

# GENERATIONS

Manitoba Genealogical Society Inc.

Volume 33  
Canadian Publications Mail

Number 4  
ISSN: 0226-6105

December 2008  
Agreement #40050442



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In This Issue:  
*Yule Enjoy Our Christmas Stories*  
*An Ideal Building*  
*Genealogy Puzzles*

MGS Library and Resource Centre closed for Christmas  
December 12, 2008 to January 5, 2009 inclusive

## **MANITOBA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY INC.**

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The MANITOBA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY INC. is a non-profit organization, formed in 1976, and incorporated in 1982. The Society promotes and encourages interest in genealogy and family history in Manitoba.

**Membership Fees:** \$35.00 Individuals; \$15.00 Associate at same address; \$35.00 Institutions; \$100.00 Corporate; and \$350.00 Life. Full members receive four issues of *Generations*, general mailings, and are also entitled to one free Query per year, plus library privileges. **Branch Fees:** Dauphin \$10.00 / South West \$10.00 Individual, \$8.00 Associate / Swan Valley \$10.00 / Beautiful Plains \$10.00 / Southeast & Winnipeg \$10.00

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**GENERATIONS**  
Volume 33 Number 4 December 2008  
**The Journal of the Manitoba Genealogical Society Inc.**

Editor: Bill Burland  
Editor Pro Tem: Debbie Clark



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*Generations* is published quarterly by the Manitoba Genealogical Society Inc., 1045 St. James Street - Unit E, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3H 1B1. Printed by Industrial Art and Printing, Winnipeg. Members and anyone else having an interest in genealogy, are welcome to submit articles or news items to the Society. Manuscripts should be prepared in Microsoft Word and submitted as an e-mail attachment ([mgsi@shaw.ca](mailto:mgsi@shaw.ca)) or sent on disk. Please be sure to spell check before submission. Deadlines: Feb. 15, May 15, Aug. 15, Nov. 15. When reprinting excerpts please give appropriate credit. Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy; however, MGS does not accept responsibility for errors found in *Generations*, nor does it necessarily endorse opinions expressed therein.

## Messages to our Members

**From the Editor . . .** In this issue, instead of printing the many reports given at the General Meeting, we have decided to print Christmas stories and memories from our members. The Annual General Meeting reports are available on line at our web site, [www.mbgenealogy.com](http://www.mbgenealogy.com) except the financial report which can be obtained by interested members at the MGS office.

Among articles in this issue are an interesting ancestor and an interesting building in Winnipeg. We also present two puzzles – with solutions.

We'd like to congratulate the Dauphin branch on all their hard work to bring about a successful Family Fair in October. Well done!

All the best of the Season to you and yours from the Executive and volunteers of MGS!

*Note: Debbie Clark is the Editor Pro Tem while Bill Burland is unavailable. (A special thank you to Bill Burland and Joyce Elias for their help with this issue of Generations )*

**From the President . . .** Our Annual General Meeting was held October 11<sup>th</sup> after a very successful Seminar hosted by the S.E. & Winnipeg Branch. The meeting was well attended. I am now in my third and last year as your President. I wish to congratulate our elected Officers Daryl Dumanski, VP Administration, Bill Burland, VP Information Technology and Debbie Clark VP Public Relations. There is still a vacancy for VP Finance. Our Secretary, Pat Sundmark, and Treasurer, Rick McLellan, were appointed at our first Executive meeting after the AGM. These appointments, together with the Committee Chair appointments were confirmed at our Council Meeting on November 22. The AGM, election of officers and appointments, are in accordance with the procedure set out in our constitution.

To all our volunteers "Thank You" for your time and effort and making our Society such a viable organization. To all our members "Thank You" for your support throughout the year. We look forward to your continued support in the coming year.

All the best of the holiday season to you and your families.

### Condolences

The sympathy of MGS and its members is extended to Norma Bristol (#1842) and family on the death of her husband, Cal Bristol, in Brandon in July.

### Congratulations

Arrived Wednesday, September 3, 2008 in Winnipeg - Erik James ALLAN, son of Tara Alison (Kaminsky) & Keith James ALLAN, 4th grandchild for Patricia Lynn (James) & David Edward ALLAN 4th great-grandchild for Muriel Esther (Porteous) JAMES.

### Generation Gaps

**COOKE-** Seeking Information on: Henry W. b. 1857 (m) Annie Riley b. 1859 immigrated 1910 to Winnipeg. Children: born Crewe England. Hesketh – 1880 – 1917 (d. WWI) m Kathleen; Henry Jr. 1886; Christopher – 1889 (m) Catherine; Fred – 1884; Frank; Lewis; Robert; William; Julie; Mae m. Tom Armitt, Manchester England. Contact Don Cooke at [kavuob@gmail.com](mailto:kavuob@gmail.com) or (709) 279-1983.

### Generation Queries

Looking for a copy of the "*Rutherford History*" book by Agnes L. Florence covering Andrew and Agnes Rutherford and their Descendants 1882-1982. The book was published in 1982 and printed and bound by Friesen Printers in Altona. Contact Jim Rutherford by phone (204) 389-5899 or e-mail [rutherfo@mts.net](mailto:rutherfo@mts.net).

*Share your knowledge; it is a way to achieve immortality.*

# From The Past



## Pioneer Royalty...

"Pioneer Royalty" is from a small newsletter entitled *Town and Farm* that was mailed out with the Manitoba Hydro Bills covering the dates 1946 until 1955. We thank Manitoba Hydro for permission to reprint them in Generations.

In the hustle and bustle of our modern age, we are apt to forget the pioneers who blazed the trail for our progress. When we pause and look back at the foresight and courage with which they combatted the prairie wilderness, we are humbled and inspired. We deem it a privilege to pay tribute this month to the following men and women who pioneered in Manitoba:

### Over 90 Years of Age . . .

Paul Vermette, St. Jean, 98 yrs, Mar 23.  
Thos. H. Baldwin, Reston, 97 yrs, Mar 8.  
Mrs. Christine McKay, Gilbert Plains, 95 yrs, Mar 22.  
James Stevens, Kenton, 94 yrs, Mar 28.  
Mrs. Rebecca Ashley, Pipestone, 92 yrs, Mar 21.  
Mrs. Ellen Dempsey, Carberry, 92 yrs, Mar 6.  
John Hodgins, Strathclair, 91 yrs, Mar 15.

Mrs. Mary Hobbs Sr., Deloraine, 91 yrs, Mar 16.  
Mrs. Anna Calen, Carberry, 90 yrs, Mar 27.  
Alfred Castor, Homewood, 90 yrs, Mar 25.  
M. H. Fisher, Rossburn, 90 yrs, Mar 31.  
Thos. Young, Souris, 90 yrs, Mar 3.  
Mrs. John Williams, Melita, 90 yrs, Mar 17.

### Over 80 Years of Age . . .

Mrs. I. McMurray, Morris, 89 yrs, Feb 26.  
H. C. Evans, Reston, 89 yrs, Mar 28.  
Mrs. M. Campbell, Riding Mountain, 89 yrs, Mar 14.  
Mr. John Emerson, MacGregor, 89 yrs, Mar 26.  
Mrs. M. J. McGuffin, Virden, 89 yrs, Mar 29.  
Robert Gill, Rapid City, 88 yrs, Mar 9.  
Robert Black, Rapid City, 88 yrs, Mar 17.  
Mr. W. Nixon, Boissevain, 88 yrs, Mar 22.  
Mrs. D. McMillan, Neepawa, 88 yrs, Mar 3.  
T. M. Todd, Beresford, 88 yrs, Mar 3.  
Johnson Watson, Carman, 87 yrs, Mar 17.  
John Peacock, Boissevain, 87 yrs, Mar 9.  
Mrs. Birbeck, Boissevain, 87 yrs, Mar 10.  
John Perdue, Souris, 87 yrs, Mar 11.  
Duncan Henderson, Boissevain, 86 yrs, Mar 3.  
Mrs. Sparling, Ninga, 86 yrs, Mar 1.  
John G. Hill, High Bluff, 86 yrs, Mar 23.  
Israel Powell, Arden, 86 yrs, Mar 22.

Percy Carey, Pipestone, 85 yrs, Mar 18.  
Mrs. A. Southan, Brandon, 85 yrs, Mar 22.  
Harry Reeder, Hamiota, 85 yrs, Mar 23.  
E. W. McConnell, Hamiota, 85 yrs, Mar 21.  
Mrs. J. McFadzean, Killarney, 84 yrs, Mar 13.  
Angus Wood, Kelwood, 84 yrs, Mar 19.  
James Mayhew, Foxwarren, 84 yrs, Mar 19.  
John B. Toews, Steinbach, 84 yrs, Mar 30.  
Mrs. F. Finkbeiner, Killarney, 83 yrs, Mar 27.  
Mrs. Geo. Webster, Carman, 83 yrs, Mar 1.  
Mrs. M. Arnott, Deloraine, 83 yrs, Mar 4.  
Thos. Laycock, Carman, 83 yrs, Mar 6.  
J. D. Plaice, Rapid City, 82 yrs, Mar 1.  
Mr. W. Shaw, Boissevain, 81 yrs, Mar 20.  
W. Vosper, Minto, 81 yrs, Mar 28.  
James Briscoe, Belmont, 81 yrs, Mar 20.  
A.G. Allison, Roland, 81 yrs, Mar 30.  
Mrs. Jas. Williamson, Belmont, 80 yrs, Mar 8.

### Wedding Anniversaries . . .

Mr./Mrs. Chas. Durrant, Brandon, m. 72 yrs, Mar 30.  
Mr./Mrs. J. Burgess, Minnedosa, m 59 yrs, Mar 11.  
Mr./Mrs. J. T. Bowman, Rivers, m 59 yrs, Mar 12.  
Mr./Mrs. D. R. Bradley, Newdale, m 58 yrs, Mar 2.  
Mr./Mrs. George Ransom, Minnedosa, m 57 yrs, Feb 28.  
Mr./Mrs. W. Coukell, Souris, m 56 yrs, Mar 23.  
Mr./Mrs. E. H. Muir, Portage la Prairie, m 56 yrs, Mar 8.  
Mr./Mrs. Wm. A. Vint, Ingleside, m 54 yrs, Mar 20.  
Mr./Mrs. James Nichol, Brandon, m 54 yrs, Mar 6.  
Mr./Mrs. August Funk, Gretna, m 53 yrs, Mar 22.  
Mr./Mrs. Chas. Patterson, Neepawa, m 53 yrs, Mar 9.  
Mr./Mrs. P. P. Penner, Steinbach, m 53 yrs, Mar 8.

Mr./Mrs. S. Anderson, Cypress River, m 32 yrs, Mar 9.  
Mr./Mrs. Thomas Kenyon, Belmont, m 52 yrs, Mar 20.  
Mr./Mrs. J. J. Hooge, Plum Coulee, m 51 yrs, Mar 6.  
Mr./Mrs. James Roper, Souris, m 51 yrs, Mar 9.  
Mr./Mrs. T. M. Grasby, Grandview, m 51 yrs, Mar 16.  
Mr./Mrs. Arthur Birtles, Alexander, m 50 yrs, Mar 7.  
Mr./Mrs. Allan Campbell, Manson, m 49 yrs, Mar 16.  
Mr./Mrs. W. H. Graham, Holland, m 49 yrs, Mar 20.  
Mr./Mrs. T. Black, Douglas, m 44 yrs, Mar 8.  
Mr./Mrs. R. H. White, Rivers, m 42 yrs, Mar 27.  
Mr./Mrs. J. A. McVicar, Arnaud, m 42 yrs, Mar 6.  
Mr./Mrs. W.C.Dawes, Portage la Prairie, m 41 yrs, Mar 7.

## The First Big Box Store?

by Marilyn Boyle, #3473

The following announcement was featured in the September 9, 1905 issue of the *Manitoba Free Press*:

BIG BLOCK OPEN TODAY  
Mammoth New Block,  
Corner of Portage Avenue and Hargrave Street  
Now Occupied by the  
Ideal House Furnishing Company  
One of the Finest in Canada  
Unique Business Methods

The company would sell everything that could be desired to furnish a home. Terms were either cash or a "*liberal credit system*". The president of this new enterprise was William Grundy.

William, James Anson, John Franklin, Albert Edward and Charles Frederick Grundy were the fifth, ninth, tenth, eleventh and thirteenth children of John Grundy and his wife, Mary. The 1871 census for North Middlesex County, Ontario, states that John was a blacksmith who was born in England around 1817. That census did not ask in what year people immigrated. Mary declared that she was age 48, born in Ontario of German ancestry. On that census, William, who was either their eldest or their second son, declared that he was age twenty-one and that he was also a blacksmith. Judging from the ages and places of birth of William's children as given on the 1901 census, he and his family moved to Manitoba some time after 1878. John Franklin's obituary (December 23, 1925) states that he arrived in Winnipeg on September 14, 1882, and joined his brothers.

The Grundys were a musical family. That is possibly why William switched from his trade as a blacksmith to the music business. If reports are true, it was a very successful operation. According to his obituary, J. Frank Grundy, after qualifying as a piano tuner, was "*the first citizen to engage in the piano business in this centre*". On the 1901 census, William and his brother James Anson were listed as "*Music Dealers*", and William's eldest son, John Russell Grundy, was a piano tuner. William's obituary names his daughter Stella (Mrs. J. Freeman) as "*one of the most*

*popular contralto soloists*" and his son, Fred, as a leading choir master and "*producer of amateur musical performances*" whose wife, the former Dolly Coultry, was "*a member of a family of well-known vocalists*".

A report in the January 7, 1901 *Manitoba Morning Free Press's Fires and Fatalities* section, about a number of businesses that had been destroyed by fire, included:

*"The heaviest losers will be the Grundy Music Company whose entire stock was entirely destroyed. Fortunately the Messrs. Grundy had just completed taking stock and had all their papers in readiness for the annual company stockholders' meeting which was called for this evening."*

The loss was \$10,000.00, \$6,000.00 of which was covered by insurance. Papers and cash stored in the safe were not destroyed.

The business was revived and by August of 1904 the following notice appeared in the *Manitoba Morning Free Press*:

*"The largest exhibit of pianos, organs and musical instruments at the Dominion Exhibition is that of the Grundy Music Co. of this city. Mr. Grundy is personally in charge of the exhibit and those interested in these high grade instruments have all enquiries*

*responded to in a courteous manner."*

In 1904 there was a Grundy Block located at 470 Main Street. In 1906, the address for the Grundy Block was 433 Main Street; but it was occupied by Harstone Brothers Coal. It was in 1906 that William Grundy built the Ideal Block at 333 Portage Avenue, on a corner of Portage Avenue and Hargrave Street. His September 1925 obituary states that by constructing this building he was "*showing his faith in Winnipeg*" and describes him as "*one of the first of Winnipeg's successful store owners*" who served at one time as an Alderman on the Winnipeg City Council and who had "*large holdings in Winnipeg property, but gradually disposed of all of it, and invested the returns in California where he was in [an unspecified] business...*" It also mentions that at the time of his death the Ideal Block was the home of the Winnipeg Piano Company.

Grundy was President of Grundy Music Co. in 1906, but the Ideal Block, was to be site of Ideal House Furnishers Limited, presumably a separate venture. It was to be a specialized department store which was devoted to the sale of every imaginable item desired to furnish and run a home and was to be staffed by over thirty employees. In addition to the advertisement for Grundy Music Co. (*Musical Instruments of All Description*), the 1906 Winnipeg Directory carried an advertisement for the new business in its pages for the first time.

The building at 333 Portage Avenue was seven stories high with tall windows on each floor. It provided some special services which were unusual for the times, including a "*ladies' resting room*" for women shoppers, complete with supervised day care for their children. Shoppers were lured from St. Boniface by the information that the General Floor Manager was a Québec native and was bilingual. China, flatware, kitchen ranges and utensils were located in the basement. Departments displaying bedroom, dining room, office and upholstered furniture were on the third, fourth and fifth floors. The sixth and seventh floors

were used for storage, but it was intended that they would contain merchandise when the business expanded. There was also a horse-drawn delivery service.

Officers of the new establishment were:

*President:* William Grundy, President of Grundy Music Co., President of Great Falls Power Co., and Alderman for Ward 5.

*Vice President:* David Walker Shunk, Retired Merchant, "*Now resident in Winnipeg*"

*Managing Director:* Charles Frederick Harold Grundy, Manager of Grundy Music Co.

*Directors:*

Alderman H. S. Sandison

Archibald Wright, "*One of Winnipeg's oldest citizens and well-known businessman*"

T. K. Metcalfe "*of the legal firm of Metcalfe & Sharpe*"

W. G. Macfarlane, Manager of Marshall Well's Wholesale Hardware

C. E. Friend, Chief Auditor of Canadian Northern Railway

By the time the store opened, however, its list of officers had changed to the following:

*President:* William Grundy, "*formerly President & Managing Director, Grundy Music Co.*"

*Vice President:* Charles F. Grundy, "*formerly of Grundy Music Co.*"

*Vice President:* David W. Shunk

*Business Manager:* Albert E. Moore, "*formerly Vice President of Royal Furniture Co.*"

*Clerk:* John R. Grundy, *formerly a piano tuner, a son of William Grundy*

*Directors:*

Albert E. Howey, "*Real Estate Dealer*"

Henry Sandison, "*Retired Merchant Tailor*"

Archibald Wright, "*of Winnipeg Fur Co. and President of Winnipeg Saddlery*"

Besides the Grundys, two other company officers of interest were the Vice President David Walker Shunk and the Director Archibald Wright. Wright was a harness maker who opened a saddlery on the corner of William Avenue and Main Street in 1869 and who acquired at one time or another most of what is now Tuxedo. His wife was Mary Ramsay, the

eldest child of Robert Ramsay, one of the 1848 Group of Chelsea Pensioners, and his wife Agnes. On his retirement from the Fort's militia, Ramsay moved his family to Ste. Anne des Chênes, Manitoba. By then the family included their children Mary, Martha, Robert, Jr. and Thomas, and James Charles Finnegan, Agnes' son who had come from Scotland with them.

Jim Finnegan married Julie Elize Ducharme dit Charron of Ste. Anne, and one of their daughters, who was also named Julie, married David Shunk who operated a store at La Broquerie in the Ste. Anne area. Shunk was, according to family reports, very musical. One of his and Julie's daughters became a professional singer on the New York-based Vaudeville circuit in the 1920s and 1930s. It may have been music that led to his association with the Grundys, or it may be that, as he had also moved from North Middlesex County, the families were acquainted in Ontario.

Because Mary Wright and her sister-in-law Julie Finnegan were good friends who visited frequently,<sup>1</sup> I believe that their families' association through Julie's son-in-law David Shunk, was instrumental in Archibald Wright's becoming a Director of Ideal House Furnishings.

Ideal House Furnishings Limited must have looked like a promising and profitable venture – it still sounds good to me – but it wasn't long before the company found itself in the middle of a nasty court case. Almost every day of the spring of 1908, the top quarter of Page 3 of the *Winnipeg Free Press* carried an advertisement for Ideal's bankruptcy sale. So what went wrong?

The Manitoba Law Reports include the progress of the litigation that dogged Archibald Wright, for one, for the few short years remaining of his life and continued after his death in 1912.

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<sup>1</sup> My mother told me that each knew the other's language well, but was more comfortable speaking her own, so they would have a lovely visit, one speaking French and the other English. Mother said it was like listening to one side of a telephone conversation.

Between July 1 and August 1 of 1905, Grundy stock in Ideal Furniture was issued to J. S. Knechtel of Knechtel Furniture of Hanover, Ontario, as collateral security for a \$4,000.00 loan. A letter and stock certificate, still in the name of William Grundy, was mailed to Knechtel. On September 8, Archibald Wright guaranteed payment of \$100,000.00 to Traders' Bank which had advanced that amount to Ideal. By December 31, the Directors – Wright, Sandison, Moore, Shunk and Howey, decided to buy the Grundy's interest in the company. Ideal agreed to offer Knechtel a Promissory Note for the \$4,000.00 owed, secured by its Directors. The William Grundy family does not appear in any of the records that I have located from 1906 on.

In October, 1908, Wright, who showed assets of over \$300,000.00, transferred his assets in ten companies to his wife. The company's creditors had taken the case to court and by February 6, 1908, after it was heard by Hon. G. T. Mathers, who was a judge at King's Bench, Ideal's Winding-Up Order was made. By April 1, Alfred H. Pulford, Auctioneer, took possession of the company's assets and sublet the premises at 333 Portage Avenue.

Traders' Bank sued Wright for payment of its \$100,000.00 and the litigations began. Wright declared that he had no money to give in payment of this debt, but Traders' Bank determined that Wright had "*parted with*" some of the stock referred to prior to or at the same time as he entered into the agreement with the bank. They alleged that he transferred his assets in the Tuxedo Park Company and nine other companies, including interests in the Winnipeg Saddlery Company, Limited, and the Standard Trusts Company, Limited, to his wife, Mary; and that he had made the transfer "*without valuable consideration from his wife*" intending to renege on the debt. They wanted Mary to be made Wright's trustee and also to have an injunction served which would prevent the Wrights from further transactions, "*with the intent and design of defeating, delaying and hindering their and his other creditors in the recovery of their debts.*"

The bank received its injunction but lost Wright's appeal on the grounds that its original Statement of Claim failed to mention that Wright had other creditors, that it was Ideal Furniture that was indebted to Traders' Bank, and that four other people in addition to Wright had signed the guarantee. The injunction was dissolved and Traders' Bank was assessed Costs.

Traders' Bank amended its claim and, on May 12, 1908, obtained its injunction to set aside the alleged fraudulent conveyances of Wright's property to his wife and to prevent further transfers of the property by either of them. But on June 8, 1909, Judges C. J. A. Howell and J. A. Perdue dissolved this injunction, too, on the grounds that Wright's culpability had not been proved. Again, Traders' Bank was assessed Costs.

By September 1, 1908, Ideal's bankruptcy sale was concluded and the store premises were vacated.

The Wrights' problems did not end with the Traders' Bank suit. J. S. Knechtel still wanted its \$4,000.00 and that suit against Ideal was decided in Knechtel's favour. Ideal appealed this judgment, stating:

*Charles F. and William Grundy, Managing Director and President of Ideal, borrowed \$4,000 from J. S. Knechtel of Hanover, Ontario, and William Grundy gave a note, transferring stock, as security. The Directors of Ideal, Archibald Wright, David W. Shunk (also Vice President), Albert E. Moore (also Business Manager), Albert E. Howey and Henry Sandison, became "dissatisfied" and the Grundys were "asked to retire from the directorate and management, which they did on an arrangement by which they were to be relieved of their liability to the plaintiffs for the \$4,000.00 in question." The Directors signed a Promissory*

*Note for \$4,000.00 in favour of Knechtel then sued that they could not be held responsible for Grundy's personal debt.*

On April 25, 1910, the judges decided that:

*... while it may be true that the Company could not assume Grundy's personal debt, the Directors did endorse the Note, [and] they must have known that by doing so they assumed the liability"*

Knechtel was, therefore, entitled to the full amount claimed and Costs. Wright's appeal of this verdict was also dismissed with Costs.

The next suit recorded in the Law Reports was Toronto Carpet Manufacturing Co., vs. Ideal. This suit failed, so on October 11, 1911, Toronto Carpet sued Wright and "received judgment of \$15,000.00 and interest founded on Agreement of Guarantee of October 6, 1906." Before the matter could be resolved, Archibald Wright died on March 10, 1912.

On May 13, 1912, Toronto Carpet tried to collect the debt from Mary Wright, alleging that her husband had assigned his stock to her "for the purpose of placing it beyond the reach of his creditors." Her defense was that she had bought stock other than that of the Winnipeg Saddlery with money derived from the sale of lands which she owned and which she had earned by working in the saddlery. Judge Robson ruled in her favour – that any injunction which Toronto Carpet was granted could apply only to shares in the Winnipeg Saddlery Company, which were deemed to be not worth much, and that there was no other property available to Wright's creditors.

Thomas A. Van Vliet served as President and Thomas Pilkington as Manager of the Winnipeg Saddlery which continued to operate until the early 1930s. It was taken over and operated by the Wright's eldest daughter, Agnes Jane, and Melville Bannerman with declining success. Mary Wright died in her home on March 33,

1939, roughly five months before her ninetieth birthday.

By the time William Grundy died in 1925 his wife and six children with their families had moved to California.<sup>2</sup> His brothers Anson and Frank stayed in Winnipeg, Anson dealing in Real Estate and Frank carrying on as a piano tuner until his death three months after William's.

**NOTE from Author:** 333 Portage Avenue was on the NE corner of Portage and Hargrave. After the Ideal fiasco, it became the Winnipeg Piano Company. In the 1940s it was the Time Building. It was destroyed by fire in 1954. In 1956 there was no such street number. The corner was the Dayton Building, 329 Portage Avenue. I don't know what is there now.

## ARE THESE YOUR ANCESTORS?

*edited by Kathy Stokes, #125*

Allan Edsal Kennedy from British Columbia wrote to me this summer after he read two articles in the June 2008 issue of *Generations* which were of personal interest to him. The article below is the result of his interesting stories.

Allan first noticed my reference to Mrs. J. B. Richardson at the Whittier Park races in 1940 and it brought back many memories for him of the stories his mother had related.

In 1914, Allan's grandfather, Andrew Wilson, a recent graduate of an agricultural college near Paisley, Scotland was hired by James Richardson to come to Canada to develop a "show farm" on land eleven miles south of Moosomin, SK. Andrew did this and more over the next 30 years on the farm he named Knock Hill Stock Farm. He was treated very well and was paid a salary from the day he was hired until he retired in 1945 and a pension until he died in 1963. His wife had died in 1955.

Andrew, his wife Violet, nee Stewart, and four of their children, one son and three daughters sailed from Glasgow on the SS *Saturnia* to

Quebec City, by CPR to Moosomin and then took a horse and buggy to the farm site. Two more children were born in Moosomin, Mary Stewart Wilson in 1917 and William Wilson born in 1920. William died in 1940.

Allan's mother, Agnes Munro Wilson was born in 1900 at Newton, Scotland and married Edsall Martin Kennedy in 1923. Agnes trained as a nurse in Moosomin after WW1 and Edsall served in the Canadian Army in 1918. Allan was born in Calgary in 1924 and served in the Canadian Navy from 1942 to 1945 in three war theatres, the North Pacific, the Gulf of St. Lawrence and the north Atlantic, after which he attended the University of British Columbia.

Allan had one sister, Violet Rubina Kennedy.

And what happened to the other children of Andrew and Violet Wilson?

The oldest, Andrew S. Wilson, was born in Newton in 1902. He worked with his father at Knock Hill Farm for most of his life.

Helen Lawson Wilson, born Bathgate, Scotland in 1905 trained as a teacher and later as a nurse. After nursing in Winnipeg, she worked in New Glasgow NS. During WW11 she served in the Army Medical Corp, rising to the rank of major. After the war, she returned to Winnipeg as matron of Deer Lodge Military Hospital, later teaching health education at a teachers' college. She died six months past her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2005.

Violet Stewart Wilson was born in 1907 in Newton. After taking normal school training in Regina, she taught in Saskatchewan schools, and then took a clerical course in Winnipeg. In 1945 she married Bill Hardie and they had a son. She died in 1960.

John Stewart Wilson, born 1910 in Newton, married Gertrude Fawcett in 1937. He established his own farm near Knock Hill in 1943. When his parents decided to retire in 1945, John made a list of the things he wanted from the farm auction which the Richardsons were holding. When he presented it to a Richardson executive, that man marked it "paid

---

<sup>2</sup> William's son Gordon was a medical doctor.

in full" without a cent exchanged between them. A few years ago Allan was in Winnipeg to attend a United Empire Loyalists Convention. He made a special point of going to have a look at the Richardson Building at Portage and Main because; as he said "I just wanted to see where my grandfather's pay cheque had come from all those years."

Mary Stewart Wilson, the first of the Wilson family to be born in Canada, also became a nurse. She married William Henry Sparling East.

So this is the story of the Wilson family on the prairies in the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Allan really struck gold in the June *Generations*, for in the Rural Ramblings column I had included the 79th birthday party in 1920 of what turned out to be his great grandmother, Mrs. James Cook nee Bruce of Deerhorn, MB. There was a list of her nine remaining children and a mention of 20 grandchildren and four great grandchildren along with a photo. How lucky can you get!

Allan has ancestors from the Bruce, Cook, Sinclair, Garrioch, Budd, Settee, Calder, Wren, Erasmus, Davis, McKee and Calder families many of whom are linked to the Hudson's Bay Co. As well, he has been able to prove that his ancestor, Thomas Millard had served with Butler's Ranger in the American Revolution and thus Allan is entitled to put the letters UE after his name, signifying that his ancestor was a United Empire Loyalist.

If you want to follow up on something you have seen in this article, please contact me at MGS and I will forward your comments and queries to Allan.

If you have enjoyed this article, please be inspired by it and write your own history, or at least part of it for inclusion in *Generations*. Feedback on the articles I write is always appreciated.



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*Only a Genealogist regards a step backwards as progress.*

## Genealogy Word Search Puzzle



### Word List

Ancestor	Archives	Birth	Born
Census	Certificate	Death	Descendant
Family	Father	Grandparents	IGI
Index	Land Records	Local History	Map
Marriage	Mother	Research	Tree
Will			

Good Luck! (Answer key on page 27)

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# Our Library

## **Help Please! MGS Library needs:**

*Interlake Beckoned: a History of Inwood and Surrounding Districts.* Inwood History Book Committee, c1980

*Rapid City, Manitoba* (Saskatchewan Municipality). W.A. Martel, no date.  
Call Mary or Joyce Tuesdays at 204-783-9139

971.27 Lan *Beautiful Plains Story 1983 - 2008 - Includes families from Langford, Lansdowne, Rosedale and town of Neepawa.*

971.27 Sta *Hasket Centennial History, 1907 - 2007.* Stanley Municipality.

971.27 Win *Crescentwood, Winnipeg's Finest Community, [1988]. A walking tour.*

971.273 Fur *Fur Trade in the Scratching River Region, 1984.*

## **Library Lines**

by Mary Bole, #884, - MGS Librarian

011 Inv *Inventory of Archival Materials in Western Manitoba, 1987,*

050 Ind *Index to Generation Gaps in "Generations" - Vol. 2, 1992 - 2006.*

287 Roc *Brant-Argyle United Church, 1878 - 1978.* Rockwood Municipality.

287.9 Men *Klippenstein, L. Manitoba Mennonite Memories, 1974.*

380 Mov *Moving with Winnipeg since 1882 - Winnipeg Transit, 1982*

810.9 Con *Connections - Writers and the Land, 1974.*

810.9 Man *Manitoba Authors, 1970*

917.127 Pla *Place of Honour, 2002.* Manitoba's war dead commemorated in its geography.

929.5 Win *St. Mary's R.C. cemetery (#191), updated 2002.*

971.27 Birt *Birdtail Country - pictorial.* Birtle Municipality.

971.27 Edw *Gnawing at the Past - Lyleton 1869 - 1969.* Edward Municipality.

## **Canada**

016.9 Pee *Peel, B. A Bibliography of the Prairie Provinces to 1953, with Biographical Index, 1973.* [Reference]

374 Jam *Jameson, S. Chautauqua in Canada, 1979.*

394 Fos *Foster, A. High Days and Holidays in Canada, 1956.* A collection of holiday facts.

912 His *Matthews, G. Historical Atlas of Canada, 1987 - 1993.* [Reference]

## **Eastern Canada**

370.7 New *New Normalite Year Book, 1941 - 1942.* Yearbook of the students of the New Brunswick Provincial Normal School.

912 Ont *Map of the Southern Portion of Victoria County, Ontario, 1974.*

929.3 *Ontario Vital Statistics.* Birth index 1909, marriage 1924, death 1934. [Microfilm]

929.5 *Ontario Cemeteries.* A number of cemeteries have been added to our collection in Carleton, Frontenac, Kent and Ontario counties.

917.13 Ind	Browne, D. <i>Index to Ontario Settlement Names Resulting from the OGS Strays Project</i> , 1998. [Reference]	914.2 Hug	Hughes, M. <i>About England</i> , 1928
971.3 Car	Elliott, B. <i>City Beyond</i> , 1991. A history of Nepean, 1792 - 1990.	914.26 Pic	<i>Pictorial and Descriptive Guide to the Broads and Rivers of Norfolk and Suffolk</i> , 1993
971.3 Wen	Burtch, W. <i>Hamilton Papers, vol. 10</i> , 2008. Early Ontario Newspaper Transcription. Wentworth county, Ontario.	929 Kim	Kimber, E. <i>Baronetage of England</i> . A genealogical & historical account of all English Baronets
971.4 AAA	<i>Quebec Maps, Municipalities and Place Names</i> .	929.1 Bax	Baxter, A. <i>In Search of Your British and Irish Roots</i> , 2000. 4 <sup>th</sup> edition.
971.6 Kim	Kimber, S. <i>Loyalists and Layabouts</i> , 2008. History of Shelburne, Nova Scotia, 1783 - 1792.	940 .54 Dun	<i>Dunkirk Heroes</i> , 2008. [CD ROM]
<b>Western Canada</b>		941.4 Lan	<i>Lancashire Ancestors, 1851 census</i> . [CD ROM]
971.23 Mor	Morck, I. <i>Five Pennies: a Prairie Boy's Story</i> , 1999. Dickson region of Alberta.	941.6 McC	McCusker, B. <i>Castle Archdale &amp; Fermanagh in World War II</i> , 1993.
971.24 Qua	<i>Qu'Appelle: Footprints to Progress</i> , 1980. South Qu'Appelle municipality, Saskatchewan.	942.1 Pot	Potter, G. <i>Hampstead Wells</i> , 1978. A short history of their rise and decline.
971.24 Sli	<i>The History of the Rural Municipality of Sliding Hills, Mikado, Saskatchewan</i> , 1967	942.2 Hil	Hill, D. <i>Eastbridge Hospital of St. Thomas the Martyr, Canterbury</i> .
<b>Great Britain and Ireland</b>		942.2 Pil	<i>Pilgrim's guide to the city of Canterbury</i> , 1964/5
362.7 Joc	Jocelyn, M. <i>A Home for Foundlings</i> , 2005.	942.3 Wil	<i>Wiltshire and Olympian Ancestors</i> , 200-. [CD ROM]
394 Daw	Dawes, F. <i>Not in Front of the Servants</i> , 1973. A true portrait of English upstairs/downstairs life.	942.4 Mur	Murray, A. <i>Cotswolds</i> , 1937.
394 Dit	Ditchfield, P. <i>The Charm of the English Village</i> , 1985	942.5 Der	<i>Derbyshire Ancestors</i> , 200-. [CD ROM]
912 Map	<i>Map your Ancestors and Their Migrations</i> , 2008. [CD ROM]	942.59 Com	<i>Complete Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely 1841 Census</i> [CD ROM]
<b>Europe</b>		942.9 Tay	Taylor, A. <i>Caernarvon Castle and Town Walls</i> , 1966
		289.7 Men	Epp, F. <i>Mennonites in Canada, 1920 - 1940</i> , 1982.

289.7 Men	<i>Manitoba Mennonite Memoires, 1974.</i>	929.2 Her	<i>Sally Hersey's Diary, 2007. The spirituality of a 19<sup>th</sup> century pioneer woman. [CD ROM]</i>
945 Bae	<i>Italy: Handbook for Travelers: Central Italy and Rome, 1883.</i>	929.2 Jac	<i>Jackson, E. Ida's Precious Memoirs, 2005. Includes the names: Kaden, Humble, Fraser, Jackson.</i>
<b>General</b>			
004.6 -	Computer guides ➤ <i>Adobe GoLive 5.0 QuickStart Guide of Photoshop Users, 2000.</i> ➤ <i>Adobe Photoshop 6.0.</i> ➤ <i>Creating Web Pages for Dummies, 1997.</i> ➤ <i>Cyndi's List: a Comprehensive List of 70,000 Genealogy Sites on the Internet.</i> ➤ <i>Inside Adobe Photoshop 5.</i> ➤ <i>Microsoft FrontPage 2002 Unleashed.</i> ➤ <i>Running Linux</i>	929.2 MacB	<i>The Clan MacBean in North America, 1992 - 1995.</i>
		929.2 MacG	<i>MacGibbon, J. Going Abroad. The MacGibbon family and other early Scottish emigrants to Otago and Southland, New Zealand.</i>
		929.2 Pri	<i>Rees, T. Price Family History: Cwmcrothir and Rhosybedw, Wales, 1981.</i>
		929.2 The	<i>Edgar Theoret, Sport Amateur, [2008].</i>
355.1 Reg	<i>Regiment: the Military Heritage Collection, 1994 - 2005. A periodical about the celebration of military men, action and honors.</i>	929.2 Van	<i>Vanier, G. George Vanier, Soldier: The Wartime Letters and Diaries, 1915 - 1919, 2000.</i>
394 Fos	<i>Foster, A. High Days and Holidays in Canada, 1956.</i>		
394 Hot	<i>Hottes, A. 1001 Christmas Facts and Fancies, 1944.</i>		
929.5 Rog	<i>Rogak, L. Stones and Bones of New England, 2004. A guide to unusual, historic, and otherwise notable cemeteries.</i>		
977 Rol	<i>Rolfsrud, E. Lanterns over the Prairies, book 2, 1950. Biographies.</i>		
<b>Periodical Potpourri</b>			
			<i>By Malcolm Dewar, #3594</i>
<b>Australia and New Zealand</b>			
			<i>New Zealand Family Tree July 08</i>
			Early government in New Zealand, Maori and the vote.
<b>Canada</b>			
			<i>Ancestry Nanaimo BC Fall 08</i>
			An explanation of the United Empire Loyalists. Indexed data base for passengers on 574 ships from 21 Oct 1906 – 13 Oct 1919 for Quebec ports is now complete.
<b>Family History and Biography</b>			
929.2 Bai	<i>Baird, K. Letters to Harvelyn: from Japanese POW Camps, 2002. A Canadian soldier's letters to his young daughter during World War II</i>		
			<i>Anglo Celtic Roots - Ottawa ON Fall 08</i>
			Home children database now up to 110,000 names. Brockville's Scottish Orphans. Other Home Child articles

## **Family History and Biography**

929.2 Bai Baird, K. *Letters to Harvelyn: from Japanese POW Camps*, 2002. A Canadian soldier's letters to his young daughter during World War II

## **Periodical Potpourri**

*By Malcolm Dewar, #3594*

## Australia and New Zealand

New Zealand Family Tree July 08

## Early government in New Zealand, Maori and the vote.

## **Canada**

Ancestry Nanaimo BC Fall 08

An explanation of the United Empire Loyalists. Indexed data base for passengers on 574 ships from 21 Oct 1906 – 13 Oct 1919 for Quebec ports is now complete.

*Anglo Celtic Roots - Ottawa ON Fall 08*

Home children database now up to 110,000 names.  
Brockville's Scottish Orphans. Other Home Child  
articles.

*Armchair Genealogist* - Saskatoon Sept 08  
Importance of old postcards. Reel Catalogue of 1916  
Census for MB, SK & AL

*The British Columbia Genealogist* Sept 08  
Diary of Rev Edward White 1822 - 1872. BC  
Mining Accidents 1878 - 1889 and 1896 - 1942.  
Hope BC Cemeteries.

*Buffalo Trails and Tails* Summer 08  
Marie-Anne Gaboury Lagimodiere - first woman of  
European descent in Western Canada in 1806 and  
grandmother of Louis Riel.

*Chinook AB FHS* Oct 08  
Employment Records of Coal Miners in AB and  
Southeastern BC. Barnardo Home Child Documents.

*Connections – Quebec FHS* Autumn 08  
David Thompson's late years in Quebec. Land  
Register of Quebec Part II – The Research Quebec-  
Born Females at Ottawa Ladies College – 1881.

*Dauphin Pioneers Assoc* Sept 08  
If you like humour, read this.

*Family Footsteps* - Kamloops BC May 08  
How to prepare for a genealogical research trip.  
Scottish Research Sources

*Generations* - New Brunswick Fall 08  
St John Newspaper News 1925,-1822, 1831 1842  
Tax Assessment Lists for Grand Manan /  
Northumberland County place names and locations/  
Many good source articles.

*Grapevines* - Penticton BC Sept 08  
Ancestral Home of Balzer Family in Russia

*Lanark Log* Sept 08  
1821 Lanark Society Settlers John Angus and  
Margaret Smith. John Affleck family.

*Lanark Log* Oct 08  
Ancestry.ca gives online Canadian Passenger lists  
1865 - 1935 and contains 2.2 million names. Sept  
12, 08 Perth Cemetery had 22 gravestones  
vandalized.

*Leeds and Grenville Branch News and Views* Sept  
08  
Driver Cemetery, Edwardsburgh TWP, Grenville  
Co.

*The Lord Selkirk Association of Rupertslnd* Fall 07  
Rev John Black excerpt *Nor'Wester* paper of Aug  
14, 1860.

*The Lord Selkirk Association of Rupertslnd* Jan 08  
Earls of Orkney, Orcadians and the fur trade. St.  
Peter's Church on the Red.

*The Lord Selkirk Association of Rupertslnd* April  
08  
St. James Anglican Church. William Flett of HBC –  
Lower Fort Garry.

*The Lord Selkirk Association of Rupertslnd* July 08  
St. Andrews-on-the-Red. John Matheson 1790 -  
1866 – Part 1.  
*Mennonite Historian* Sept 08  
Abraham Cornelison 1826 - 1884 – A Biography.

*Newfoundland Ancestor* V24 #3 08  
Allan and John Goodridge, Part 1. Six pages of  
business records of a southern shore business and its  
customers names and accounts. Numerous  
obituaries.

*Okanagan Researcher* Oct 08  
Relation to Catherine Elizabeth Middleton Prince  
William's girlfriend.

*Our Waterloo Kin* V8 #3 08  
Wellesley Wilmot and Woolwich Township.  
Lutheran Marriages 1858 - 1859 - Rev Jacob Werth.

*Perth County Profiles* Nov 08  
A description of local government structure from  
1830 to Confederation in Perth County.

*Roots Branches and Twigs, Kent County* Vol 31 #3  
08  
Adoption Bill 12 – passed May 14, 2008 – relates to  
disclosure restrictions for the release of information  
on adopted persons by the Registrar General.

*Sault Channels – Sault St. Marie and District* Sept  
08  
Renner and Gagnon family histories from Prince  
Township. Ancestry.ca family history website of 29  
million Quebec names from 1621 - 1967.

*Timberline* Oct 08  
Combined index to Beachburg Union Cemetery and  
St. Andrews United Church Cemetery in Beachburg  
now available.

*Time Lines – Manitoba Historical Society Newsletter July 08*  
Interesting articles on historical sites and activities in Manitoba.

*Time Lines – Manitoba Historical Society Newsletter Sept 08*  
Interesting articles on historical projects around the province – expand your knowledge base.

*Toronto Tree Sept 08*  
Ask an expert. A list of guideline questions is provided to show how to pursue a scientific inquiry into a family tree.

*Traces and Tracks Wellington Co OGS Sept 08*  
A Guelph Adventure. 1891 Census for Wellington Co is now indexed [www.wcm.on.ca](http://www.wcm.on.ca).

*The Treehouse –Campbell River BC Sept 08*  
John Campbell Peacy of Campbell River. Arizona Department of Health birth and death index – plus certificates for births over 75 years ago and deaths over 50 years ago online.

*Tree Tracer – Prince George BC Sept 08*  
Tracing the Fairchild Family Tree.

*Victoria Genealogical Society Journal Sept 08*  
Coroners Indexing Project 1872 - 1937. Abstracts from 1860 New York papers.

## USA

*Branching Out - Duluth MN & Superior WI Sept 08*  
MN Statewide Marriage Index.

*Cousins et Cousins - Cndn Gen and Heritage Soc of MN Nov 08* - website <http://cghsm.net>.  
Hyacinthe Villeneuve - born Grand Prairie Canada 1846. Lived in Winnipeg for four years. Died North Dakota 21 Dec 1933. Marriage records for church of St. Louis, King of France in St. Paul MN.

*The Dakota Homestead Historical Newsletter Sept 08*  
List of ND military dead in wars 1898 - 1953 for Rolette, Sargent, Sheridan, Sioux, Slope & Stark Counties.  
Morton County Naturalization Records Index.

*Geer Family Assoc Summer 08*  
If you have a Geer in your family tree - this is for you.

*MN Families Aug 08*  
Biographies for genealogical conference speakers.

*New England Ancestors Fall 08*  
Coffin and Starbuck Family Matriarchs. Researching Nantucketers. Trace 20C British immigrants to Canada with ship passenger lists.

*New England Historical and Genealogical Register July 08*  
Extensive list of New England articles in genealogical journals in 2006. Six page bibliography. This is a very rich source for those doing research on New England

*Oregon Genealogical Society Quarterly Fall 08*  
Early 1900s obituaries for various McCormacks.  
You Tube Genealogy Video. 2008 OGS membership list with addresses and phone numbers.

*Red River Valley Gen Soc Newsletter July 08*  
195 ND War Mothers & widows - *Fargo Forum* newspapers Feb 26, 1930, Death Certificates on line <http://pilot.familysearch.org/recordsearch/start.html#p-O>.

## Magazines

*Ancestors Sept 07*

Scottish archive [www.nls.uk](http://www.nls.uk). 30 tips for tracing family history. Japanese internees in WW II. WW I British Army ancestors. This magazine is worth exploring.

*Ancestry Nov 07*

Audio recording of interviews deciphering census errors.

*Discovering Family History July/Aug 08*

Family history research in 30 days. Explore [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org). "Your brain can learn as long as your bottom can sit" so take a garden kneeling pad to your research site.

*Discovering Family History Sept/Oct 08*

Googling for Genealogy. Ellis Island Database. Using city directories.

*Family Chronicle* Aug 08

How to write your family history. Why siblings are important.

*Family Chronicle* Oct 08

The Humanities and Social Sciences Research Library - 5<sup>th</sup> Ave & 42<sup>nd</sup> NY

This is one of the world's largest genealogical institutions. How to deal with nicknames. Question your research [www.unpuzzling.com](http://www.unpuzzling.com).

*Family Tree Magazine* Aug 08

20 census search tips. Napoleonic Wars, websites, and your ancestors.

*Family Tree Magazine* Sept 08

Ellis Island experience. Family history research in Canada. The real meaning in those old nursery rhymes. The National Library of Wales.

*Family Tree Magazine* Oct 08

Witchcraft examined - 4000 died in Scotland. Tracing seamen's papers. The church sexton. Soviet era Ukraine. UK workers migration.

*Family Tree Magazine* Nov 08

UK demobilization records for WWI. Isle of Man by Colin R Chapman who recently headed a seminar in Winnipeg. Manchester Archive records. PAL Battalions of WW I.

*Internet Genealogy* Sept 08

Picasa is a FREE digital image manipulation program from Google. Try it at <http://picasa.google.com>. 50 websites you might be missing.

*Practical Family History*

Finding your forbears in Aberdeenshire. Ukrainian Ancestors Interpreting birth and baptism entries in old parish registers.

## UK

*Berkshire Family Historian* Sept08

Berkshire Burial Index - 588000 entries on CD Photo editing tools. Family legends true or false.

*The Cornwall Family History Society* Sept 08

My Cornish Michell Family. Transcriptions from 19<sup>th</sup>c West Briton and Cornwall Advertisers newspaper. Letters searching for ancestors. Can the census be trusted?

*Dumfries & Galloway FHS Newsletter* July 08

Names of Scottish peddlers or chapmen who migrated from Scotland lowlands and northern England. Dr. William Semple and family.

*Footprints – Northamptonshire FHS* Nov 06

Male Northamptonshire execution names 1801-1834 1871-1904. Description of the National Archives in Kew.

*Hampshire Family Historian* Sept 08

An explanation of rules regarding coat of arms. Excerpts from 8 soldiers' letters in WW I.

*Lancashire FS and Heraldry Society* V30#2 2008

Lancashire Section National Memorial Card Index Droths P-S. Descriptions of CDs containing thousands of burial records and census records for Lancashire.

*Metropolitan - London Westminster and Middlesex FHS* Oct 08

Army Medal Role-Peninsular Campaign 1801 on CD. Lists of members' interests.

*Norfolk Ancestor* Sept 08

Extensive List of New Members. Cottishall-Gateway to the Broads, The Manor of Astleys otherwise NOWERS.

*Northumberland and Durham FHS* Autumn 08

The Christopherson family in Newcastle upon Tyne. Victorian gender confusion. Growing up poor in Scotswood. Ancestors of the Cairns family.

*Oxfordshire Family Historian* Aug 08

National Memorial Card Index - Oxfordshire Section 6000 cards. Extensive reviews of genealogy-related books.

*The Scottish Genealogist* Sept 08

McKenzies of Ross-shire in early Plaster Mines, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia. Who was Cormac MacAirbertach (Pt 2) - A must read for Mac...'s of Argyle and Perthshire.

*Sib Folk News – Orkney FHS* Sept 08

Place names and renames. Stenness, Stromness and Orphir. Isabell Gunn, a.k.a. John Fubbister, gives birth at Pembina River Post (MB) 1807.

*Soul Search* April 08

Witchcraft laws from 1419 to 1944 – fascinating reading. Souls research Pt 1 in Norfolk.

*Soul Search Aug 08*

The Power of London Pt 1 Guilds and Mysteries.  
The Ipswich Journal (Suffolk, UK).

*Wiltshire FHS July 08*

Life, work and death in Medieval Salisbury. Records  
with no gravestones at Divizes Cemetery. James  
Savory.

*Wiltshire FHS Oct 08*

Budd Brothers – 19<sup>th</sup> c. John Carter of Divizes  
Waterhouse. The Burials Act of 1880.

## Library Quiz

by Mary Bole, #884 - MGS Librarian

**Christmas Is A Comin'** – and I have decided to once again entice you to use the MGS library, this time in the form of a quiz. The following entries are from books in the MGS library – some you may be able to find just using KOHA. What is the name of the book?

1. "In Massachusetts, in 1659, a law was passed which read: 'Whosoever shall be found observing any such day as Christmas, or the like, either by forbearing of labor, feasting in any other way, shall be fined 5 shillings.'"

Hint – facts about that time of the year.

2. Past President Ernest McCallum (1986-87) submitted a recipe for his Aunt Annie's Recipe for Christmas cake. Aunt Annie was his great grandfather Whitfield's only sister.

Hint – an MGS publication.

3. "Christmas Raffle for MacGugin's Pig" by H. Forristall

*The snow lay sparkling on the ground, and all*

*around was gay,*

*'Twas a merry Xmas evening up in Placentia Bay  
It seemed as if the world was there, the crowd it was  
so big,*

*'Twas pay a buck and try your luck for Sandy  
MacGugin's pig."*

Hint – Where is that?

4. "True to its origins, however, the plum pudding was still made with meat in some parts of the British Isles as late as the early 1800s, and, especially at Christmastime, the so-called plums from which it

drew its name were always raisins, not the plump, juicy fruits that the name suggests today."

Hint – a whole section of the book is entitled "PUDDING!" – Great Britain.

5. *Christmas Lake* – was named in 1948 after World War II casualty Lieutenant Richard E. Christmas of Winnipeg. Where is the lake? What is the book?

Hint – WWII

6. The old fire hall, situated on Post Office Street (now Lombard), took fire in the morning of Christmas Day, 1875.

Hint – Lombard? A little, but expensive, book.

7. "Christmas was a jolly time that year. We had spruce boughs, brought from the Sandhills, across the doors and windows, and streamers of red tissue paper and red and green balls, made from tissue paper cut in circles, folded and sewed together."

Hint – Sandhills? This is a biography. Her great causes were women's suffrage and temperance. It was largely through her efforts that in 1916 Manitoba became the first province to give women the right to vote and to run for public office.

8. "Christmas Day, 1922. No matter how tired we might be from our special Christmas Eve night, we still had to get to Dickson for Christmas Day service by eleven o'clock. Everyone in the community went to church on Christmas Day, even those few people who hadn't attended church since Easter."

Hint – new to MGS library; about prairie life. Dickson is a region of Calgary.

9. "The menu of the Leland Hotel Christmas Dinner in 1887 included: Oyster a la crème, Salmon steak with maitre d'hôtel sauce, Pickled ox tongue with tomato sauce, Young turkey with cranberry sauce, Mallard Duck with black currant jelly and even Manitoba goose with apple sauce."

Hint – the goose came from a neighboring province, the location named after a river.

10. "Domestic servants missed home life the most at Christmas, the time when most families gathered together. They were tied to the "family" of which they were a part...Servants in the great house were usually lavishly treated at Christmas..."

Hint – the subject field is: Social Life and Customs.

11. "Our Christmas menu is as follows. Rice and bean porridge for breakfast. For lunch, pork kedgeree: boiled rice with bits of fried port in it.

*Dinner: port stew and rice with bread (rice and bean)."*

Hint – new-to-us book, sounds like Oriental food to me.

12. "December 26<sup>th</sup> marks a double celebration – that of Boxing Day, and also the feast of Saint Stephen, the first of the Christian martyrs."

Hint – a Canadian holiday?

13. *Winnipeg's stores had a wonderful Christmas season in 1912. ... Extra help had been hired and the papers were full of Christmas ads for Ashdown's, Birk's, Eaton's, the Hudson's Bay Company ... "*

Hint – no hints on this one.

14. "*Celebrating Christmas as a child". When you were growing up, did your family celebrate Christmas? Who would be there? Did someone go out and cut the tree down? How was it decorated?"*

Hint – Who would ask so many questions? And why?

(answers on page 27)

## Book Review

by Bev Smith, #3265

### Surname Index for Smith in New York Soundex code S530 Vol. 1-10 (w/o Vol.2)

The Ultimate Index Stemmons Publishing PO Box 612 West Jordan, Utah 84084-0612 (MGS Library call number # 929.4 SUR)

Mary Bole handed me a box of duo tangs and asked me to look it over... so I did. They turned out to be a collection of copied pages on which the surname "SMITH" occurs from several sources held by the Family History Center in Utah. I found reference to some with this title on [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org) under the library tab but only from "Adams to Barnes" no Smith. Obviously these had another source. *We may have the only copy of this collection.*

The collection was donated by Blanche Miller, who must have had an interest in the surname "SMITH" in New York, as that is the principal focus of this unique collection.

Do not be fooled by the term "index" – it does not exist like an Excel database or even a back page of a

book, where you submit "Jacob Smith" and find which page he is on. No such luck! The compiler of this collection searched all the sources, and put a physical check mark ✓ beside the row of print that contained "Smith". Then they photocopied all the pages with check marks. As the name Smith does tend to be plentiful, there have been a lot of pages copied.

That is not to say that this resource is of no value and should be discarded. Indeed not! It is a rich resource for anyone with ancestors in New York State, Long Island or New York City, who may have been prominent enough to have caught the interest of the "New York Genealogical and Biographical Record by the Society" 1870-1907.

The series of duo tangs in this box consist of:

- Vol 1-5 (w/o 2) are the "New York Genealogical and Biographical Record by the Society" for 1870 to 1907 including things like: reviews of genealogies submitted, New York marriage licenses issued and other significant records. *This publication was similar to our "Generations" with varieties in each issue.*
- Vol 5-7 has "Early Long Island Wills" 1691 - 1703 by William S. Pelletreau 1897 which only include the checked pages containing "Smith" even if he's the witness of the signature.
- Vol 7-10 contain the "Calendar of Wills, New York 1626 - 1836" by Berthold Fernow 1896 as above.
- Vol 10 also contains "Early Wills of Westchester Co. NY 1664 - 1784" by William S. Pelletreau 1898 as above.

So, if you know that your ancestor was fairly prominent in New York in this time period, they may be in this collection (even without the name Smith). Start digging.

A few names that stood out in Vol.1 are: Major General Philip Peterson Schuyler, John Taylor; Reformer, The Tangiers Smiths and many others as I flipped through the pages.

As it happened, in the very first volume of this collection, the NY Genealogical Society had this appeal:

*"... for donations of genealogical works, town histories, biographies, funeral, historical and commemorative sermons, addresses etc...." especially from Clergymen, Physicians, and Town Clerks...*

My Goodness, some things never change after 138 years!

## Book Reviews

by Enid Dorward, #4502

**1001 Christmas Facts and Fancies** by Alfred C. Hottes. New York, Dodd, Mead & Co., 1937, 1944. 308 p. illus. index. (MGS library call no. GENERAL 394 HOT)

No matter what their background, almost everyone has special Christmas customs. This book, although not new, is a wonderful source of information about all aspects of Christmas, beginning with the gospel story. Numerous legends are retold, including legends about Christmas trees and plants associated with Christmas. A fascinating section describes medieval Christmas traditions. Other Christmas traditions and foods, from many countries around the world, are described. There are lots of suggestions for decorating the home and the tree, as well as making Christmas cards. One chapter deals with Christmas carols and hymns. Family historians who are writing up their family's story might very well find information that could be used to give more life to the story of their family. Well worth a look.

**High Days and Holidays in Canada (rev. ed.)** by Annie H. Foster & Ann Grierson. Toronto, Ryerson Press, 1938, 1956. 95 p. (MGS library call no. CANADA 394 FOS)

This book goes through the calendar year, looking at holidays (mostly of Christian origin) that have been celebrated in various parts of Canada. Many of these special days are saints' days, which are not commonly observed today, but which many of our ancestors would have celebrated. It includes the major holidays such as Christmas, Easter, and Thanksgiving, as well as more obscure ones. The authors give a brief history of each holiday, its background and its meaning. Once again, information found in this book could be very useful

to someone who is writing their family history and wants more details about their ancestors' daily lives.

**Going Abroad: The MacGibbon Family and Other Early Scottish Emigrants to Otago and Southland, New Zealand** by John MacGibbon. Wellington, NZ, 1997. 231 p. illus. index. (MGS library call no. FH & BIO 929.2 MacG)

John MacGibbon, a descendant of the MacGibbons of Glasgow and New Zealand, has written a fascinating book that describes the experiences of Scottish people who emigrated to the southern part of New Zealand in the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The book is divided into four sections, the first being a fictionalized look at life in Scotland in the 1840s, and the probable reasons for emigrating. The second section provides a remarkably detailed account of the four month voyage on the ship *Mooltan* from Glasgow to Dunedin, NZ. Sources include diaries, surgeon's reports, and ship's logs, and they describe life on the ship: accommodation, food, daily routines. There is also a list of all the passengers on the voyage. The third section of the book tells about the first years the MacGibbon family spent in Dunedin, and the final part deals with their life after moving even further south in New Zealand, as well as subsequent generations who lived there. The book is liberally illustrated with photographs, drawings, a family tree, and maps, as well as facsimiles of newspaper columns pertaining to the lives of the MacGibbons and other Scottish folk who moved to New Zealand. The author is an excellent writer, and he has made his family's story a compelling one that is very interesting to read, even if one has no connections with the MacGibbons or with New Zealand.

## PERIODICAL REVIEW

**Regiment: The Military Heritage Collection.** Surrey, England, Argus Specialist Pub./Grenadier Pub. Ltd. Published bimonthly. Index in each binder.  
(MGS library call no. GENERAL 355.1 REG)  
(apologies to the author – at this time I am not sure who submitted this)

Genealogists with British military persons in their family tree will find this to be a very useful

publication. A member of MGS has donated 66 issues, covering the years 1994-2005. They are bound into 7 volumes and are available for loan. The first issue describes its purpose thus: "Each issue, with the aid of as many illustrations as possible will provide the reader with a fascinating pictorial record of a particular unit, mainly from the British Army, but also some foreign armies." Each issue contains several articles, all lavishly illustrated. Usually, a unit will be described from its earliest times up to most recent days. For example, the Grenadier Guards (familiar in pictures of "Trooping the Colour" at Buckingham Palace) had their origin in the 17<sup>th</sup> century, and through the years have served in various conflicts such as the 18<sup>th</sup> century war of Spanish succession, the Napoleonic wars in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, and both world wars in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Many pictures are provided, showing changes in uniforms, and including close-ups of such items as badges and headgear. If you happened to have an officer in the regiment, you might even find his name mentioned.

## MENNONITE RESOURCES

(apologies to the author – at this time I am not sure who submitted this)

The MGS library has a large number of resources about Mennonites. We are currently re-organizing some parts of the library, and this will result in most of the Mennonite resources being placed together in the "Europe" section of the library, under the call number 289.7. However, Mennonite family histories will remain in the "Family History & Biography" section, arranged alphabetically by the names of the families. The majority of local histories of Mennonite areas will be found in the Manitoba section within their particular rural municipality.

## This and That

### MLA PHOTO GALLERY by Enid Dorward #4502

Here's a unique resource for family historians who had ancestors serving as Members of the Legislative Assembly at any time since Manitoba became a

province in 1870. In October 2008, a permanent photo gallery was unveiled on the main floor of the Manitoba Legislative Building. The gallery includes a frame for each of the 38 Legislative Assemblies, each frame containing pictures of MLAs, the Premier, Speaker, Sergeant at Arms, and Clerks who served during that assembly. The person's name, office, and riding are printed below each picture. The Provincial Coat of Arms and Mace are also depicted, as they were at the time of each Assembly. A separate section of the gallery honours persons who were part of the Legislative Council, when it was in existence in the very early years.

### THE PLUMAS STANDARD AND GELENELLA GAZETTE

Thursday, May 6, 1965 Front Page  
submitted by Judy Labossiere

The citizen who had been given a ticket for parking his car at the gate of a cemetery, developed considerable indignation as he protested to the judge the injustice of the charge. "I figured" he said, "that those that were in, would not be coming out, and those who were out, would be in no hurry to get in."

### Yule enjoy these Stories

Several issues ago, we asked for submissions of your Christmas stories or memories. Several of you graciously sent in the following. – Ed.

### My First Christmas in the Swan River Valley

submitted by Leone Banks, #4687

Charles W. Banks was born in London, England on New Years day 1877. In 1896 he came to Manitoba on his way to fulfilling his dream of becoming a Canadian farmer. He decided to get some much needed first-hand experience by working as a farmhand at Treherne, Manitoba, but, by June of 1898 when he heard of a new expanse of fertile land opening for settlement in the Swan River Valley, he saw this as a great opportunity to get his own

homestead. He and a companion quickly left and drove a horse and wagon from Treherne to the Swan River Valley along the Arden Ridge and over a newly cut and very hazardous trail over the east flank of the Duck Mountains. Following the Pelly Trail he reached his homestead on the SE of section 16-Township 35 - range 29 that same month - the first person to settle in the township. (Thunderhill district) After clearing 10 acres, putting up some hay and building a small shack during July and August, he had just five dollars to his name so he left to get work using his horses to build rail bed near Dauphin. He caught typhoid fever and was taken to a Winnipeg hospital.

Following in his own words are memories of his first Christmas when he returned to his homestead.

"Christmas Day 1898 was to me a memorable one because I had just returned to my homestead after losing almost all my possessions and nearly my life through typhoid fever which took hundreds of lives all over the west in those days. Hospitals were crowded and many never reached that haven before succumbing to that dread scourge.

I had fully recovered by Christmas 1898, and woke up feeling happy that I now had a plot of good earth that I could call my own. While it was possibly some degrees below zero and I had no door even to open and only a hay roof over my head, I went out and gave a real good yell just for company as there were few within hearing distance.

After lighting a fire in the box stove and filling the kettle with snow I thought about preparing my first Christmas dinner. The problem was how could I make a pudding and while thinking of this I looked around and saw the oatmeal bag staring me in the face. We used to buy oatmeal in 80 lb. bags, and for many of us it was a staple diet, even to three times a day. I had some dried apples and decided to use them in place of raisins. After filling an iron pot about half full of the apples with water to cover, and on the stove, I went out to secure the goose. This eventually turned out to be a prairie chicken and I shot its head off with a snider rifle, using a bullet about a half inch in diameter; it proved to be sudden death to the "goose". When I arrived back I was amazed to find all around me, when I entered the cabin, dried apples and they were still oozing out of the pot. After some maneuvering I reached the pot and took it off the stove to salvage enough to go into the pudding. To make a long story short I finally sat down to my first Christmas dinner and believe me or

not it was one of the most enjoyable I have ever ate. The goose (prairie chicken) was plump and juicy, the plum pudding (oatmeal and cooked dried apples) was excellent and all I lacked was a party or even one individual to share my wonderful Christmas fare. Then to finish up I had some boiled tea and the good old plug tobacco to smoke at my pleasure. While this was the end of my dinner I must say that the evening meal at the home of my neighbour Richard Lyons and his good wife, not to forget the kindly reception of his lovely daughters, made this day one never to forget.

We had no newspapers and no mail except what Richard Lyons kindly fetched from Tent Town (near what is now Minitonas) and our nearest post office was Dauphin, some 129 miles away.

When I look back I wonder how we survived the early years being so isolated from the outside world but I do feel we were as happy as young people today.

P.S. My Grandfather was a regular contributor to the local newspaper. This Christmas memory was one of many articles he wrote for the *Swan River Star & Times*.

Grandfather Banks successfully farmed in the Valley until 1938 and must have learned to cook fairly well as he was a bachelor until 1905.

He was just twenty-one when he arrived in Swan River Valley, but homesteading was just the latest in a series of adventures that had taken him around much of the world. (He left London when he was sixteen.) Many of his experiences are preserved in letters and a personal journal that he kept most of his life. As they are now in my possession I hope to make them more accessible to others who may be interested.

### A Country School Christmas Concert by Enid (Cairns) Dorward, #4502

When I was a child in the 1940s and 1950s. my favourite event of the school year at Ryerson (our one-room school north of the town of Oak Lake, Manitoba) was the annual Christmas concert. It was such an exciting time!

We did a minimum of academic work in December, due to concert preparations. The teacher consulted program books and selected two or three funny

plays. The older students wrote out each actor's part in the plays, so that everyone had their own individual copy to study and eventually to memorize. There was lots of memorizing to do, because we also learned the words to all the carols to be sung during the concert, as well as such favourites as *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer* and *I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus*. Many rehearsals were necessary, and of course extra time was needed for making decorations to adorn the room. Costumes were always required, so our mothers, amid Christmas preparations at home, had to raid their closets or get out their sewing machines to create them.

A day or two before the concert, a few dads came to the school to install the stage. They strung up wires, strategically placed so that big white sheets, borrowed from our mothers, could be hung up to form dressing rooms at both ends of the stage as well as curtains to be drawn between numbers. They also set up a big Christmas tree and strung colourful lights on it. Our final bursts of art work produced all sorts of decorations for the tree – paper chains, stars, and angels. On the day of the concert, a couple of dads came to set up benches for the audience.

Our concerts provided a wide variety of entertainment in addition to the plays. Sometimes the youngest children did an acrostic: several children held up large letters to spell a word, such as "Christmas", and each said a few words to go with their letter, for example, C is for the Christ child born on Christmas Day, H is for hay in the manger where he lay, etc. There might be a tumbling exhibition by some of the more agile students, or sometimes a group performed a dance. I can remember dancing to *The Irish Washerwoman*. Students of various ages recited poems, and children who played instruments often had a solo part in the program. (I remember one beginning violinist who played *Silent Night* through perfectly three times, except for ending on the same wrong note every time!)

The concert always ended with a Christmas pageant that included every child. The little kids looked pretty cute dressed as sheep, or as angels with tinsel-trimmed wings and haloes. After the pageant was over, we listened carefully and, sure enough, we soon heard bells jingling! Santa Claus burst into the school room shouting "Ho, ho, ho, Merry Christmas everyone!" Santa (who strongly resembled Lyman Smith) had a gift for every child, including our little

brothers and sisters who weren't attending school yet. After this, it was time to bundle up in our warm clothing to head home, tired and happy. Christmas was almost here!

### A Memorable Christmas

*Reprinted from Generations Vol. 19 No. 4 December 1994: Kathy Stokes, #125, with help from her mother, Nonie Rooke, Winnipeg.*

The Christmas of 1940 is one I will always remember. I was just past five years old. My parents and I lived on Byng Place in Fort Garry and I had a happy time playing with my two friends, Winona Stinson [whose father later became Provincial NDP leader] and Gerda Andreasen [now the wife of Governor General Hnatyshyn]. There was one thing, however that always bothered me. Winona and Gerda both had little brothers, but I did not. In the fall of 1940, my parents told me that I would soon be a big sister and I looked forward to this with much anticipation. I knew that the great event would happen after the snow came.

Our kind neighbor, Mrs. Woods, took me to the Santa Claus Parade in mid-November, an adventure I loved because it meant a ride on the streetcar. When we arrived home, my mother was gone. Somehow I had not realized that mothers went to hospitals to have babies. I was devastated because I had never been separated from her before, and to make matters worse, my father wasn't there either. I don't remember just who looked after me, but in another day or two Mother came home, but without a baby. Sometime later the same thing happened again, a trip to the hospital and return still without a baby. I was beginning to believe that I never would get this baby that would give me on equal status with my friends.

After my mother's second trip to hospital, we all moved to the home of my paternal grandparents [the Rookes] on Luxton Ave. My mother had to stay in bed and I found this a novel situation. My grandparents were the recipients of much questioning from me and gave suitably vague answers. Remember this was 1940 and children's questions about the mystery of birth were simply not answered with the frankness they are today. And then it happened again. My mother and father came down the stairs about eight o'clock on the

morning of December 16th, kissed me goodbye and said that they were going to the hospital again and hoped that this time I would have a baby brother or sister. I behaved dreadfully and cried to go with them. My loving and calm Danish grandmother held me back and took me into the dining room where she gave me a bowl of Rice Krispies. To this day I can see my tears dripping into that bowl of soggy cereal, for I refused to eat anything. After I finished crying, I went to the piano [a special thing to me because we did not have one at home] and played "God Save the King", the only thing I knew how to play, over and over again for I am sure at least two hours. My wonderful grandmother endured this without comment. Grandpa went to work.

My parents had gone by taxi to St. Boniface Hospital for the birth, and on the way they had passed the corner of Portage and Main. As they waited for the light to change, my mother noticed that the Christmas trees which always stood in front of the Bank of Montreal at that time of the year were being decorated, and the person doing the decorating was my other grandfather, her father, Walter Robinson, who worked as a janitor at the bank.

Finally, about noon, my father phoned from the hospital. At last I had my heart's desire, a baby brother. Now I was just like my friends. My brother's name was Walter, after my tree-trimming grandfather, but I don't think anyone has ever called him anything but Wally.

But my frustrations had not ended. In 1940 it was considered necessary that all new mothers spend at least ten days in hospital. This meant that my mother would not be home for Christmas and there was a very strict policy against children of tender age visiting anyone in hospital. So not only was my mother away for Christmas Day, but I couldn't even go to see my brother and pass inspection on him. My father talked to the rule makers at the hospital and, because it was Christmas, they relented a bit. I could come up for a few minutes on Christmas Day to see my brother, and I could also share the dessert from my mother's Christmas dinner. I recall a nun giving me a Dixie Cup of ice cream, just like the one my mother had. This was indeed a treat. My brother, I was less impressed with. He was bald and wrinkled and crying. I could hardly see him because he was so tightly wrapped in blankets. But that didn't matter. I now had what my friends had.

The next day we all went home to Fort Garry and my life with my little brother began. Wally is now my big little brother, for he stands more than six feet tall. He is blessed with the patience and character of his maternal grandfather, and was truly appropriately named. His inquisitive nature and wonderful sense of humour enrich the family. How lucky I am to have had my wish so well answered.

### **Christmas 1926 Dec 24**

*submitted by Linda Toews, #3721*

This letter has been typed just as Katherine wrote it when she sent it Christmas 2001 to Tony Toews (her 1<sup>st</sup> cousin once removed). Katherine would be 86 years 11 months at this time. She was the daughter of Deidrich Toews (1885-1977) and Annie Peters (1888-1979)

Clear cold down in 30s below, morning dad came in with arms full of stones put them in the oven. Now Mother you keep oven shut, fire up the stove, keep it going. Went up stairs brought down robes sheep skin coats spread them over chairs. With a twinkle in his clear blue eyes and a smile left the room to do chores. Did I wonder?

At noon he said give them a bath, put on their dress clothes warm ones. What's up? a wink and a smile. Mother make early supper please. Then chores done early. We had to bundle up in the warm coats. Dad came around with the cutter drivers 2 lovely med brown they called them blood strain in those days cutter color to match. Mains & tails braided up with ribbons bells, shined up brass buckles. Dad was proud with his horses it had to be just so. Dad packed us in hot stones warped in old grain bags foot warmers. Away we went full moon sleigh runners singing with the tinkling chimes.

To Morden 5 1/2 miles. In town first put horse blankets on with buckles, then each got a robe. Others to keep stones warm. Took us into Van Allens store gave us each some change. You can get some thing for Mother. I got her 2 nice bowls with flowers. Annie I think a berry spoon and sugar shell. In those days we didn't need a fortune.

Dad went to a grocery store got oranges, candies, presents. What a lovely Christmas eve he gave us. Warm as a bug in a rug.

You will wonder my poor writing heart attacks, now weak heart, my arm and shoulder so sore it doesn't want to work.

Cousin Katherine Toews

### **Ukrainian Christmas**

by Olga Nahybida - Arran, Saskatchewan,

Christmas Eve was very important. It was a solemn, holy time. Mother got up early and she cooked all day, the twelve meatless dishes, representing the 12 apostles. We ate those in order, starting with the Kutia (cooked wheat). My sister and I would wash ourselves and put on clean clothes, and comb our hair. He chores early and bring in a handful of hay to put on the dining table; reminding us of the manger where Jesus lay.

When our grandfather lived with us he would tell us to watch for the first star to appear. That's when we would start to eat. Sometime we would wait for a long time for that star.

Dad would spread the hay on the table evenly; then Mom would put her best tablecloth on it. Then she put the three braided breads in the middle, one on the top of the other. (Kolachi) and a candle on the top one. When we were all at the table, Dad would light the candle. We stood on at our places while Dad led us in a prayer.

The braided breads represented the trinity. Dad would pour each one of us a glass of red wine. It was a custom to sample every one of the dishes. The candle remained lit until bedtime. Before bedtime, Mom would put out some fruitcake or doughnuts. There was no decorated tree, or Santa Claus. The only decoration was a sheaf of wheat tied with a ribbon and put in a vase.

Christmas morning there were no gifts. We dressed and went to church. Uncle Hawryluk would drive to church with his sleigh and horses. He took us to his place for dinner. There were 7 children so they had a long table in the living room. Auntie always put on a good meal. Her mincemeat pies were the best. There was a small table in a corner in the kitchen. Uncle would bring in an armful of straw and put it under the small table. It was not to be disturbed until the third day. On the third day, Uncle would throw some peanuts into the straw and the kids would scramble for the peanuts. In the late

afternoon, the kids took the straw outside and made a cross of that straw. It would be about five feet long. They set it on fire and would jump over the fire. It was supposed to take the fears away from the children that jumped over it. Superstition!!

On the second day of Christmas the Hawryluks came to our house for dinner. Christmas would last for three days. On the second and third days, choirs of different Church groups came caroling. Carols were always about the birth of Jesus.

#### ***Traditional foods for Ukrainian Christmas Eve***

Kutia (Wheat) flavored with honey, poppy seed  
Borsch  
Jellied or pan fried fish  
Salmon  
Pickled herring  
Perogies-potato, sauerkraut and prune filled  
Holobchi  
Broad Beans  
Mushroom in gravy  
Stewed dried fruit  
Kolach  
Pompushky  
Beverage

My Comments: it is so sad that Christmas is so commercialized and lost in the trappings of gift wrappings and greed. Most people don't even know what and who they are celebrating, losing the true meaning of the season. They even made it a competition with home decorating. Where is Jesus in all this??

### **MGS Events**

**Seminar 2008 – British Isles Genealogy**  
*Enid Dorward, #4502*

On October 11, 2008, the Southeast & Winnipeg Branch of MGS hosted a seminar at St. Basil Ukrainian Catholic Church in St. James. The theme was British Isles Family Research. Keynote speaker was English author and lecturer Colin R. Chapman, a recognized expert on British genealogy. Also presenting were Elizabeth Briggs and Colin Briggs, well-known Winnipeg genealogists and educators. All three presenters were very entertaining and provided a wealth of information. The event

was well attended, despite being on a holiday weekend.

Colin Chapman's first session focused on ways to trace British ancestry in all parts of the British Isles, including Man and the Channel Islands. He said a family historian should aim to produce a vibrant family history that relates details about the lives of ancestors and their neighbours, what they did for a living, what their living conditions were like, what they wore, etc. A family history is more than just names and dates. Dr. Chapman reminded participants to look for all sources of data, not just the formal BMD documents. Examples would be wills, tax lists, military records, newspaper accounts, personal items like wedding invitations, school attendance awards, education documents of all kinds and levels.

Elizabeth Briggs presented a session on Scottish genealogy, with emphasis on the many websites that are available now. She gave examples of the kinds of information that can be found on numerous websites, some of them free of charge. Her excellent handout provided participants with many website addresses to take home and try out.

Colin Chapman's second session focused on marriage laws and customs, and he gave a brief overview of the changes through the years. Did you know that the three main reasons for getting married are: (1) to make children legitimate, (2) weddings are fun for everyone, (3) to make genealogy easier! Historically a marriage was considered to be a contract, which needed to be made and witnessed publicly. Sources of information about marriages were discussed.

Elizabeth and Colin Briggs gave a very helpful session on Internet research for Irish genealogy.

Traditionally, Irish records have been much more difficult to locate than others in the British Isles, so the Briggs gave us numerous suggestions for alternative sources of information. It does seem that a considerable amount of luck is required, but the more places we can search, the more likely we are to find the information we need. Again, a very useful handout will aid seminar participants in their Irish research.

The final session given by Colin Chapman was about migration. He pointed out that migration can mean moving two miles down the road, or to another county, or across the ocean to another continent. Migration may have been vertical (upward or downward social or financial changes) or horizontal (occupational or geographical). Dr. Chapman looked at the varied reasons for migration, as well as ways in which people actually travelled from one place to another. There were numerous organizations that promoted migration, for example, overseas governments looking for people, as happened in Canada during the latter part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, or organizations like Dr. Barnardo's Homes that sent children from Britain to Canada. Besides formal migration records, evidence of migration can be found in other kinds of records such as the census, parish records (e.g. children being baptized in different parishes, indicating the family's changes of location), newspapers, land records, etc.

The MGS Annual General Meeting followed the seminar. Nominations were by acclamation, returning several people to their current positions. Gord McBean was given the Flo Cox award, and Bill Burland received the Eric Jonasson award – both very well deserved, considering all the contributions these two men have made to MGS.

*Wishing you a safe and happy  
Holiday Season*



## Donation Recognition

The Manitoba Genealogical Society would like to recognize and thank all who have made Memorial Donations, Cash Donations and Material Donations for the Library between May and October 2008. All contributions are greatly appreciated.

- |                    |                    |                          |
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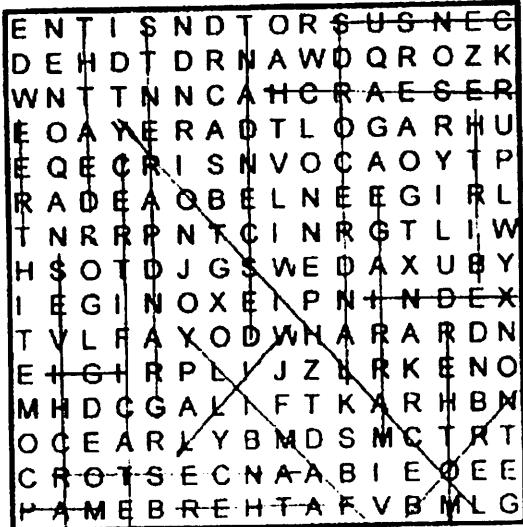
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1. General 394 Hot. 1001 *Christmas Facts and Fancies*.
2. Reference 641.5 Hom. *Homegrown Favorites Cookbook*.
3. Eastern Canada 971.8 Gal. *Christ Box*
4. Great Britain and Ireland 820.9 Poo. *What Jane Austen Ate and Charles Dickens Knew*.
5. Manitoba 917.127 Geo. *Geographical Names of Manitoba*.
6. Manitoba 971.27 Winn His. *An Historical Souvenir Diary of the City of Winnipeg*
7. Family History and Biography 929.2 McC. *Nellie McClung, Clearing in the West*.
8. Western Canada 971.23 Mor. *Five Pennies: a Prairie Boy's Story*.
9. Western Canada 971.24 Qua. *Footprints to Progress, a History of Qu'Appelle*.
10. Great Britain and Ireland 394 Daw. *Nor in Front of the Servants*.
11. Family History and Biography 929.2 Bai. *Letters to Harvelyn*
12. Canada 394 Fox *High Days and Holidays in Canada*.
13. Manitoba 971.27 Winn Win8. *Winnipeg 1912, Diary of a City*.
14. General 907 Fle. *Recording your Family History*.

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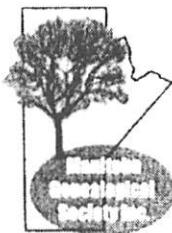
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