important as the training ground of our future leaders.

As valuable and important as the branches are, they do not completely fill all the needs of our members. Some type of organization of group was necessary to deal with the problems of members research overseas or within specific ethnic, cultural and religious groups in Manitoba and North America. Recognizing this deficiency in our structure, the recent By-Law Review Committee devised the Research Group (embodied in our new By-Laws) as a solution to this problem. Although this concept is too new to have produced results at this time, its future impact should be as great as the concept of the branch or local chapter.

The Programs

One of the primary objectives of our Society is to collect and preserve information and material relevant to genealogical study, and it is understandable that this would foster the creation of special programs and projects to see to the preservation of records important to us all. However, as the day to day requirements of the Society was the first concern of our Council, these programs were not given the priority which some members felt they should have been given.

Our first major attempt at a Society project resulted from our desire to take advantage of some federal government funding in 1978. We proposed compiling an alphabetical index of all the biographies of Manitobans which have been printed in the numerous local histories published in our province utilizing a staff of high school students over the course of the summer of that year. We requested \$5000 in funding for this project. Needless to say, our request was not granted, although we did learn some valuable lessons on the procedures for applying for government money which we will be able to apply in the future.

Independent of the government funding programs, our Special Projects Committee, chaired by Elizabeth Jonasson, sought to establish some meaningful projects which could be undertaken by the Society. In 1979, after some months of preparation, they presented the guidelines for our first official project to the MGS Council for approval, which was duly given. This proposal outlined the procedures for the gradual transcription of all cemetery inscriptions in Manitoba, a project which will probably take at least 50 years to complete, and for the alphabetical indexing of every name which appears on a tombstone in our province. It is a massive undertaking, but will prove extremely beneficial to future genealogists. Some of our members, sensing the value of the project, "jumped the gun" and began to transcribe the cemeteries in their areas, under the leadership of Ruth Tester in Brandon and Madeline Cyluck in Winnipeg. Another project, designed to index the obituaries appearing in all Manitoba newspapers, is now being considered by the Committee.

Other Activities

During their formative years, societies rarely exert any great influence in changing the general conditions relating to their interests. We are no exception. However, it is certainly our goal to try to change government policies and procedures, as well as the policies of private organizations, for the ultimate benefit of our members and, to a modest degree, we have already begun to do so.

At the beginning of 1979, Ralph Crawford and myself approached the Manitoba government on behalf of the Society to see if some changes could be made regarding the policies of the release of birth, marriage and death records held by the Office of Vital Statistics. After several meetings, we were successful in initiating considerable changes, resulting in a special "Application for Genealogical Search" form which, when completed by an applicant, automatically provides a photostatic copy of the original registration form on file at the Office of Vital Statistics. With these changes, Manitoba became one of the most liberal provinces in Canada in granting access to this information, something of which we can all be proud.

Although we are new at being a "political organization," we have been very successful in our initial attempt. This will certainly give us greater confidence in lobbying for other changes which will benefit us all.

Summary and Postscript

We have come a long way. Four years ago, we did not even exist, nor was there the strong possibility that we would. Today, we are a going concern with a respected journal, some ambitious programs, four local branches, a Library, and the satisfaction that comes from the success of three seminars and from the fact that we have already altered government policy in our favour. We have moved from being a Society

dominated by its President to one being run by its Council and supported by a team of dedicated volunteers. Although we know that everything is not running as well as it could, we are more confident that the future will resolve this problem and that within a short time we should have the well disciplined organization of our older counterparts in the rest of Canada.

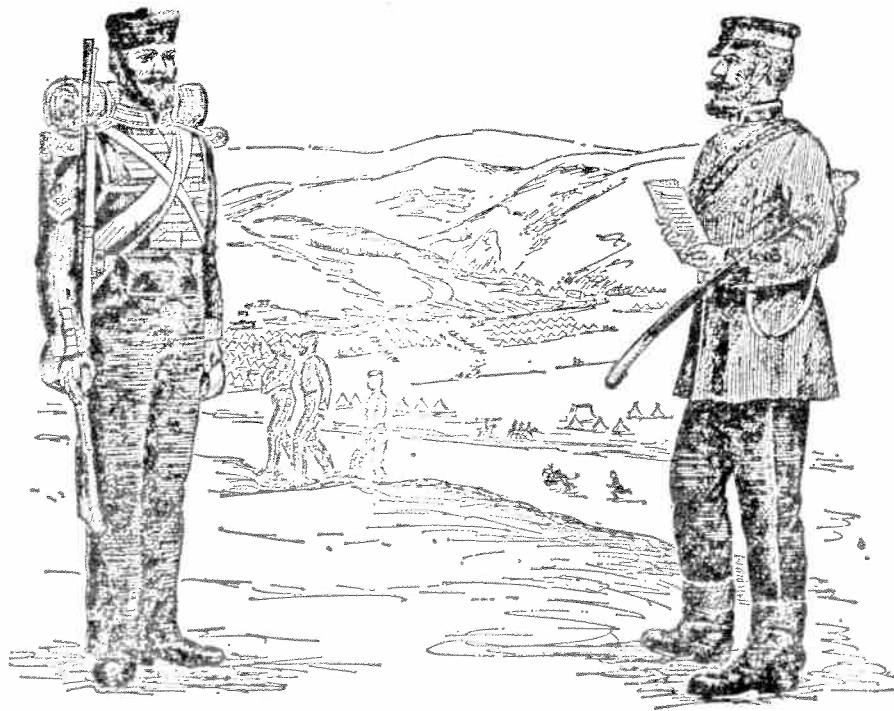
Hundreds, if not thousands, of hours have been spent by a small group of members in achieving this dream. Some of these people have been mentioned in this article, but many have not. Some have been mentioned more than others, but it is not to say that their contributions have been greater or lesser than those mentioned only once, or not at all. The purpose of this article has been to present the general highlights of our growth and development as seen through my eyes. Naturally, those individuals who have assumed more visible roles in the Society have been given more mention than those whose roles were quieter in nature. What hasn't been indicated here is the great support and activity of people such as Gordon Pruden, Gerald Brown, Mayme Pearson, Lou McPhillips, and many others both on and off Council who have laboured in numerous capacities for us all. What hasn't been indicated here is the support given to me by my wife, Elizabeth, not only in assuming various positions in the Society but also in providing me with the time to pursue Society affairs by taking on added responsibilities in our home. What has not been indicated here is the active involvement of many of our members, largely unnamed, in the routine tasks connected with an organization such as ours. And lastly, what has not been indicated here is the feeling that has often been expressed by members of the Society, both past and present, that this type of organization is both needed and wanted in our province. All have made their own unique contribution to the success of our Society, without which the achievements that have been documented on the preceeding pages would not have been possible.

We have come a long way. But we also have a long way to go. We must not rest on the laurels of our achievements, but must endeavour to build upon the foundation we have labouriously laid over the past three and one-half years. Our future growth and development rests solely with the active participation of all members - without whom we would not exist nor would we have reason to exist.

The Chelsea Pensioners of 1848/50

compiled by Eric Jonasson

By 1845, the Hudson's Bay Company's trade monopoly at Red River was seriously threatened by the increasing nationalistic tendencies of the Metis and the gradual encroachment of the American trading companies. In order to secure its trading dominance, the HBC required some means of controlling the transportation of goods into and out of Red River and felt that the presence of Imperial troops would provide the vehicle by which the traffic could be policed. Political events in the United States in the form of the Oregon boundary dispute of 1846 conveniently intervened to assist the Company.



The possibility of war over the Oregon boundary prompted the British government to agree to send troops to Red River, although not without some reluctance and only after the HBC had agreed to underwrite the costs. On 26 June 1846, a force of 347 men of the 6th Regiment of Foot under the command of Major John F. Crofton sailed from Cork in Ireland to York Factory on Hudson's Bay. However, unknown to them or their superiors, the United States Senate had ratified the Oregon Treaty with England on 12 June, thereby ending the dispute and making the dispatch of troops for defence purposes unnecessary.

Although the Oregon dispute was over before the Imperial troops left for Red River, they remained in the settlement until 1848, providing a temporary stabilizing force to counter the discontent with the HBC trade monopoly and bolstering the economy of the settlement with the new supply of cash which the soldiers readily spent.

In 1848, the Imperial troops were recalled and replaced with a body of out-pensioners of the Chelsea Hospital who arrived in the autumn of the same year. These Pensioners were sent out partly as troops and partly as settlers. The terms of enrolment was seven years, and each was to receive a grant of land dependant on their rank. They were under the command of Major (later Lt.-Colonel) William Caldwell, who also served as Governor of Assiniboia.

According to Alexander Ross in Red River Settlement: Its Rise, Progress and Present State with Some Account of the Native Races, and its General History to the Present Day (London 1856), the Pensioners arrived in two squads of some seventy men each, the first in 1848 and the second in 1850. However, J. J. Hargrave in Red River (Montreal 1871) places the total number at only 56 men and mentions nothing about a second detachment.

It seems quite probable, however, that there was a second group in 1850 composed of some twenty men, together with their families, under the command of a Captain Hill, who later returned to England in 1854. Governor Caldwell stayed until 1855 when he too left for England. By the time Caldwell left Red River, the majority of the Pensioners had either left for other parts of Canada or returned to England. Only a small minority of the original detachments remained in the settlement.

Ironically, the primary reason for the military force in Red River, that is the enforcement of the HBC monopoly, finally came to a head in 1849 during the looser control of the Pensioner force. The confrontation which occurred at that time resulted in the monopoly's disintegration, assisted in part by the inaction of the Pensioners in upholding the Company's "right" of dominance over the trade at Red River.

The following material is an attempt to consolidate in one place as much information on the Pensioners as is readily available. The first piece presented here is a list of the Pensioners compiled from the Red River Census of 1849, and is reproduced here in its entirety.

The remaining items are reprinted from Archer Martin's The Hudson's Bay Company's Land Tenures (London 1898) and includes a statement respecting the conditions by which the Pensioners were enrolled for service in Red River, a list of the Pensioners who appear to have been enrolled and to have proceeded to Fort Garry in 1848 and 1850, and a listing showing how Lot 1211 was subdivided amongst the Pensioners (this lot was located roughly between the west side of Garry Street on the east and Armstrong Point on the west).

THE COMPANY OF PENSIONERS, AS EXTRACTED FROM THE RED RIVER CENSUS OF 1849

NO. OF FAMILY	NAME	AGE	COUNTRY	RELIGION	POPULATION								RANK	REMARKS & POSSESSIONS	
					MEN		WOMEN		SONS		DAU.				TOTAL
					Married	Unmarried	Married	Unmarried	+16 yrs.	-16 yrs.	+16 yrs.	-16 yrs.			
1	Anderson, Geo.	43	Ire.	P	1		1			1			3	Private	1 cow
2	Antail, Geo.	37	Eng.	P	1		1						2	"	
3	Ashford, James	41	Eng.	P	1		1			2			4	"	
4	Baily, Richard	41	Eng.	P		1							1	Corp.	
5	Brown, Wm.	46	Eng.	P	1		1				1	1	4	"	
6	Chart, Wm.	42	Eng.	P	1		1						2	Private	
7	Connell, Michael	42	Ire.	RC	1		1			1		1	4	"	
8	Carrogan, Thos.	43	Ire.	RC	1		1						2	"	
9	Doherty, James	41	Ire.	P	1		1					1	3	"	
10	Dolan, Martin	44	Ire.	RC	1		1			1			3	"	
11	Duffin, James	42	Eng.	P		1							1	"	
12	Eagan, James	41	Ire.	RC	1		1			2			4	"	
13	Flynn, Wm.	39	Ire.	RC	1		1			1			3	"	
14	Gasdan, James	44	Eng.	P	1		1				1		3	"	
15	Hamilton, John	40	Scot.	P	1		1					1	3	"	
16	Hilliard, Thos.	42	Eng.	P		1							1	"	1 cow
17	Irwine, John	44	Ire.	P		1							1	"	
18	Kenny, Edward	41	Ire.	RC	1		1					2	4	"	
19	Lelas, Patrick	42	Ire.	RC	1		1			1			3	"	1 oxen, 1 cow, 1 calf 1 house
20	McCormick, James	42	Ire.	RC	1		1					3	5	"	
21	Morrison, Thos.	40	Scot.	P		1							1	"	
22	Moyses, James	44	Eng.	P	1		1			1		1	4	"	1 house, 1 cow 1 house
23	Mulligan, James	42	Ire.	RC	1		1			2			4	"	
24	Murphy, Michael	41	Ire.	RC	1		1						2	"	
25	Martin, Wm.	42	Ire.	RC	1		1					1	3	Sgt.	1 cow 1 cow, 1 calf
26	Nowlin, Michael	43	Ire.	RC	1		1			2		2	6	Sgt-Major	
27	O'Donall, Owen	43	Ire.	RC	1		1			1			3	Private	
28	Oakes, Thos.	45	Eng.	P	1		1					2	4	"	1 house
29	Parks, Joshua	38	Eng.	RC	1		1			1		1	4	"	
30	Picksley, Thos.	46	Eng.	P	1		1			1			3	"	
31	Richards, James	36	Eng.	P	1		1			1		1	4	Sgt.	
32	Ramsey, Robert	45	Scot.	P	1		1			1			3	Private	
33	Rodway, Joseph	42	Eng.	P	1		1			1			3	"	
34	Roper, James	43	Eng.	P	1		1			1		1	4	"	
35	Sangstu, James	43	Scot.	P	1		1			1		1	4	"	
36	Sharp, Edward	36	Ire.	P	1		1			1		2	5	"	
37	Sharp, Wm.	41	Scot.	P		1							1	"	1 house, 1 horse, 1 cow
38	Selwood, John	41	Eng.	P	1		1			2		2	6	"	
39	Shepherd, Robt.	42	Eng.	P	1		1						2	"	
40	Sherriden, James	42	Ire.	P	1		1					1	3	"	
41	Smith, John (1st)	35	Ire.	RC	1		1			2			4	"	
42	Smith, John (2nd)	41	Eng.	P	1		1						2	"	
43	Smith, Wm.	28	Eng.	P	1		1						2	"	1 house
44	Spratt, Wm.	44	Eng.	P	1		1					1	3	"	
45	Stevens, Wm.	44	Eng.	P	1		1						2	"	
46	Stodgall, Charles	27	Eng.	P	1		1						2	"	1 house
47	Throne, Thos.	37	Eng.	P		1							1	"	
48	Turner, Geo.	42	Eng.	P	1		1			2			4	"	
49	Welsh, Geo.	24	Ire.	RC	1		1						2	"	1 cow
50	Watson, Abraham	42	Scot.	P	1		1						2	"	
51	Wells, George	40	Eng.	P	1		1			2			4	"	
52	Wilde, George	43	Eng.	P	1		1	1					3	"	1 house 1 cow 1 house
53	Rice, George	46	Eng.	P	1		1			1		2	5	Corp.	
54	Malay, Patrick	41	Ire.	RC	1		1						2	Private	
TOTALS					47	7	47	1	-	32	2	27	163		

may direct. Corporals to receive 1s. per week, and Sergeants 2s. per week extra during the first period, and half those amounts during the second, on the same conditions.

Any pensioner, however, who prefers private employment may, with the consent of his officer, be relieved from this obligation, provided he gives a fortnight's notice, and abandons his claim to the rates of pay before specified; but such employment must not remove him to a greater distance than two miles from head-quarters, and he is always to be liable to recall, if the defence of the station is found to require it.

In consideration of the expense incurred in sending out these pensioners and their families, and providing them with a residence and land, they will also be bound to attend military exercise, without pay, for twelve days in each year; and on every Sunday for muster, under arms, at church parade.

If called on to serve during any other periods than those above referred to, in defence of the settlement, they shall be entitled to the regulated rates of pay for the same ranks in Her Majesty's army, in addition to pension; such pay to be defrayed by the Hudson's Bay Company in the first instance, and afterwards repaid by the British Treasury.

In the event of any pensioner thus enrolled not attending when called out for these duties, he will be liable to the penalties of desertion, in addition to forfeiture of pension.

On the termination of the seven years' service for which the enrolment is made, the land occupied by the pensioner will become his absolute property, provided he has fulfilled the conditions of his agreement; and he shall, thereafter, be subject to no further military duty than may be exacted from any other resident in defence of the settlement.

The Hudson's Bay Company are, however, to have the option, within one year of the termination of the service, of resuming possession of the land, on paying the pensioner the ascertained value thereof at the time, including the buildings and crop on the ground; or if the pensioner prefer it, he may receive a fresh grant, at a greater distance from the Fort, of treble the extent.

In the event of death before the termination of the seven years, the grant of land will devolve on the pensioner who may fill the vacancy; but should any improvements have been made thereon, the same shall be valued by his Officer and paid to his family out of a stoppage to be made from the pensioner succeeding thereto; and till the arrival of such pensioner, the family of the deceased shall be permitted to occupy the ground.

Each pensioner shall receive similar arms and equipments to those which have been issued to the enrolled pensioners in this country, as also a great coat, coatee, pair of trousers, and cap, to be worn on those occasions when he is out on duty, and which will be renewed once in every third or fourth year, as may be required.

Each pensioner on being enrolled shall receive the sum of £1, to be applied under the direction of his Officer in providing him with the following articles.

One fatigue jacket,
One pair of boots,
Two shirts,
Two pairs of socks,
One stock;

and which store of necessaries he shall be bound to keep up in future years without any further issue of enrolment-money; as also a sufficiency of warm clothing suitable for the winter of that climate.

In the event of the death or removal from the force of any pensioner thus enrolled before the expiration of the period for which his clothing has been issued, it shall revert to the public, to be made available for the equipment of his successor.

Medical aid will be provided at the expense of the Hudson's Bay Company for the pensioners, and their wives and families.

In the case of death, an allowance of £1 1s. will be made by the British Government, to cover the expense of funeral, etc., of the pensioner.

As the service exacted in virtue of this enrolment will be of rare occurrence, and will only continue for a few days at a time, it is not to reckon for increase of pension; but when employed in the defence of the settlement, these pensioners shall, in the event of being wounded or disabled in the execution of their duty, be allowed the usual increase of pension as for wounds received in action.

Every pensioner enrolled in this force will, during the continuance of the seven years for which he is engaged, be subjected to the provisions of the Mutiny Act and Articles of War; but all minor offences may be punished by such fines, or by expulsion from the force, as the Governor of the Settlement for the time being may direct, in which case the offender will be deprived of his residence and allotment.

The annual periods of exercise will be fixed by the Governor of the Settlement for the time being; and, except on that occasion and the others before referred to, none of the pensioners shall be called out either for exercise or defence, except by him or persons holding his authority for that purpose; but when so called out, they shall be placed under the General or other superior Officer in command of Her Majesty's forces in the Settlement, in the same manner in all respects as if they formed a part of the regular forces of Her Majesty's army.

War Office,
April 3, 1848.

—SCHEME SHOWING SUB-DIVISION OF LOT No. 1211 (POINT-A-PETIT)
AMONGST FORT GARRY ENROLLED PENSIONERS, 9TH NOVEMBER, 1852.

Orig. No. of Lots.	No. of Chains.	No. of Acres.	Name of Occupant or Proprietor.	Remarks.
1	1 1/2	2	H. B. Co.	NOTE.—Under this heading will be found particulars concerning the lots in regard to the transfer, merger, and other dealings, as well as further information which should be consulted by those particularly interested.
2	1 1/2	2	John Egan	
3	1 1/2	3	H. B. Co.	
4	1 1/2	5	John Hamilton	
5	1 1/2	5	Joseph Gaslin	
6	1 1/2	5	James Duffin	
7	1 1/2	5	H. B. Co.	
8	1 1/2	10	" "	
9	1 1/2	10	" "	
10	1 1/2	10	William Allan	
11	1 1/2	10	H. B. Co.	
12	2	16	William Flynn	
13	2	16	James McCormick	
15	2	16	Robert Shepherd	
16	2	16	H. B. Co.	
17	2	16	Peter Clancy	
19	2	16	Andrew Council	
20	1 1/2	12	John Green	
21	1 1/2	10	William Sharpe	
22	1 1/2	12	John Kennel	
23	1 1/2	13	Patrick Ryder	
24	1 1/2	13	H. B. Co.	
25	1 1/2	13	" "	NOTE.—Under this heading will be found particulars concerning the lots in regard to the transfer, merger, and other dealings, as well as further information which should be consulted by those particularly interested.
26	1 1/2	13	Bernard Dirmann	
27	1 1/2	13	Philip Maguire	
28	1 1/2	12 1/2	Michael Connel	
29	1 1/2	17	Thomas Corrigan	
30	1 1/2	9	H. B. Co.	
31	1 1/2	13	" "	
32	1 1/2	13	" "	
33	1 1/2	13	" "	
34	1 1/2	12	Martin Doolan	
35	1 1/2	12	Andrew Murphy	NOTE.—Under this heading will be found particulars concerning the lots in regard to the transfer, merger, and other dealings, as well as further information which should be consulted by those particularly interested.
36	1	12	John Smith	
37	1	12	James Reper	
38	1	12	George Wild	
39	1 1/2	14	J. Moyes	
40	1 1/2	14	George Rice	
41	1 1/2	14	Robert Ramsay	
42	2	17	John Smith, 2nd	
43	2	18	Thomas M'Donald	
46	1 1/2	14	Joseph Warrice	
47	3	28	Thomas Picklesley	NOTE.—Under this heading will be found particulars concerning the lots in regard to the transfer, merger, and other dealings, as well as further information which should be consulted by those particularly interested.
48	3	28	Edward Sharpe	
49	3	28	Major Caldwell	
51	2	20	John Barry	
53	2	20	Major Caldwell	
54	2	20	Major Caldwell	

[NOTE.—Copied from two sheets in the Dominion Land Commissioner's Office at Winnipeg, September 19, 1893.—A.M.]

—[The following is a copy of the conditions contained in the pamphlet which accompanied War Office Circular Letter of April 5, 1848, 1142.]

CONDITIONS ON WHICH IT IS PROPOSED TO ENROL PENSIONERS FOR SERVICE AT FORT GARRY, IN THE TERRITORY OF THE HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY, NORTH AMERICA.

The force intended for this service will, at present, consist of only one Company, of sixty privates, with the usual proportion of non-commissioned officers, and a drummer and fife.

The candidates must be men of good character and industrious habits, whose age does not exceed forty-five years. Their minimum height is not to be less than five feet six inches, and they must be of a robust frame, and medically approved of, as fit for the occasional military duties required. Ten privates of the Company will be pensioners from the Royal Artillery, ten from the Cavalry, and the remainder will be pensioners from the Infantry.

If the other qualifications of the candidates are satisfactory, no objections will be made to their enrolment on the ground of their being married men, or having families (provided the number of their children does not exceed three), but a preference will be given to those who have smaller families.

The candidates approved of will be enrolled to serve for seven years, on the following terms:—

They will receive pay, at the rate of 1s. 3d. per day for a Private, 1s. 6d. for a Corporal, and 1s. 10d. for a Sergeant, in addition to pension, from the period they are called on to leave their homes till embarked, with conveyance at the public expense for themselves and their families to the port of embarkation.

They will receive a free passage to Fort Garry, for themselves, their wives, and their families, with rations for the whole, in the proportions usually issued on ship-board, and for which no deduction will be made from their pensions.

They may receive an advance of two months' pension on embarkation, with a further advance of one month's pension for each child, to be applied under the direction of the Officer placed over them, in purchasing the necessary outfit for the voyage.

On arriving at Fort Garry, each pensioner will be provided with quarters for himself and family, either in the Fort, or the immediate vicinity thereof. They may, with the consent of their Officer, provide quarters for themselves, if they prefer it, but they must not go beyond two miles from the Fort for this purpose.

Each pensioner will also be entitled to a temporary grant of land, not exceeding twenty acres to a Private, thirty to a Corporal, and forty to a Sergeant; the grant to be of a description fit for cultivation, and within two miles of the Fort. On commencing the occupancy thereof, they will receive such an advance of money as may be found necessary for providing articles of furniture, cooking utensils, stock, &c., under the direction of their Officer.

All advances made from pension are to be repaid by the application of the whole pension while on ship-board, and one-third after landing, until the debt is cleared off.

From his embarkation on ship-board, till he arrive at Fort Garry, no pensioner thus enrolled will be entitled to pay; but thereafter, till the 1st day of August, 1849, he will, if a Private, receive from the Hudson's Bay Company an allowance of 7s. per week in addition to pension, and 3s. 6d. per week for the following year; in return for which, he will be liable to be employed, without further remuneration, during three days of each week in the first period, and during six days in each month during the second period, either on public works or in drilling militia, or such military or other duty as the Governor of the Settlement

-LIST OF PENSIONERS WHO APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN ENROLLED AND TO
HAVE PROCEEDED TO FORT GARRY, IN THE HUDSON'S BAY TERRITORY,
FOR SERVICE AT THAT STATION IN THE YEARS 1848 AND 1850.

1st Draft.

Rank in Local Company.	Regiment from which Pensioned.	Name.
Private	51st Foot	Robert Shephard (? Sheppard)
"	54th "	James Sheridan
"	6th Dragoons	John Smyth
"	31st Foot	William Smith
"	5916, R.M.	John Smith
"	6245, R.M.	William Spratt
"	98th Foot	William Stevens
"	29th Foot	Charles Stodgell (? Stodgell)
"	83rd Foot	Thomas Throne
"	3150, R.M.	James Rickards
"	77th Foot	Michael Nowlan
"	69th "	William Martin
"	5th Battery R.A.	Robert Bailey
Colour-Sergeant	Rifle Brigade	James Doherty
Sergeant-Major	83rd Foot	Patrick Molloy (or Malley)
Sergeant	Panics	George Anderson
Corporal	Newfoundland Com-	James Ashford
"	"	George Antill
"	1821, R.M.	William Brown
"	1st Foot Guards	William Chart
"	53rd Foot	Michael Connell
"	5th "	Thomas Corrigan
"	94th "	Martin Dolan
"	17th "	James Duffin
"	75th "	John Egan
"	83rd "	William Flynn
"	84th "	Joseph Gasdon
"	37th "	John Hamilton
"	5839, R.M.	Thomas Heller (? Hillier or Hellier)
"	5672, R.M.	John Irvine
"	89th Foot	Edward Kenny
"	84th "	Patrick Lehis (or Lillis)
"	5th "	James McCormick
"	68th "	Thomas Morrison
"	10th Battery R.A.	James Moyes
"	5th Dragoon Guards	Michael Murphy
Private	83rd Foot	James Mulligan
"	17th "	Owen O'Donnell
"	12th "	Thomas Oakes
"	61st "	Joshua Parks (or Parkes)
"	12th Dragoons	Thomas Parksley
"	3168, R.M.	

1st Draft—continued.

Rank in Local Company.	Regiment from which Pensioned.	Name.
"	4th Battery, R.A.	Robert Ramsay
"	3rd Foot Guards	George Rice
"	46th Foot	Joseph Rodway
"	5298, R.M.	James Roper
"	3558, R.M.	James Rowley
"	93rd Regiment	Robert Ross
"	91st "	James Sangster
"	4th Dragoons	John L. Sellwood
"	5th Dragoon Guards	Edward Sharp (or Sharpe)
"	94th Foot	William Sharp
"	Sappers	George Turner
"	9th Foot	George Walsh
"	1st Battery R.A.	Alexander Watson
"	5th Foot	George Wells
"	84th "	George Wild

2nd Draft.

Rank in Local Company.	Regiment from which Pensioned.	Name.
Private	4th Dragoons	Patrick Ryder
"	3rd Foot	John Mullany
"	6th "	Peter Clancy
"	7th "	Joseph Warrice
"	9th "	Philip Maguire
"	15th "	Andrew Murphy
"	17th "	John Butts
"	31st "	Joseph Armstrong
"	41st "	John Green
"	43rd "	John Kennell
"	47th "	Bernard Dirnan
"	55th "	John Galagan
"	78th "	William Allen
"	81st "	James Armstrong
"	86th "	Pierce Barron
"	87th "	Andrew Connell
"	315, E.I.C.	John Barry
"	338 "	Patrick Collins
"	161 "	James Finn
"	414 "	Thomas McDonald

Church Records in the Manitoba Office of Vital Statistics

The first serious move towards instituting civil registration in Manitoba occurred in 1873, when the Manitoba legislature passed an act requiring ministers to submit returns concerning births, marriages and deaths.² Although the act was to take effect on 1 January 1874, it proved to be unenforceable and was generally regarded as a dead letter.

In 1881 a new Vital Statistics Act patterned on the system in use in Ontario was passed. This act relieved the clergy of the obligation to submit returns and replaced them with civil officials. However, due to administrative problems the act was not enforced until 1882, the year from which all Manitoba civil records date. Each rural municipality and incorporated urban centre was designated a local registration division, a policy which has continued to the present. Local registrars were authorized to retain the original registration form submitted to them, the central registry in Winnipeg receiving only a copy of the original registration. In 1913, changes to the act resulted in the original registration being sent to the central agency, with the local registrar retaining a copy. Although other alterations to the act have taken place since that time, the general process of civil registration in Manitoba remains largely unchanged from the 1913 policies.

Civil records covering the entire province are presently administered by the Office of Vital Statistics, Department of Health and Social Development, 104 Norquay Building, 401 York Avenue, Winnipeg R3C 0V8. While records begin in 1882, registration is not regarded as absolutely complete until after 1920, and early records contain scant information. In 1913, a more comprehensive registration form was introduced, which has survived to the present day with only a few minor changes. All requests for information from these records which is to be used for genealogical purposes must be made on the special form "Application for Genealogical Search", which is available on request from the Office of Vital Statistics. The acceptance of the application by the Office will result in the issuing of a photostatic copy of the original registration form. Further information on fees and the rules respecting the release of this information is provided on the application form.

The Office of Vital Statistics also holds a number of church registers (primarily Roman Catholic, Presbyterian, and Anglican, with a few Methodist) for the period prior to 1882. These records are not generally duplicated in the church register collections of the Provincial Archives of Manitoba, a fact which is not widely known. As well as the registrations kept by the central registry, current legislation requires that all local registrars "keep all original statements of births, marriages and deaths, registered with him or his predecessors prior to the first day of January, 1913"³ although the same legislation prohibits them from issuing copies or granting access to these records.

Following is a list of church records, or copies of church records, which are currently deposited with and administered by the Office of Vital Statistics. This is an exact reproduction of a list provided by the Office, and is reproduced here with the kind permission of the Director of Vital Statistics.

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- 1) Historical preamble, with updated changes, is reproduced from Eric Jonasson: "Genealogical Sources in the Province of Manitoba", Genealogical Journal 8, No. 2 (Utah Genealogical Assn.), 1979: 95-96, with permission of the author.
 - 2) General historical discussion on civil registration has been abstracted from Robert R. Kuczynski: Birth Registration and Birth Statistics in Canada (Washington, D.C.: Brookings Institution, 1931) pp. 136-144.
 - 3) Vital Statistics Act 28 (10). Em.S.M., 1963, c 91, s. 3.

Box	Bk.	Year	Place
1	4	1877	<u>Winnipeg</u> -Bethel Church
	5	1879	
	5	1879	Bethel M.E. Church
	5	1878	Methodist
	4	1877	Methodist Episcopal
	5	1880	" "
	6	1880	" "
2	1	1876	Holy Trinity- <u>Winnipeg</u>
	2	1877	" "
	3	1878	" "
	4	1879	" "
	5	1879	" "
	6	1878-84	" "
	1	1879	Christ Church
	2	1880	" "
	2	1876	Saint Johns'
		1878	" "
	3	1878	" "
	4	1879	" "
	5	1880	" "
3	1	1874	<u>Winnipeg</u> -Knox Church
	2	1875	" "
	3	1876	" "
	4	1878	" "
	5	1879	" "
	6	1880	" "
4	1	1876	<u>Winnipeg</u> -Baptist Church
	2	1877	" "
	3	1878	" "
	4	1879	" ""
	5	1880	" "
5	2	1877	<u>Winnipeg</u> -Zion Church
	3	1878	" "
	4	1879	" "
	5	1880	" "
	1	1875	Wesleyan Methodist Zion
	2	1876	Church
	3	1877	" " "
6	1	1874	<u>Winnipeg</u> -St. Mary's Ch.
	2	1875	" "
	3	1876	" "
	4	1877	" "
	5	1878	" "
	6	1879	" "
	7	1879	" "
	9	1880	" "
			(1880-book-1 photocopies)
	9	1881	St. Mary's Ch.
	10	1882	(photostat copies)
			St. Mary's Ch.

Box	Bk.	Year	Place
7	1	1878	<u>Winnipeg</u> -Grace Church
	2	1879	" "
	3	1880	" "
	1	1879	1st Congregational
	2	1880	"
8	2	1876	<u>St. James</u> Episcopal Ch.
	3	1877	" "
	4	1878	" "
	5	1879	" "
	6	1879	" "
	7	1880	" "
9		1874	<u>St. Boniface</u>
		1875	"
		1876	"
		1877	"
		1878	"
		1879	"
10		1874	<u>Kildonan</u> -Presbyterian Ch.
		1875	" "
		1876	" "
		1877	" "
		1878	" "
		1879	" "
	1	1878	Selkirk-Methodist Wesleyan
	2	1879	
	1	1875	
	A	1874	
		1874	Meth. High Bluff County
	1	1874	<u>St. Andrews</u>
	2	1875	"
	3	1876	"
	4	1877	"
	5	1878	"
	6	1879	"
	7	1880	"
11	1	1878	<u>Morris</u>
	2	1878	"
	3	1879	"
	4	1879	"
	5	1879	"
	-	1879	"
	-	1880	"
	1	1875	<u>Headingly</u>
	2	1880	"
	A	1876	<u>Victoria</u>
	B	1877	"
12	-	1876	<u>Headingly</u> -Episcopal
	-	1877	"
	-	1878	"

Box	Bk.	Year	Place	Box	Bk.	Year	Place
	-	1879	"		4	1877	" "
	-	1880	"		5	1877	" "
	1	1874	<u>Little Britain-Presbyter.</u>		6	1878	" "
	2	1875	"		7	1879	" "
	3	1876	"		8	1880	" "
	4	1877	"				
	5	1878	"	19	1	1874	<u>St. Norbert</u>
	6	1880	"		2	1875	"
13	1	1875	<u>Emerson</u>		3	1876	"
	2	1876	<u>Presbyterian</u>		4	1877	"
	3	1876	Methodist Episcopal		5	1878	"
	4	1877	" "		6	1879	"
	5	1877	" "		7	1881	"
	6	1878	" "	20		1874	<u>Poplar Point-Episcopal</u>
	7	1878	" "			1878	"
	8	1879	Protestant			1881	"
	9	1879	Methodist Episcopal	17	1881	"	"
	10	1880	" "	8	1874	Methodist	
	11	1881	" "	9	1875	"	
	12	1881	" "	10	1875	"	
	13	1881	Presbyterian	11	1876	"	
	1	1876	<u>West Lynn-Presbyterian</u>	12	1877	"	
	2	1877	"	13	1878		
	3	1878	"	1	1876	Presbyterian	
	4	1879	"	2	1877	"	
				6	1879	"	
14	1	1874	<u>Ste. Anne</u>		1876	Church of England	
	2	1876	"		1879	" "	
	3	1877	"				
	4	1878	"	21	1A	1873	High Bluff & Portage la P.
	5	1879	"			1874	Presbyterian
	6	1879	<u>Roman Catholic</u>	2	1875	Portage la Prairie	
	7	1880	"	3	1876	" "	
	8	1875	"	4	1877	" "	
nil	1876	"		5	1878	" "	
				6	1879	" "	
15	1874-84	<u>Baie St. Paul</u>		7	1880	" "	
				8	1876	" "	Methodist
16	1	1878	<u>St. Joseph</u>	9	1877	" "	"
	2	1879	"	10	1878	" "	"
	3	1880	"	11	1879	" "	"
				12	1880	" "	"
17	1	1874	<u>St. Charles</u>	13	1881	" "	"
	2	1875	"		1874	" "	Episcopal
	3	1876	"		1875	" "	"
	4	1877	"		1876	" "	"
	5	1878	"		1877	" "	"
	6	1879	"		1879	" "	"
	7	1881	"		1880	" "	"
		Missing 1880			1881	" "	"
18	1	1876	<u>St. Jean Baptiste</u>	22		1875	<u>High Bluff-Church of Eng.</u>
	2	1877	" "			1876	"
	3	1877	" "			1877	Episcopal
						1877	"

Box	Bk.	Year	Place
	14	1879	Methodist
	15	1880	"
	16	1881	"
	18	1880	Episcopal
	19	1878	"
	20	1879	"
	21	1881	"
	22	1880	"
	4	1879	Presbyterian
	7	1880	"
23	1	1875	Rockwood-Wesleyan Meth.
	2	1876	" "
	3	1878	" "
	4	1879	All Saints
	5	1878	Protestant Episc.
	6	1880	" "
	5	1879	Rockwood Victoria Prot. Epis.
	1	1879	Rockwood Methodist
24		1876	<u>St Paul</u>
		1877	"
	2	1879	"
	3	1880	"
	1	1880	Springfield Ch. of England
	2	1878	Episcopal Congregation
	3	1874	Presbyterian
	4	1875	"
	5	1876	"
	1	1881	Boyne Settlement
	2	1876	Pembina Mountain
	3	1877	" "
	4	1878	Boyne Settlement
	5	1878	" "
	6	1879	" "
	7	1879	Episcopal Church Pembina Mountain
25	1	1876	<u>Dynevov</u>
	2	1877	"
	3	1878	"
	4	1879	"
	4a	1879	"
	4b	1879	"
	4c	1879	"
	5	1880	"
26	1	1876	<u>Netley Creek</u>
	2	1877	" "
	1	1879	<u>St. Patricks</u>
	1	1880	<u>St. Stephen's</u>
	1	1880	<u>Victoria</u>
	1	1880	<u>Woodlands</u>
	8	1881	<u>Westbourne Mission</u>
	3	1878	<u>Presbyterian-High Bluff & Portage Creek</u>
		1878	<u>St. Pauls</u>

Box	Bk.	Year	Place
	23	1880	Baptist-High Bluff
	5	1878	Woodlands-Presbyterian
		1878	Portage la P.-Episcopal
	1	1879	St. Leon-Roman Catholic
		1881	" " "
	A	1879	<u>Palestine Methodist</u>
	B	1879	" "
	1	1880	<u>Millbrook</u>
	1	1880	<u>Clandeboye</u>
	1		<u>Index</u>
	1a	1880-83	<u>Victoria</u>
27	1	1874	<u>Westbourne-Episcopal</u>
	2	1875	" "
	3	1876	" "
	4	1877	" "
	5	1878	" "
	6	1879	" "
	7	1880	" "
	9	1877	<u>Palestine Mission-Meth.</u>
	10	1878	" " "
	11	1876	<u>Westbourne-Presbyterian</u>
	12	1877	" "
28	1	1874	<u>St. Agathe</u>
	2	1875	"
	3	1878	"
	4	1879	"
	5	1880	"
	1	1876	<u>St. Clement</u>
	2	1877	"
	3	1878	"
	4	1879	"
	5	1880	"
29	1	1878	Saint Pie
	2	1878	"
	3	1880	"
30	1	1877-78	<u>Lorrette</u>
	2	1879	"
		1877	"
		1878	"
		1879	"
		1880	"
		1881	"
		1882	"
		1883	"
	1	1879-84	<u>St. Pierre</u>
	2	1878	"
		1879	"
		1880	"
		1881	"
			Riviere au Rat

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compiled by Eric Jonasson

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compiled by Ruth Breckman

The following list contains the names and addresses of all people who are or have been members of the Manitoba Genealogical Society for the years 1978 - 1979. The list is arranged by membership number. Members 1 - 78 inclusive are Founding Members of the Society.

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063 Mrs R.H. Leck, #4 - 7128 Ash Cresc. Vancouver, B.C. V6F 3K7
064 Mrs A. Jean Tucker R.R.# 3 Dauphin, Man. P7N 2T6
065 Jackie Madigan, 484 Lansdowne Ave. Winnipeg, P2V 6H4
067 H.J.N. Pruden, 10A - 349 Daly St. N. Winnipeg, P3L 2K5
068 Alice J. White, 707 - 870 Cambridge Ave. Winnipeg, P3M 3H5
069 W.B.M. Denham, 91 Lafavette Bay, Winnipeg, P3M 3J9
073 Donna R. McLean, 4F - 616 Strathcona St. Winnipeg, P3G 3E8
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078 Mrs Anne Burnett, Carman, Man. P0C 010
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084 Margaret Zaruk, 17 Red Maple Cres. Ottawa, Ont. K1R 3Z4
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087 Andrew C. Boston, 2526 Egan Road, Ottawa, Ont. K1V 2N1
088 Kathleen Puth, 657 Parkhill St. Winnipeg, Man. P2V 002
090 David Jenkins, 952 Beach Ave. Winnipeg, R2L 1P2
091 Harold S. Brooking, Box 235, Treherne Man. P0C 2V0
092 Sadie Hunter, Apt. 307 - 309 - 15Ave. S.W., Calgary, Alberta T2R 0P1
094 Marjorie M. Budd, P.O. Box 426, Carman, Man. P0C 010
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097 Mrs Eunice Robinson, 7637 - 114 St. Delta, B.C. V4C 5H5
098 John Dobson, 4 Cromer Bay Winnipeg, P2M 4C5
099 Robert P. Spear, 102 Grenfell Blvd. Winnipeg, P3F 0H7
100 Rita Cousineau, 1160 McMillan Ave. Winnipeg, P3K 0V1
101 Philippe Prince, 41 Drake Blvd. Winnipeg, P2J 1J3
102 Robert Stocks, Box 33 Roland, Man.
103 Rudolf O. Schlack, 854 Coventry Road, Winnipeg, P3R1B7
104 Phyllis Lord, 14 250 16St. East, Brandon, Man. P7A 2G4
105 William H. Cottrell, 42 Carlisle Bay, Winnipeg, P3K 0H3
106 Mary Wasio, 462 Parkway St. Winnipeg, P3J 1S7
109 K. Jean Cowie, 21 Rue St. Pierre St. Norbert, Man. R3V 1J3
110 Mrs Caroline Garragh, 225 Melvillere St. Winnipeg, P3J 2H1
111 Rod Scott, 221 Scott St. Fort Frances, Ont. P9J 1G8
112 Shirley G. Graceffo, 306 Balfour Ave. Winnipeg, P3J 1N8
113 John T. Hall, 18P - 1975 Corydon Ave. Winnipeg, P3P 0P1
115 R. Bruce Anderson, 27 Boulder Bay, Winnipeg, P3P 4C2
116 J. Albert Aubin, 2173 Halifax Dr. Ottawa, Ont. K1G 2V9
117 David Komus, 1036 Erin St. Winnipeg, P3G 2P9
118 John Burtniak, R.R.#2, Niagara Falls, Ont. L2F 6S5
119 Ronald S. Bennett, 418 Varelloc St. Winnipeg, P3N 0S8
120 Gordon Pruden, 188 Queenston St. Winnipeg, P3K 0K7
121 Dorothy Wilson, 571 Oak St. Winnipeg, R3M 3P4
122 Gertrude Gross, 305 14th St. Brandon, Man. P7A 4T5
123 Harold Bailey, 651 Coventry Rd. Winnipeg, P3P 1B5
124 Irene Lambert, 3 - 758 McMillan Ave. Winnipeg, P3M 0V2
125 Mrs Kathleen Stokes, 673 Kilpenny Dr. Winnipeg, P3M 3P2
126 Alex. S. Martin, 211 - J Snow St. Winnipeg, P3T 2M4
129 Wendy Downes, 1042 Windermere Ave. Winnipeg, P3T 1A4
130 Reva G. Gregg, 924 North Gamble, Wicheita, SD, U.S.A. 57301
131 Goldwin McCulloch, Box 874, Souris, Man. P0K 2C0
132 Meta McCulloch, Box 874, Souris, Man. P0K 2C0
133 Miss Ethel L. Denoon, 13 - 221 Colony St. Winnipeg, P3C 1W2
136 A.L. "Nan" Florence, 41605 55 Nassau St. N. Winnipeg, P3L 2G8
136 Marjorie Paton, Box 183, Fikhorn, Man. R0M 0N0
138 D. Ivan Inkster, 2245 College Ave. Windsor, Ont. N0B 1M7
139 Mildred Hahn, 12 Dundana Ave. Dundas, Ont. L9E 4E6
141 Raymond M. Beaumont, The School, Oxford House, Man. R0B 1C0
142 Barbara Page, Clancroby, Man. P0C 0P0
061 Eric Jonasson, Box 205 St. James Postal Station, Winnipeg, P3J 3R4
062 Clor Smith, 456 Notrese St. Winnipeg, P3M 3N0
063 Charles Giercas, 65 Chandes Ave. Winnipeg, P2H 1X8
065 St. Pierre Harris, 306 Vesteropery Ave. Winnipeg, R3L 1T5
067 Mary X. Savage, 515-1650 Pembina Hwy. Winnipeg, R3T 2C3
068 W.B. Cook, 254 Albany St. Winnipeg, R3T 2A9
069 David Gray, 1134 Marple Road, Winnipeg, P3T 4C9
070 G. Warner, 503 Westlance Pkwy, 5315 - 105 St. Edmonton, Alberta T6T 4H4
071 Bessie Smith, 432 Parkway St. Winnipeg, R3J 1S5
072 Mrs V.G. Cresser, 313 Dufferin Ave. Winnipeg, P1A 1C3
073 P.L. Clowden, 220 Oakmead Ave. Winnipeg, P3T 1N3
074 Robert Smith, 433 Parkway St. Winnipeg, P3J 1S5
075 E.I. Bartoworth, 41 Cypress Bay, Winnipeg, P2J 177
076 Pat Theraschewski, Starbuck, Man. P0C 2P0
078 Mrs J.C. Frost, Ste. 509 - 270 Kenny St. Winnipeg, R2H 2E6
079 Mrs Pat Revitt, 10847 - 147 St. Edmonton, Alberta T5N 2E1
080 Myrtle Pearson, 977 Strathcona St. Winnipeg, P3G 3C4
081 Karen Shirley, 35830 McElhanev Dr. Wellton, Arizona, USA 85356
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085 Madeline Colbeck, 432 Linden Ave. Winnipeg, R2K 0N6
086 Larry Hamilton, Leduc, Man. P0C 1Y0
087 Mac Colbeck, 432 Linden Ave. Winnipeg, P2K 0N6
088 Petya P. Crawford, 14 St. Dunstons Bay, Winnipeg, R3T 3H5
090 E. Bailey, 55 - 519 Burnell St. Winnipeg, P3G 2B3
091 Marion J. Clatten, Box 2580, The Pas, Man. P9P 1M3
094 Gerald P. Brown, 3003 - 55 Nassau St. N. Winnipeg, R3L 2G8
095 Alexandra Adair, 226 Newton Ave. Winnipeg, R2V 1N4
096 Olga Korney, 5 - 507 Cecilia St. Winnipeg, P2C 1H4
098 Mrs Anne McDock, 166 Oliver Ave. Selkirk, Man. P1A 0C3
099 Beverly Grobb, #24 - 323 Broadway Ave. Winnipeg, P3T 2A8
041 Mrs Helen Hieber, 9743 64 Ave. Edmonton, Alberta T6E 0J4
043 Mrs H.E. Trotter, Box 1313 Virden, Man. R0M 2T0
044 Mrs Lilly Proctor, Box 83 Woodlands, Man. R0C 3H0
045 Jayne Marbury, 9 Ashton Ave. Winnipeg, R2M 1E1
046 Ruth Tester, 318 11th St. Brandon, Man. R7A 4J8
047 Mrs Isabel Westmacott Ste. 212 - 1P80 Main St. Winnipeg, P2V 2A8
049 Louis McPhillips, Deceased
051 John Pohorecky, 503 Stella Ave. Winnipeg, P2V 2V2
052 Mrs J.A. Neil, 337 Dowling Ave. E. Winnipeg, R2C 3L8
053 Mrs Phyllis Innes, 67 Hindley Ave. Winnipeg, R2M 1P5
054 Rod Crawford, Argyle, Man. R0C 0B0
055 Mrs Mirveta Davis, 9 - 10 Balmoral St. Winnipeg, R3C 1X2
056 Elizabeth Jonasson, Box 205, St. James Postal Station, Winnipeg, P3J 3R4
058 Mrs D. Dawne Gordon, 103 Whitecates Cresc. Winnipeg, R3K 1L1

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 144 Priscilla Leary, 2805 - 196St S.E. Bothell, Washington, U.S.A. 98011
 145 Mrs A.M. Peart, 4 Mylesview Pl. Willowdale, Ont. M2N 2M6
 146 Michelle Prevost, 1180 Garfield St. Winnipeg, R3E 2P1
 147 Miss E.M. Gordon, 36 Glendale Ave. Ottawa, Ont. K1S 1W4
 148 Mrs J. Speers, 2496 Barclay Cres. Mississauga, Ont. L5K 1E2
 150 Marion Cross, 22 McGillivray Ave. Toronto, Ont.
 152 Mrs Clara Nelson, 42 Springwood Dr. Winnipeg, R2N 1B5
 154 Miss J.F. Gemmell, 440 16th St. Brandon, Man. R7A 4X9
 155 J. Hopkins, 498 Berwick Pl. Winnipeg, R3L 1B2
 156 Mrs Elizabeth Hancock, 172 King Henry's Blvd. Agincourt, Ont. M1T 2V6
 157 Mrs Shirley Lajeunesse, R.R.#1. Redditt Rd. Kenora, Ont. P9N 3W7
 159 Jane Stringer, 6480 Knight Dr., North Delta B.C. V4E 1S1
 160 Mrs Ray Still, Box 1, Isabella, Man. R0M 0Y0
 162 A. Kuhnle, 30 River Rd. Winnipeg, R2M 3Z2
 163 Dorothy Milne, 57 Treadgold Cres., Don Mills, Ont. M3A 1X1
 164 Jeannette Verheist, Box 178, Radville, Sask. S0C 2G0
 167 Library, Glenbow Museum, 9th Ave. & 1st St. S.E. Calgary, Alberta, T2G 0P3
 169 Steinbach Public Library, Box 2050 Steinbach, Man. R0A 2A0
 171 Vernon McIntyre, Elphinstone, Man. R0J 0N0
 173 A.O. Whyte, 614 - 2515 Portage Ave. Winnipeg, R3J 0P2
 174 Mrs Christina Whyte, 614 - 2515 Portage Ave. Winnipeg, R3J 0P2
 176 Mrs Alice Jackson, 1600 So. Holly, Casper, Wyo. U.S.A. 82601
 177 Edward J. Connors, 80 Purdue Bay Winnipeg, R3T 3C7
 178 June Tvedt, 54 O'Brien Cres. Winnipeg, R3R 1M6
 179 Dale T. Alexander, #11 - 5200 - 53 Ave N.W. Calgary, Alta. T3A 2C4
 180 Mrs Louise Croft, 4608 - 106A Ave. Edmonton, Alta. T6A 1J4
 182 Mrs Laura Norrie, Wabowden, Man. R0B 1S0
 183 Mary W. Jones, 5 Blair Athol Cres. Islington, Ont. M9A 1X6
 184 Tannis Somerset Lee, Apt. 28, 8 Mallory Gardens, Toronto, Ont. M4V 2A8
 185 Mrs Florence Gray, 809 - 10 Valhalla Dr. Winnipeg, R2G 0X9
 187 Susan Bracken, 234 Oxford St. Winnipeg, R3M 3J6
 188 Mabel St. Angelo, 4973 Walnut St. Niagara Falls, Ont. L2G 3N1
 189 Barbara Kendel, 11 Brookhaven Bay, Winnipeg, R2J 2S4
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manitoba genealogical society

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STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENSES FOR 1978

REVENUE		
Membership fees:	Individual (273 @ 7.00)	\$ 1911.00
	Institutional (16 @ 7.00)	\$ 112.00
	Associate (21 @ 3.00)	\$ 63.00
Donations		\$ 80.00
Publication Sales		\$ 215.55
Seminar		\$ 335.00
Miscellaneous	U.S. EXCHANGE	\$ 10.59
		\$
TOTAL REVENUE		\$ 2,727.14
EXPENSES		
Publications		\$ 778.59
Postage		\$ 362.00
General Office Expenses		\$ 381.60
Special Projects	Printing Index Cards	\$ 53.51
Seminar		\$ 73.22
Library		\$ 10.08
Miscellaneous:	Start-up Grant - Brandon Branch	\$ 54.00
	MGS Booth at Red River Ex.	\$ 385.11
	Publications Purchases	\$ 7.50
	Bad Debts Written-Off	\$ 14.00
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$ 2,119.61
SURPLUS (LOSS)		\$ 607.53

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

ASSETS:	Bank Account	\$ 858.28
	Petty Cash Account	\$ 100.00
	Accounts receivable	\$ 63.50
	Cheques received but not deposited	\$ 479.20
		\$ 1,500.98
LIABILITIES:	Accounts payable	\$ 150.78
	Surplus	\$ 1,350.20
		\$
		\$
		\$ 1,500.98