

*The Clark-Heaslip Trail*

To the number of trails already mentioned we have ventured to add one more. Colonel F. J. Clark, a resident of Brandon since 1900, homesteaded from 1882-1900 with his brother Harry at section 10, township 7, range 19, W.1—half a mile west and two and one-half miles south of Chesley school. The mail carrier in the years 1883-1885 between Brandon and Boissevain was John Heaslip. Young F. J. Clark and John Heaslip marked the Clark-Heaslip trail with stakes to guide the early pioneers bringing loads of grain to Brandon from the farms round Carroll, Nesbitt and Baldur. The journey took from early morn to sundown. On the way refreshments were sought at farm places known as "*Stopping Houses.*" The principal ones were Mrs. Spicer's and Mrs. Corbett's and the Black Creek stopping house (sec. 6, tp. 7, ra. 17.). They are mentioned by the novelist Nellie McClung in her writings. Others were Wm. McCandlish's, Wm. Hume Martin's, Shepherd's, Wm. Bennet's, Jim Cleveland's, and John Doran's. (See Map p. 116.) This list is incomplete.

The wayward trails of the eighties began with the influx of population to assume more definite location. They led from stopping house to village and town. Not the least important of the centres touched at was Brandon on the new "rail" way.