

Printed by . . .  
THE DELORAINE TIMES

1882-1957

JULY 12, 13, 14  
1957

**HARTNEY**

AND DISTRICT MANITOBA

75<sup>th</sup>  
ANNIVERSARY  
CELEBRATION

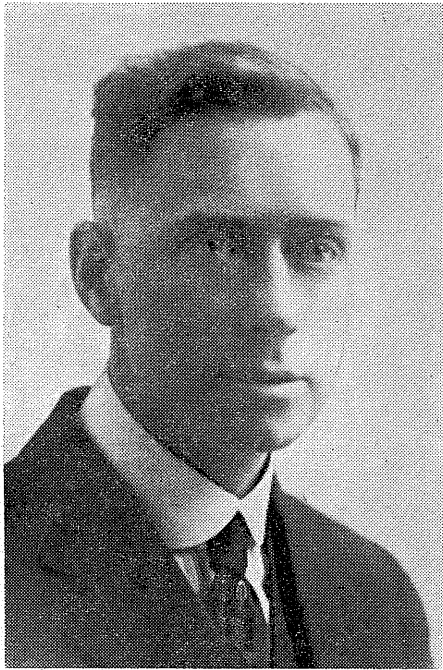
R.M.T. "In the Hart" of the Deer Country

*Souvenir Book*

## *Foreword*

This souvenir booklet is dedicated to the hardy pioneers who came to the treeless plains, braving loneliness, frost, and prairie fire, to found the district which we proudly call "HOME."

To them we give our heartfelt thanks for coming West, seventy-five years ago.



## Greetings From Cameron Municipality

It is indeed a pleasure to bring greetings on behalf of the Municipality of Cameron to Hartney and District, on the occasion of their 75th Anniversary.

We owe a great debt of gratitude to the pioneers of seventy-five years ago. Their courage, fortitude, and kindness have paved the way for the high standard of living which we are enjoying today.

Many have gone to the great beyond, but we wish to meet those able to be with us, in a true and Christian spirit.

We sincerely hope you will enjoy yourselves at this 75th Anniversary.

Arthur Galbraith

Reeve of Rural Municipality of Cameron

## HARTNEY AND DISTRICT

It would be impossible in this small booklet to give a complete history of Hartney and District, so we will leave the various churches, schools and other organizations, to tell the story. This year 1957, we are celebrating seventy-five years of living in the area now known as the Rural Municipality of Cameron, which includes the towns of Hartney, and Lauder, and the villages of Underhill, Grande Clariere, and Deleau. We claim Deleau, even though it is not in the Cameron Municipality.

Mrs. O. B. Parkinson (Hazel McDonald), who has been collecting facts and stories for the past six years, hopes to have a more complete story published later this year under the title, "The Mere Living." Last year for the Souris 75th anniversary, Mr. McMorran published a most interesting booklet, "From Pemmican to Wheat," giving a survey of the Souris Plains, from the time the area was covered by a glacial lake, to the present time. Lake Souris, the last glacial lake to cover the area, slowly dried up, leaving us our rich top soil. To the west, our sandhills give evidence, that they were once the beaches of this lake.

In 1738, La Verendrye and his two sons, the first white men to see these plains, visited the area. The Yellow Quill Trail, which was a branch of the Route of the Warriors, at that time crossed Plum Creek, near where the town of Souris now stands, and continued on the north side of the Souris River, through these same sandhills. Portions of this trail are still visible. In 1797-98, David Thompson, the "map maker," one of Canada's outstanding surveyors, visited the Souris Plains. A special stamp has been issued this year by the Canadian government, commemorating his death, one hundred years ago. In 1805, Alexander Henry, the younger, also visited this area. Later the plains were visited by fur traders and buffalo hunters. For a thrilling account of life, hunting and warring, on the plains, we would again refer you to Mr. McMorran's book. To the middle of the 1800's there was considerable life and trade in the area now known as Hartney and District, but with the slaughter of the buffalo, the plains became deserted, until settlers began to filter in around 1880. Of the early trading posts located along the banks of the Souris River, little remains today, but we do know that Fort Grant, on the west bank of the river across from R. B. (Bunce) Mullett's buildings, was used as a trading post for some years. To the south, near Lauder, was Ash Fort, which was used for only a few years, as it proved too vulnerable to attacks by Indians. In 1880, settlers followed the Boundary Commission Trail to the Turtle Mountains, founding the Deloraine district. In 1881, the "Lowden Party" came to Souris, and took up land in that area. Also in the same year, two young men from Ontario, Sam Long, and John Fee, came west to the Souris Plains. In the unorganized territory between Souris and Deloraine, they staked their claim to Sec. 32-5-23, which is known today as the Melgund district. They built a shack, and commenced the task of breaking the prairie. The same year, Wm. Roper and his son Benjamin, came to the area from Blackburn, England.

The following year, 1882, the territory was opened for homesteading, and many settlers arrived. By the end of the year 1883, practically the whole of the land in the area was taken up. The town of Hartney was born when the Canadian Pacific Railway made its survey for a railway, and chose a site for a station. Shortly before this time, the town of Deloraine had a disastrous fire, and several business men came from there, to start up again in the new town of Hartney. They had erected buildings and were carrying on their trade, in time to welcome the first train, at Christmas, 1890. W. H. Hotham put up the first shack in the new town. The first business men were Hammond and Leckie, who sold lumber, hauled from Menteith. These two men, and the

Lake of the Woods Milling Company, had elevators built, and full of grain, before the railway reached the town.

James Walker Reid of Elgin, a pioneer of the Westhall district, says: "When the railway company first decided to locate a townsite, where Hartney now stands, they called the townsite Airdrie, after a town in Scotland. As I understand it, Jim Hartney was at that time postmaster of a country post office on his homestead. When the village began to build up, Mr. Hartney moved the post office to the village, and had the name of the townsite changed from Airdrie to Hartney." The original name is not lost to us, as our new school today stands on Airdrie Street. The village of Hartney was officially incorporated as a town, in 1905.

## RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF CAMERON

1897-1957

E. H. Mills

The first meeting of the Rural Municipality of Cameron was held in the Oddfellows Hall at Hartney on January 5th, 1897, with John M. Fee as reeve, with councillors, Albert Henry, R. T. Logan, Albert Turnbull and Napoleon Filteau. I have completed a list of the various councils which have served the municipality from the time of incorporation to the present year and all the names will no doubt be familiar to many.

Wm. T. Weightman was acting secretary for the first meeting but T. B. Woodhull was the first secretary-treasurer and served until 1930 when Miss C. I. Forrest, who had been assistant since 1924, was appointed secretary-treasurer. In October, 1939, Miss Forrest resigned to take over the secretary-treasurer's position with the Municipality of Old Kildonan in Winnipeg; she has been editor of the Western Municipal News for a number of years. I was appointed secretary-treasurer when Miss Forrest left and had been assistant from April, 1932, when we were up to our ears in seed and feed and direct relief and this was followed by drought, grasshoppers and rust, there are many who still remember the dirty thirties. The Municipality of Cameron through the years has been fortunate in having capable councils and at no time since incorporation has the municipality been financially embarrassed; it is also possible that the secretary-treasurers have had something to do with the stability of the corporation. Roads, bridges and drainage have been the main problems through the years and still are. Cameron now has many miles of main market roads and it is expected that within the next few years every resident will have a winter road.

During the past sixty years Henry Martin, who served as councillor for Ward 3 and who died in harness in May, 1955, had served thirty-one years on the council and was on his thirty-second, for the longest record of service on the council.

Geo. Morrison served two years as councillor and twenty-five years as reeve.

G. T. Bent, councillor for Ward 2, served twenty-three years, and John Agnew served sixteen years as councillor and two years as reeve.

Napoleon Filteau, one of the original council members, served thirteen years as a councillor.

The minutes of the first meeting are very interesting and are as follows: Reeve John M. Fee and Councillors Turnbull, Logan and Filteau took oath of office; apparently Councillor Henry did not attend the first meeting.

A letter from W. Hopkins re the renting of his hall to the council at a rental of \$2.50 per meeting was laid on the table on motion of Turnbull and Logan.

It was moved and seconded by Logan and Turnbull that the salary of the secretary-treasurer be two hundred dollars per year.

It was moved and seconded by Logan-Turnbull that the secretary-treasurer be required to furnish three personal securities to the amount of one thousand dollars each, in all, three thousand dollars.

It was moved and seconded by Filteau and Logan that the clerk spend one day each at Lauder and Grande Clairiere, whenever the council shall direct, collecting taxes, and that the above be inserted in the by-law.

It was moved and seconded by Turnbull and Logan that the clerk and the secretary-treasurer furnish his own office and that the public have access any time authorized by the council.

It was moved and seconded by Logan and Turnbull that the municipality be divided into two divisions for assessment purposes. Ward 1 to comprise Townships 5 and 6 in Ranges 24 and 25, and Ward 2 to comprise Townships 5 and 6 in Ranges 22 and 23.

It was moved and seconded by Logan and Turnbull that the salary for the assessor in Ward 1 be thirty-five dollars and for Ward 2, be forty dollars.

It was moved and seconded by Logan and Turnbull that a health officer and enforcer of municipal by-laws be appointed and that the salary be twenty dollars per annum.

It was moved and seconded by Turnbull and Filteau that Dr. Gahan be appointed medical health officer for the Municipality of Cameron.

It was moved and seconded by Turnbull and Logan that leave be granted to introduce a by-law for the appointment of secretary-treasurer and that it be now read a first time.

It was moved and seconded by Filteau and Turnbull that By-Law No. 1 be read the second time.

It was moved and seconded by Turnbull and Filteau that By-Law No. 1 be read a third time and passed.

It was moved and seconded by Turnbull and Logan that leave be granted to introduce a by-law appointing assessors and health officers and that it now be read a first, second and third time and passed.

It was moved and seconded by Turnbull and Filteau that W. H. Luke be appointed assessor for Division 1.

It was moved and seconded by Logan and Turnbull that J. O. Brown be appointed assessor for Division 2.

It was moved and seconded by Logan and Filteau that John M. Fee, reeve, be authorized to get a seal for the new Municipality of Cameron.

It was moved and seconded by Logan and Turnbull that W. T. Weightman's account of \$23.76 for election expenses be paid.

It was moved and seconded by Logan and Filteau that the reeve and A. Turnbull with the clerk be a committee to draft by-laws for the guidance of the council.

It was moved and seconded by Logan and Turnbull that the reeve and clerk be authorized to get all books necessary for municipal purposes in connection with the new Municipality of Cameron.

It was moved and seconded by Logan and Filteau that the reeve be authorized to give instructions to the assessors with the understanding that the valuation be from \$1.50 to \$4.00 per acre.

It was moved and seconded by Logan and Turnbull that we accept Mr. Leckie's offer for the use of the Oddfellows Hall for council meetings at \$1.50 per day.

It was moved and seconded by Logan and Turnbull that this meeting adjourn until 10 a.m., January 21st, 1897, in the meantime the reeve be

structed to get all the information in reference to school money, especially the position we stand in relation to Winchester, when the school question will be fully considered.

I have read over the minutes for the past sixty years and I have listed the motions that were passed through the years that might be of interest, you will also find a complete list of the councillors for the sixty years.

March 3, 1897: Logan and Turnbull, That a committee be appointed to enquire into the merits of artificial limbs and to consider the advisability of granting assistance to John Vodon who was unfortunately frozen last winter, and to report at next meeting.

September 18, 1897: Henry and Logan, That By-Law No. 17 to procure a water supply for Hartney be read a third time and passed.

March 2, 1898: Logan and Manson: That Hiram Hannah be empowered by the municipal council to forbid any person moving buildings off the mill grounds at Lauder or taking the machinery out of the mill, the same being held by the council in security for a mortgage of \$3000.00, until authorized to do so by the council.

March 1, 1899: Logan and Filteau: That Messrs. Hartley and Spencer be requested to appear at the next regular council meeting and state the grounds on which they protest that the roads lying between Sections 17 and 20 should not be closed.

May 2, 1900: Logan and Leckie, That the secretary be instructed to notify Mr. Innes that the council are willing to renew lease of water plant on petition of a majority of the resident ratepayers in the Village of Hartney.

December 19, 1900: Millburn and Filteau, That the secretary be instructed to write J. Young, J.P., notifying him that unless amount of \$6.00 collected by him in the case of Municipality vs. McEown be paid before the 1st of January, 1901, that suit will be entered for the amount.

March 1, 1901: Casselman and Hill, That Jas. Duthie be appointed weed inspector for the west half of the municipality and John Aikenhead for the east half for 1901.

October 23, 1901: Hill and Casselman, That the council telegraph the Provincial Board of Health Department asking for a smallpox expert to take charge of quarantined houses and to enforce quarantine regulations.

January 7, 1902: Jackson and Hill, That Dr. Clark of Lauder be appointed health officer for the municipality for the year 1902.

February 4, 1903: Briggs and Hill, That as Constable McCuaig is not in a position to perform his duties he be removed and that the secretary ask for return of handcuffs and nippers.

May 6, 1903: Briggs and Filteau, That the council agrees to withdraw the action against Dr. Gahan provided he pay all costs incurred up to date amounting to \$34.20 to the secretary-treasurer of the Municipality of Cameron on or before 15th of May, 1903.

May 20, 1903: Hill and Briggs, That the case of Dr. Gahan be laid over until next meeting, pending an application for Dr. Gahan in writing to the council asking for the withdrawal of the case and stating that his action in tearing down the health officer's placards was hasty.

March 16, 1904: Hill and Reid, That the well on the mill property be taken over from the Innes Co. and put in order.

March 16, 1904: Reid and Cameron, That the secretary correspond with Lady Minto in regard to the establishment of a cottage hospital at or near Hartney.

July, 1904: Cameron and Reid, That B. McDermott be appointed officer to

supervise the locating of route and erection of line for the Bell Telephone Co., provided the Bell Telephone Co. pay the cost of said inspector.

October 2, 1907: Rollins and James, That the secretary-treasurer communicate with Mr. John Underhill demanding the removal of all straw or dirt placed in the municipal gravel pit on east side of 33, and to do so without delay or proceedings will be taken at his expense.

March 11, 1908: Rollins and Barber, That the council appoint R. Brunson weed inspector for the Municipality of Cameron.

May 4, 1910: McDonald and Barber, That we buy a Sawyer-Massey grader to cost \$250.00 less 10% for cash complete and that the secretary be authorized to sign order for the same.

April 3, 1911: Darnault and McDonald, That we the municipal members of Cameron ask Miss Playfair to accept donations to the King George's presentation fund and forward same to Winnipeg.

September 24, 1912: McRorie and Barclay, That we request Mr. Oferlin to remove his shack off road allowance or steps will be taken to remove it.

December 19, 1913: Barber and McRorie, That the council grant the sum of \$125.00 to the agricultural society to pay the expenses of a municipal six horse team to Brandon Winter Fair.

December 15, 1914: Election returns: For Hail Insurance By-Law, 67, against, 181. For reeve: Barber 180, McDonald 146. For councillor: More 55, Agnew 40; McRorie 52, Rutledge 38.

April 1, 1915: Barclay and More, That Cameron Municipality grant \$100.00 per month till the end of December, 1915, or till the end of the war, to be renewed then if they see fit, said grant to be divided as follows: Queen Mary's Needlework Guild, \$25.00; Red Cross, \$25.00; Belgian Relief, \$25.00; Patriotic Fund, \$25.00.

February 21, 1916: McRorie and Morrison, That the council make a grant of \$75.00 to the recruiting committee.

December 12, 1917: Vodon and More, That the council authorize Marcel Martine to supply Alex. Breland with food out of his store to the value of ten dollars per month for four months.

August 5, 1918: Galbraith and Rey, That this council request the town council to join in having a survey of a road diversion across the N.W. corner of the N.W. quarter of Section 16-6-23.

February 6, 1920: Frankard and Galbraith, That we buy an Eagle Steel Scrub Cutter equipped with horse and tractor hitches and pay \$87.50 in advance.

April 12, 1921: Agnew and Galbraith, That we buy an Aultman-Taylor 30-60 complete with extension drivers.

February 2, 1922: Agnew and McRorie, That we sell good roads debentures to Bell, Gowinlock and Co., Toronto, to the amount of \$35,000.00 at 99 per hundred, funds at Hartney.

March 12, 1923: Bent and Agnew, That Arthur Trollope be appointed by-law enforcer and overseer for the village of Lauder, for one year at a salary of \$30.00 per year.

July 12, 1923: Bent and Frankard, That council accept the tender of McArter and Mott for building of cement sidewalk in Lauder at 25 cents per square foot.

March 13, 1924: Bent and Agnew, That whereas we have learned that there is some thought of establishing a liquor store in Napinka, we as a council put ourselves on record as being opposed to any liquor store being established in Napinka and that a copy of this be forwarded to Mr. Titus of Napinka and to Mr. W. A. Waugh of Winnipeg.

February 5, 1925: Bent and Martin, That we authorize the clerk to have a telephone installed in the municipal office.

September 12, 1925: Agnew-Render, That the tender of Lacour and Schioler of \$32,687.75 for bridge be accepted.

February 3, 1927: Martin and Agnew, That we make a grant to The Memorial Fund of three hundred dollars.

April 26, 1928: Martin and Bent, That Councillor Agnew and Reeve Morrison be appointed a committee to negotiate with the town council re purchase of Anderson Estate Block.

October 23, 1930: Bent and Martin, That Catherine I. Forrest be appointed secretary-treasurer of the Rural Municipality of Cameron.

September 5, 1933: Bent and Agnew, That the following committees be appointed to make a relief survey of the municipality: Ward 1, John Agnew, G. P. Wood, C. H. Robinson; Ward 2, G. T. Bent, B. Avery, James Ramsey; Ward 3, Henry Martin, P. A. Bonnot, M. Frankard; Ward 4, T. E. Gibson, Hugh Barclay, Geo. Gibson.

May 5, 1934: Martin and Gibson, That the reeve be campaign manager in grasshopper control matters and Councillor Bent his deputy in matters concerning the Lauder mixing station.

September 3, 1934: Bent and Agnew, That we offer to purchase from V. V. Hannah 500 tons of straw and sweet clover or straw and hay, cut half and half through a humdinger and loaded on cars at \$6.00 per ton.

March 5, 1935: Gibson and More, That the attached budget providing for a general tax rate of 15 mills on the dollar be adopted for 1935.

April 1, 1936: Bent and More, That we ask for an order-in-council authorizing this municipality to borrow \$12,000.00 for seed and fodder purposes in 1936.

April 6, 1937: Gibson and More, That we ask for an additional \$5,000.00 loan for seed grain in 1937.

September 24, 1937: Gibson and More, That we donate \$25.00 to the local committee arranging for a shipment of relief vegetables to Saskatchewan and \$25.00 to the Red Cross Society.

January 4, 1938: Martin and Gibson, Whereas 1937 crop was much better than any we have had for some years, and residents should have been able to save seed out of it, be it resolved that this council will not lend any seed or fodder for the spring of 1938, and that this decision be published in the Hartney Star.

October 13, 1939: Martin and Bent, As a mark of appreciation for long and faithful service, we make a grant to our retiring secretary of \$50.00.

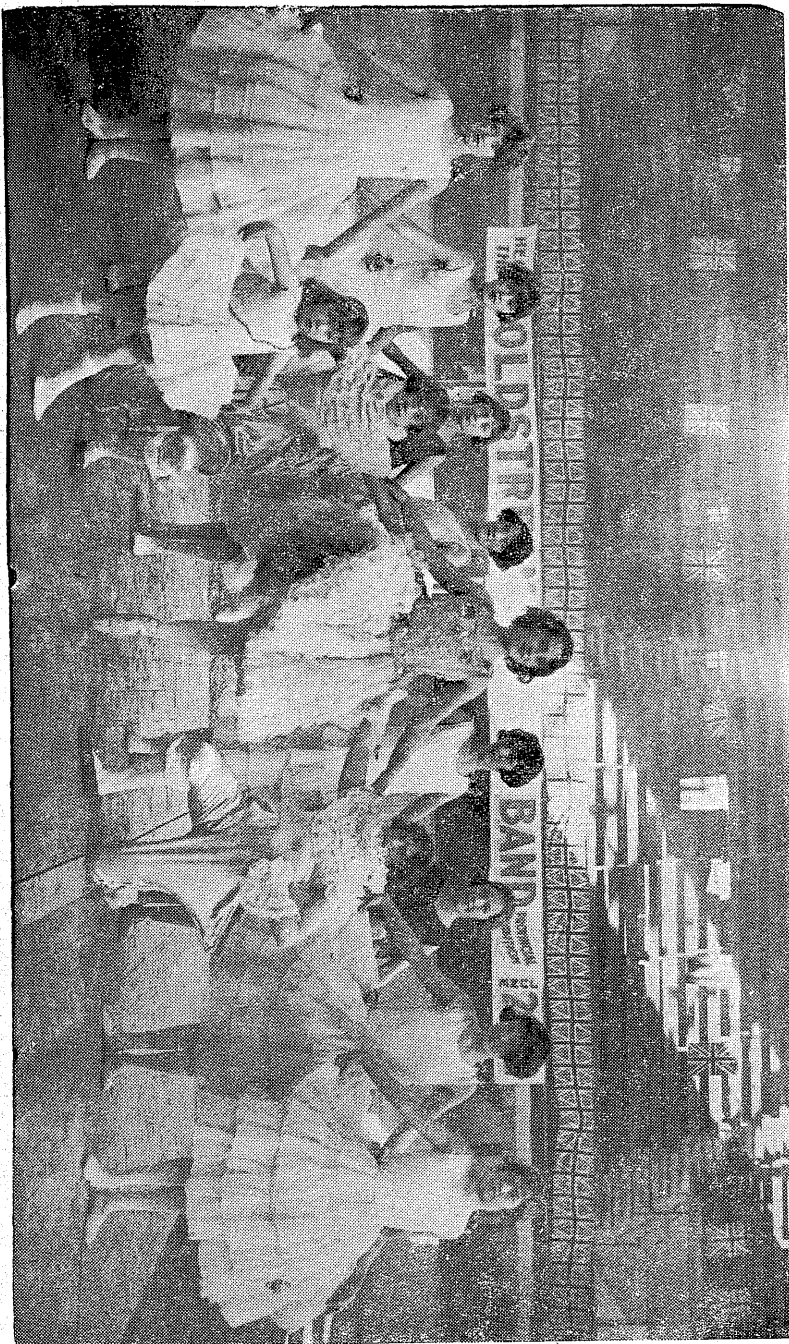
March 28, 1941: Gibson and More, That the secretary-treasurer be authorized to distribute and receive applications and otherwise assist with the summerfallow and coarse grains acreage bonus scheme.

May 26, 1941: Bent and More, That we donate the old Aultman Taylor engine to the Red Cross for scrap purposes.

October 27, 1943: Gibson and More, That the reeve and secretary-treasurer be authorized to sign the contract with the Maple Leaf Construction Company of Winnipeg for the excavating of dugouts within the municipality.

May 31, 1944: Bent and More, Whereas the Manitoba Power Commission is making a survey of 32 municipalities in the Province of Manitoba in respect of rural electrification and the Municipality of Cameron is not included in this survey; and whereas this council is desirous that this municipality be included in the said survey and that the secretary communicate with the Manitoba Power Commission in this respect.

THE JOY GIRLS — Betty Houck, Bernice Kirkland, Avril Scharff, Hanna McArter, Helen Nixon, Doris White, Lizzie Sellers, Annie Taylor, Eileen Graham, Rachel Ramsay, Dorothy MacKay, Mrs. (Dr.) Gordon, leader.



1910—J. A. Rollins, reeve; Angus McDonald, Barber, J. A. McRorie, A. Darnault.  
 1911—J. A. Rollins, reeve; McDonald, Darnault, Barber, McRorie.  
 1912—A. McDonald, reeve; Darnault, Hugh Barclay, Barber, McRorie.  
 1913—A. McDonald, reeve; Barber, Barclay, Darnault, McRorie.  
 1914—A. McDonald, reeve; Barber, Barclay, McRorie, Jos. Vodon.  
 1915—N. R. Barber, reeve; Vodon, Barclay, McRorie, Colin T. More.  
 1916—N. R. Barber, reeve; McRorie, Vodon, More, Geo. Morrison.  
 1917—N. R. Barber, reeve; More, Vodon, Morrison, Otto T. Bugg.  
 1918—Geo. Morrison, reeve; More, Bugg, W. H. Galbraith, Claude Rey.  
 1919—Geo. Morrison, reeve; Galbraith, McRorie, John Agnew, Frankard.  
 1920—Geo. Morrison, reeve; Agnew, McRorie, Frankard, Galbraith.  
 1921—Geo. Morrison, reeve; Agnew, McRorie, Galbraith, Frankard.  
 1922—Geo. Morrison, reeve; Agnew, McRorie, Frankard, T. E. Gibson.  
 1923—Geo. Morrison, reeve; Agnew, Frankard, Gibson, G. T. Bent.  
 1924-1933—Geo. Morrison, reeve; Agnew, Gibson, Bent, Henry Martin.  
 1934—Geo. Morrison, reeve; Agnew, Bent, Martin, R. H. Gibson.  
 1935-1943—Geo. Morrison, reeve; Bent, Martin, Gibson, John M. More.  
 1944-1945—John Agnew, reeve; Bent, Martin, Gibson, More.  
 1946-1947—A. Galbraith, reeve; Martin, Gibson More, W. C. Keeler.  
 1948-1954—A. Galbraith, reeve; Martin, More, Keeler, J. G. McBurney.  
 1955—A. Galbraith, reeve; Jos. Agnew, Keeler, McBurney, H. Martin (died May, 1955), term completed by John Bodin.  
 1956-1957—A. Galbraith, reeve; Agnew, Keeler, Bodin, McBurney.

#### HARTNEY PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 312

In 1881, there was nothing but rolling, unbroken prairie where the town of Hartney now stands. In all the locality, now known as the municipality, there was only one building, a lonely shanty of mud-plastered poplar poles with a roof of sod, built by John M. Fee and Samuel Long on Section 32-5-23 in the Melgund district.

In 1882 when more settlers arrived, schools were needed. Melgund was opened in 1883, and Swaffham, Whitewater and Webb, in 1884.

Webb School was situated on the northwest quarter of Section 14-6-23, where Irvine Somerville now lives. Miss Cope, whose father homesteaded 21-6-23, was the first teacher. Among the first pupils attending were Nellie, Mary and Jessie Graham, Eliza Magwood (now Mrs. Geo. Ames, who still lives in Hartney), her sisters, Eva, Grace and Emma, and her brother William; Robert, Linda and Ella Weir, Emma, Ida, George and Herbert Jasper, William Laughland, James Forbes, and Fanny; Maud, William, and Howard Beynon. Mrs. Ames says that she and her brothers and sisters crossed the Souris River in a rowboat, just south of their house on 34-6-23, and walked more than two miles to the school. There were no horses to spare for rides in those days, even for small children. At that time there was no railway through the Hartney district. Groceries and supplies were hauled by oxen or horses from Brandon to a little store set up on the farm of James Hartney on 9-6-23 now operated by Wm. McPherson. A post office was opened in Mr. Hartney's house and called by his name. The railway from Brandon was built in 1890 and the town started to develop. There was still no school nearer than Webb, so the children from the new town used to meet the teacher, at that time a Mr. Forrester, in the town, and walk with him to Webb School. Parents and children were demanding a school nearer at hand. So in 1892, a class was opened above Festus Chapin's newly built implement and lumber store, now the municipal office, while a two-room school was being built on the present site. Harvey Woodhull

started to school there, and recalls the lumber yard was used as the pupils' playground. The old Webb School was sold to the Orangemen, who moved it to its present site as their lodge room. The new Webb School was the upper and lower rooms in the northwest corner of the old school. Within four years, this second school proved inadequate, so the Orange Lodge building was rented to house an extra class, and two more rooms were added to the school-house. In January, 1898, the name of the school district was changed from Webb to Hartney.

By 1905 still more school space was needed. Two east rooms were added 1906, and with a few minor changes, that six-room school served the district until Christmas, 1954. Until 1918, Hartney School was classified as "intermediate" with but one teacher for Grades 9, 10 and 11. In that year a high school matriculation course was introduced, and a second teacher for Grade 9, 10, and 11, added to the staff. Before the sixth teacher came in (1906-18) there was an extra room in the school used variously for concert practices, chemistry and physics laboratory, Boy Scout meetings, and gymnasium.

Throughout the years Hartney School has been served by teachers devoted to the task of developing fine Canadian citizens. A. C. West, principal from 1910, organized the first Boy Scout troop in town. The teacher with the longest tenure of service was Miss Blanche Hunter, who taught the primary room from 1894 until 1917. Her memory still lingers in the minds of her many pupils. Another outstanding personality of the Hartney School was George Wannan, who was caretaker from 1905 to 1929.

In 1955 a fine new school was built at a cost of \$82,000. This was officially opened on February 3rd, 1955, although classes had been held in the new school since January 3rd. Mrs. George Ames, a pupil of the first Hartney School, cut the ribbon. First principals of Hartney School were: S. F. Forrest 1898, C. C. Stewart 1898-1901 and B. J. Hales 1901-1905. Board of trustees, 1894-1904: S. H. Dickson, R. Shore, G. Graham, M.D., H. Batty, W. E. Crawford, R. Brunson and John Scott.

Present board of trustees: chairman, Robert McPherson; W. H. Gibson, C. Moir, L. Hymers, F. Turner; secretary-treasurer, G. J. MacDonald. Present teaching staff: principal, L. B. Clarke; assistant principal, Mrs. F. Mills; Grades 7 and 8, G. Stevens; 5 and 6, A. Minish; 3 and 4, Mrs. A. Careme, 1 and 2, Mrs. A. Castle.

At the beginning of the next term, half of the auditorium will be turned into another classroom, making a three-room high school.

#### SWAFFHAM SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 347

The history of the Swaffham School District began in the year 1884, when a ratepayers' meeting was held at the home of Joseph E. Marples on June 16th. At that meeting it was resolved to form a school district to be known by the name of Cambridge. Mrs. McQuaig on S.E. ¼ 20-6-22 offered to give one acre of land for the school-house to be built on. The offer was accepted, and plans discussed for the building of a school on the northeast corner of the quarter-section, the present site. The next meeting was held in December, 1884, at the home of James Morden, and the following trustees elected: Robert Crisp, Andrew Morden, John Weir, with Joseph Marples as secretary. It was found that a Cambridge district already existed, so the name was changed to Swaffham. Nothing further was accomplished until January 18th, 1886, when Joseph Marples, after communicating with the minister of education, posted notices for an annual meeting.

The school was built in 1886, the contract being given to Mr. McGregor

of Souris, for the sum of \$472.00. Mr. Boyd of Minnedosa was appointed the first teacher. After teaching for one month only, he was replaced by A. E. Hetherington, who was engaged for a period of six months at a salary of \$30.00 per month. From 1887 to 1888, the Misses Hattie and Maggie Moffat taught respectively at the school. In 1889 H. S. Sanderson was teacher.

The first list of students attending school was recorded in 1891, as follows: Annie Barclay, Chris Morden, Linda, Ella, and Robert Weir, Annie and Jeanette McQuaig, Mary Calder, Wesly, Russel, and James Forbes, Bert and Watson Hale, Edgerton Brunson, Ethel Crows, Rachel and Walter James, David Fuller, Harry Morden, Duncan McQuaig and Maggie McQuaig. The first actual school register dates from 1911-12, with the first teacher in 1911 named as a Miss Myrtle Webster.

The school closed in 1934, Miss Hannah Robinson being the last teacher. The children of the Swaffham district are now transported by school-van to the Hartney School. The present trustees are as follows: J. B. Thomas, chairman; George McBrien, Crawford Cowieson, with Keith Morden, secretary-treasurer. Early settlers of the Swaffham district were: Albert Henry, James Morden, Hugh Barclay, Tom Hutchison, Kit Morden, Albert Peaslee, Andrew Morden, Thomas Love, Thomas Cowan, William McBrien, Albert Coulter, George Morden, J. E. Marples, E. C. Nixon, Frank Henry, and Mrs. McQuaig.

Church was held in the Swaffham school-house in the early years until the erection of Forbes Church in the early 1900's.

#### FORBES SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 966

In the year 1899, members of the Forbes district decided that it was necessary to build a schoolhouse. A series of meetings were held throughout the year of 1899, and a first board of trustees formed. These were—P. R. O'Neil, Aron Barker, and George Waddy. The first secretary was John R. Scharff, who held office until his death in 1924.

During these meetings, the school site, design of the school, contractors, carpenters, and other official details were decided upon. John R. Scharff offered one acre of land on N.E. 5-7-22 for \$25.00. This offer was accepted. Tenders for material for the building of the school, and the carpenters, etc., were advertised in The Hartney Star and The Souris Plaindealer. Mr. Chapin's tender for lumber at a cost of \$570.00 was accepted, while W. D. Vitson's tender for carpentry work for \$145.00 was also accepted.

The first teacher at Forbes School was a Mr. W. A. Beynon. One cannot help but notice how exacting these early teachers were. Mr. Beynon, as well as some of the later teachers compiled a concise account of the weather from day to day. In August, 1900, Bella Sharmon was appointed teacher at the school. The following list of names are the first pupils attending Forbes School when it was opened in 1899.

Addie, Arthur, Russell McBurney, Ruby Winter, Mina, Edna, Gertrude Barker, Wilfred Waddy, Victor Tisdall, Willie O'Neil, Vera Callandar, Willie Buckley, Trevor Scharff, Clifford, Jennie and Bower Mains, Russell Forbes, and Dorothy Waddy. These names can be found in the big thick hardbacked register, which along with the minute book, have been well preserved.

Teachers at the school from 1899 to 1952 were W. A. Beynon, Bella Sharmon, Alma Western, Alice Sharmon, May Sharmon, Mary Moore, L. M. MacDonald, Ida Smiley, Alice Turton, E. E. Dorsey, L. Ridell, J. Wark, Marion Pollock, Stella Martin, Winnifred Forbes, E. Johnston, Carrie B. Doughty, Dorothy G. Aldis, Annabell Hunter, Anna Lee, Jean Guthrie, Annie Christian, Jean Burnett, Edith Smith, Bernice Forbes, M. E. Pollock, Mary Davidowsky, Douglas Duncan, Sarah Wilson, Eva Duncan, Joan Merrill, T. C. Brune, L.

Denbow, Fred Schwarok and Victoria Schwarok. The last named was the last teacher at Forbes School. The children are now taken by van to the Hartney School. The following are the names of old-timers who lived in the Forbes district when the school was planned and erected: P. R. O'Neil, Aron Barker, George Waddy, Will O'Neil, Richard Pounder, Thomas Eastman, John Buckley, Andy Fraser, Olaf Wickstrom, John Scharff, Henry Musk, B. J. Williams, Henry McCulloch, Ed Turton, Will Forbes, C. R. Winter, John Abrey and Will Barker.

The present trustees managing the affairs of the school district are: R. J. Hunt, L. W. Forbes, Everett Eastman, with L. W. Forbes acting as present secretary-treasurer.

Forbes School down the years has been a symbol, not only of education, but a place of worship, of social activity, field day honors and successful festival honors. During the early days the school was used as a weekly place of worship until the Forbes Church was built in 1908. The Forbes Community Club was a constant service of social entertainment, whose hub was the school-room. Many people, young and old, will remember many joyful occasions which took place there on Friday evenings. Who can forget the annual Christmas concerts? They were as constant at Christmas itself. The many years of activity in the Forbes School are noteworthy. It is truly remarkable how much education was taught in that small room, and how much good therefrom has been done for the district. The little brick schoolhouse is standing idle today. A constant reminder to the folks who live in the district, of the integrity and ambition of those early residents, who in 1899 wished to pioneer education in the community where they settled and farmed.

#### CAVELL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1840

This school district was organized in 1916. It was first known as the Munster School District, but in 1917 the name was changed to Cavell, in memory of Nurse Edith Cavell.

The first board of trustees were: Mr. Cross, chairman, H. Draper, and E. Wyer, with the latter also serving as secretary-treasurer. Cavell School was built in 1917 on the present school site, Section 30-6-23. Classes commenced in May, with Miss Lena McLeod the first teacher. Her class consisted of: Sammy Heape, Jim Draper, Jack Draper, John Heape, Edmund Heape, Nellie Heape, George and Ada Draper, Joe Davreux, Cassie Dixon, Gordie Ames, Harry Ames, James Davies, May Ames, and Ernest Dixon. At the present time Mr. and Mrs. Ames and Mrs. Heape are residing in Hartney. Teachers from 1917 to 1957 were: Lena McLeod, Leta Fry, H. Graham, Rev. C. Blay, Grace Jasper, Kay Cameron, Hazel McDonald, Verna Glover, Mrs. E. Parkes, Clara Johnson, Vera Duncan, Anne Cantlon, Jean Wood, Alice Dumbleton, Helen Shier, Isobel Duchesneau, Dorothy Rykman, Margaret Jasper, Oswald Whittan, Dorothy Heape, Alice Hunt, Louise Brown, Jean Boulanger, Joe Zatylny, and the present teacher, Mrs. Irene Witt. The teacher with the longest term of office was Miss Vera Duncan, who taught at the school for nine consecutive years, from 1924 to 1933. The 1957 class consists of ten pupils: Betty, Donna, Lorna, Kay Davreux, Larry, Linda, Ken, Verly and Vonda Moreau, and Gordon Woodcock.

From 1946 to 1952 Cavell School was closed because of the shortage of teachers. During this period the pupils were transported by van to the Hartney School.

For several years, commencing in 1919, the Rev. C. Blay of the Hartney Anglican Church, conducted weekly church services in the school. In January, 1919, an organization called the Cavell School District Improvement and Social



Society, commenced. This was educational and social in character. They met once a week for several winters with excellent attendance. The Rev. Blay was president and Grace Jasper, secretary. Many social events and frequent dances were held at the school, with the annual Christmas concert an anticipated event for both old and young. For many years the Cavell school picnic was an annual event, with fun and ice-cream for all. Cavell school board trustees, past and present, were: Mr. Cross, H. Draper, E. Wyer, James Dixon, John Parkinson, George Ames, D. Hollingsworth, Reme Davreux, Erwin Jasper, Sam Peeny, Rene Davreux, John Bodin, Fernand Davreux, Harold Stanstall, Russell Coukell, Henry Moreau, Wm. Heape, A. Robertson, Joe Parkinson. Mr. Charles Jasper was elected secretary-treasurer in 1919, and served in that office for almost thirty-five consecutive years.

The members of the present board are: Joe Parkinson, chairman; A. Robertson and Wm. Heape. Phyllis Jasper is secretary-treasurer.

### BARBER SCHOOL DISTRICT

On November 12th, 1885, a special meeting of the ratepayers was held at the home of John Underhill, to appoint trustees, according to notices posted. Elected were Jonathan Montgomery, John Underhill, and William Barber. The chairman of the meeting was James Childs, with James Barber as secretary. On December 23rd, 1885, at a special meeting, a by-law was passed to raise by debentures, the sum of \$600.00 for the purpose of building a school, furnishing it, and securing school grounds. By an order-in-council, made on the 3rd of May, 1886, the Lieutenant-Governor in council did sanction such a loan. There were ten debentures for ten years at eight per cent per annum, made payable at the Imperial Bank of Canada, Winnipeg. The debentures were held by the North of Scotland Canadian Mortgage Company Ltd., Osler, Hammond and Nanton, managers. The Barber School District No. 423 held its first annual meeting at the home of William Barber. The first chairman was John Underhill, secretary-treasurer, James Barber, with auditors, Wm. Barber and George Stirke. The secretary was instructed to advertise for a teacher, and for tenders to furnish material for the building of a school, to be completed by May 1st, 1886. The advertisement was put in the Brandon Sun.

Tenders were received from Oliver Johnson, Waneche, \$495.00; J. Richards, Brandon, \$490.00, and L. D. McCall, Waneche, \$490.00. The last named was accepted as he offered to draw up the plans free of charge. One acre of land was purchased on the southwest corner of 33-5-22 from John Underhill for the sum of \$5.00 to build the school on. Settlers in the district at this time, other than those already mentioned, were: Wm. Muir, John Grant, J. D. Ross, Tom and Art Brown, James Turnbull, George Cruikshanks, Abe and Cal Sherrard, George Bell, John Ball, Jack Griffith, Sam White, T. Crowder, B. Crowder, John Simmons, Cooper Brown, Malcolm Todd, M. Griesves, Duncan McEwen. The nearest railroad at that time was Deloraine. The post office, Waneche, was located in Dave Gibson's house on the northwest of 36-5-22, now known as the round barn, 2½ miles east of Underhill. The mail was carried to and from Deloraine by John Weightman, twice a week. On May 31st, 1886, the school was officially opened with George S. Winter as teacher at a salary of \$35.00 per month. It closed on November 10th for the winter months. Among the first pupils were: Harry Underhill, Alice Brown, Fanny Barber, Rill Barber, Jack Underhill, and Eva and Fred Underhill. For seven years the schoolhouse was only open during the summer months, but on December 5th, 1892, the trustees procured storm sashes and had the school repaired, so that the school could carry on during the winter

worth was elected first chairman of the board, and W. O. Fowler was first secretary-treasurer. Attending this first meeting were C. T. More, Fred Broadbent and John J. Weightman. On February 4th, 1889, the first annual meeting of the board was held at the home of W. T. Weightman, C. T. More was elected trustee, replacing W. O. Fowler, who remained on the school board as secretary-treasurer.

months. In 1898 the Canadian Northern Railway came through to Argue, then known as Trackend. A box car was put off at Underhill to serve as a station with Rupert Hammond as the first agent. The A. E. Hill Company built a store there with Joe Johnson as manager. At one time there were three grain elevators—The Winnipeg, The Western, and Farmers. Up to this time the district was in Whitewater Municipality. In the records the Municipality of Cameron is first mentioned on January 1st, 1898. On December 15th, 1906, a meeting of ratepayers was called to discuss the moving of the school. In the fall of 1909 the school was moved by Harry Underhill with Arthur Barber's steam engine, to its present site in the village of Underhill. The trustees traded the old site of one acre, for one acre, and bought another for \$50.00. In 1918 the school was closed from October 28th to December 9th when an epidemic of influenza raged through the district. This happened again in 1919, when the school was closed from January 6th to 20th. On July 25th, 1927, it was decided to build a new school costing \$3,000.00. The debentures were sold to Harry Underhill at 6 per cent, and ten equal payments. The school was built by George Robinson of Elgin, and it was opened on January 3rd, 1928. The old school was sold to R. Moore for \$125.00 and was used for many years as a place for social activities, with music by Tom Love and his violin, followed by the orchestra of Kay Gordon and Russel Vandusen, with Alf Johnson added later. The 1957 trustees are: Ron Hodgson, chairman; Everett Calverley, John Hodgson and Harold Gibson, secretary-treasurer. The present teacher at Barber School is Theodore Lagloire.

### WEST HALL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 550

At the beginning of June, 1882, the Township of 5, Range 22, was opened of homesteads, and settlers immediately began to take up land. By 1888, the residents of the West Hall district agreed that the building of a school was a necessity.

The first meeting of West Hall School District was held in the house of W. T. Weightman on October 12th, 1888. The chairman of the meeting was W. T. Weightman, with W. O. Fowler acting as secretary. Trustees elected were Messrs. John Torrance, John Coxworth and W. O. Fowler. Mr. John Cox-

The present site was chosen, the east side of the centre stake on the north side of Section 4-5-22. Mrs. E. Weightman was paid \$5.00 for the land. The trustees were instructed to proceed with the building of the school as soon as possible. The size of the school to be 20x 28 feet. Auditors elected were W. T. Weightman and J. O. Brown. Attending the meeting were Joseph Hughes, Thos. McBurney, Cooper Brown, and George Bolton. A special meeting of the ratepayers was held February 18th, 1889, when a motion was passed to raise the sum of \$700.00 by debentures over a period of 10 years, for the building and furnishing of the school. Tenders for the building to be advertised in the Deloraine Times. Mr. John Coxworth to be responsible for the drawing up of the plans and specifications. At a meeting of the trustees on March 18th, 1889, the contract for the building of the school was awarded to George H. Clark, the amount paid being \$530.50. The opening of the school took place on Monday, May 12th, 1889, with Miss Celia Calder from Ontario

s teacher, at a salary of \$35.00 per month for a period of six months. The first pupils included Colin More, May More, Wilmer McBurney, Malcolm Tod, Ed Bolton, Gertrude Hathaway, Bruce Hathaway, and Wm. Coxworth. Until the school districts of Regent, Maguire and Coxworth were formed, many pupils from these points attended the West Hall School. Other teachers who were taught in those early years from 1890 to 1902 were: Miss Gertrude E. Potter, Miss Lena Cook, Alex Kemlo, Miss W. McCuaig, Miss Gahan, Miss Irwin, Miss Maude Hathaway, Miss Isobel Scott, Miss McConnell, Miss Vera McLean, Miss Ducklow. Other teachers over the years were Miss Janet More, Miss Ruth Mustard, Miss Ethel Brandow, Miss Lillian Neilson, Miss Ella Scott, Miss Melgrove, Miss Louise Scott, James Maynard, Victor Sexton, Cliff Harris, Miss S. Loughheed, Miss Keller, Miss Clara Hoskins, Miss Merle Bradley, Miss Florence McArter, Miss Ruth Hodgson, Miss Rosa Barnes, Miss Mamie Cassils, Miss Beth Weidenhamer, Miss Elva Johnson, Miss Jean Godfrey, Miss Hazel Woods, Mrs. L. Jones, Mrs. D. Dunn, Miss R. More, Miss H. Crowe, Mrs. Leulah Ross, Mrs. D. Atkinson, Miss M. Makinson, and the present teacher (1957), Mrs. Les Jones. Salaries over the years ranged from 1889, \$35.00 per month, to 1957, \$260.00 per month. The Legislature grant in 1890 was \$76.45 and the municipal grant, \$280.00. Trustees appointed over the years were: J. T. More, John Torrance, John Coxworth, W. T. Weightman, J. S. Scott, Thomas McBurney, John Hammond, George Bolton, W. E. Robbins, Ed Galvin, John More, J. J. Weightman, A. Watson, H. McBurney, H. Hammond, S. Watson, A. J. More, H. J. Coxworth. The present trustees are: Mel More, A. More, Chas. Draper, chairman of the board; J. N. Weightman, secretary-treasurer. In 1898 the exterior of the school was painted, and the interior was plastered and painted, and the foundations repaired. A basement was dug, a foundation put in, and the school moved on to it in 1936. An addition was built on the front of the school, the exterior painted and the interior re-plastered, and a new furnace installed. This has since been replaced by a modern oil furnace.

Many children have come and gone, to make their way in the world, over the 68 years since the West Hall School was opened. Their success in life has been mainly due to the basic teaching given to them by the many teachers who taught at the school. Tribute should also be paid to the many trustees who gave their time and energy to the operating of the school during hard times and good times. Their only reward—a job well done.

#### WHITEWATER SCHOOL DISTRICT

The first Whitewater School was built in 1884 on S.E. quarter or 3-5-23, and is still in use at the present time.

The first teacher was Fred Wright, who drove 12 miles to school from his homestead in what is now known as the Grand Bend School District. Each year he brought children from the Baker family to school with him.

Names of first pupils attending at the school were: Matilda Coulter, Liza Coulter, Fred Underhill, Eva Underhill, Evelina Clark, Ethel Baker, Ron Baker, Fred Turnbull, Hillyard Robinson, Flo Agnew, Neil Agnew, Effie Turnbull, Joe Shepherd, Lizzie Shepherd, Letisha Black, Mina Robinson, Jennie Robinson, Essie Robinson.

From 1884 to 1957, the following teachers have coped with the various generations: Fred Wright, Frank McEwan, Myra Turnbull, Miss Gilroy, Gerude McGee, Wm. Hamilton, Mae Heritage, Blake Haladay, J. Wm. Peters, Geo. Robertson, Howard Irvine, Sherman Arnold, Edith Insley, Betty Shaw, Vera Brown, Miss Johnston, Sadie Forbest, Ida McCullough, Miss D. McCulleray, Nelly Dayton, Pearl Foster, Verna Robertson, Hilda Tanner, Douglas

Aikenhead, Leta Fry, Marjorie Follis, Elsie Lennon, Rosella Pollock, Vera Buchanan, Mabel McKinnon, Jessie Lowry, Marguerite Gerdis, Madeline Atkinson, Ruth Griffin, Frances Chandler, Doris Keelhorn, Elizabeth Gibson, Mary Graham, Gladys Linner, Joyce Harding, Donna Tosh, Irene Witt, Miss Lillian Maloney.

Old-timers living in the district in 1884, the year the school was opened, were: Wm. Turnbull, R. Jackson, Geo. Agnew, Moses Calverley, Jas. Clark, Wm. White, Sam White, W. O. Robinson, J. R. Shepherd, Frank Hill, Geo. Davison, S. D. McCall, Ed Briggs and T. H. Milburn. The first trustees in office were: W. Turnbull, M. Calverley, J. Shepherd. The members of the present school board are: Geo. Agnew, Wesley Agnew, Albert King and Gordon Robinson.

The first meeting to discuss the possibility of opening a school in the Whitewater district was held at the home of James Clark in the fall of 1883, with Richard Jackson and Moses Calverley being present. Moses Calverley, Wm. Turnbull, and J. R. Shepherd, were elected to the first school board. The school took its name from the Whitewater Municipality in which it was then located. The original size of the school district was 20 sections. When Chain Lakes and Dand were consolidated, four sections were added to the south side. Later a quarter-section was added to the Barber School District, and one-half section to Hartney School District, to make the present size of twenty-three and one-quarter sections. The original school building is still in use, with several major renovations, and the addition of modern conveniences, such as hydro power, automatic oil heat, telephone, radio and record player. It is situated in a prosperous farming district and enjoys a low tax rate. With the fluctuation and decrease of population, school attendance has varied over the years. In the years prior to the thirties, a peak enrollment of 35 was reached. From that time the attendance gradually decreased to a point where there were just enough pupils to keep the school open. A parent-school board feud coupled with a teacher shortage, resulted in a further drop in attendance, and the school was forced to close down for a period of two years in 1948 and 1949. In the year 1950 the school re-opened. At the present time, 1957, there are 22 pupils attending school. In 1934 the school celebrated its 50th anniversary. Former teachers, pupils and residents were invited to return to the district for this event. Sports were held for the young, addresses were given by visitors, and messages read from those who could not attend.

Peaceful co-existence with neighboring school districts was marred by a few boundary disputes, serious in nature, but finally settled by arbitration, which left no hard feelings. Within the school district itself, harmony has been normal. Class-room discipline has had no greater problems than teeter-tottering through the school window during school hours. We cannot call to mind any pupils who have attained national fame, but many top-notch doctors, nurses, teachers, preachers, university professors, engineers, businessmen, and successful farmers, received their elementary education at Whitewater School. Many adults still cherish happy memories of the years they spent in the School District of Whitewater.

#### CHAIN LAKES AND DAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

This district was named after the three lakes, which are called Chain Lakes.

Some of the earliest settlers were the Turnbulls, William and Albert (on whose farms now live L. R. Hodgson and Robert Hodgson), the Mores, the Dunnings and the Walmsleys. Chain Lakes School was built in 1894 on Section 3-5-23, the first teacher being a Mr. Ed Woodhull of Hartney. Divine

It is regrettable that we have brief histories on only a few of the early settlers, but their indicate the contribution all these folks made to the district. E. Marples and his wife came from Ontario in 1881 to Brandon. From there they followed the trail south to Wawanessa, forded the Souris River, almost losing their two cows, and came on west to the Swaffham district, later moving to the Deleau district. They homesteaded on 12-7-24. Mr. Marples owned a herd of pure-bred Hereford cattle. at one time owning the champion herd in Canada. He also raised Shetland ponies for sale. In 1906 they installed electricity in their farm buildings and new home, having their own electric plant. The family purchased their first car, a Rio, in 1908. incidentally, it was the first car in the district. The William Robson and R. Brigham Hereford herds were begun from the Marples herd.

Gaston Deleau, son of Sebastian Deleau, operated the large farm, as the older son, Desire, lived at Redvers, Sask. In earlier days it was a unique picture to see six six-horse outfits going to work in a nearby field, around 6 a.m. each spring day. Gaston raised Percheron and Belgian horses, also beef and dairy cattle. Besides being a successful farmer, he also served on the local school board and Sifton council. Mr. Deleau's sudden passing early this year closes a generation of the family, after which the area is named.

The Renauld family, consisting of two girls and five boys, lived south of Deleau village, settling in 1892. These Renauld boys will long be remembered as great threshermen of the early days. With them doing the threshing for their neighbors far and near was Jos. Bertholet, who came to the district in 1892. Mr. Bertholet drove oxen in the early days. With his wife, they lived on the present Nannon farm, where they raised their large family of twelve children. Mrs. Bertholet and her brother, Jules Marcq, lived with their uncle, Lambert Marcq, on the present Decock farm when young. To Mr. and Mrs. Bertholet we are indebted for much of the early history of the district. Other settlers of 1881-82 were Tom Bird, who homesteaded on S.E. 20-7-23, and John Duncan, whose homestead was N.W. 22-7-23, the present home of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Duncan. These two early pioneers did considerable carpentry work, during their first years in the area. The C.P.R. first chose a site for the village of Deleau on Tom Bird's land, but he valued his land too highly, so when Mr. Deleau donated his land, the present site was chosen. John Duncan was reeve of Sifton Municipality in the early days. The family moved to Brandon around 1910. The Ireland brothers came early in 1882 and spent the remainder of their lives in the district. Andrew homesteaded 32-7-23, where his son, Andy, now lives. Their parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Ireland, homesteaded on 34-7-23 a little later on. Some members of the Alex and Dave Ireland families still live in the Deleau area.

At the turn of the century we have more families who settled in this area. The Ivan Decock family came in 1902 from Belgium, and farmed their large holdings for years. Their youngest son, Frank, is presently in the store business in Deleau, and owns some of the farmland still. The Paul Nannon family, who settled in 1905 on their farm, southwest of Deleau, came from Belgium, and are now retired, living in Deleau. Their son Maurice runs the old farm.

The Jules Marcq family settled in 1904. Mr. Marcq now lives with his younger sons on the old farm. Albert runs a garage in the village. Mr. and Mrs. Con Hardy took up residence in the village in 1907. Mr. Hardy bought grain for some years, and later became postmaster, until Jos. Turcotte took his place. Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Robson came to the Deleau district in 1911, settling on the Lockhart farm northwest of the village, where they were active in church and community life. Mr. and Mrs. G. Allen, who came from England around 1899, was a blacksmith in the village, later taking up farm-

ing. One professional man who lived on a farm northwest of Deleau village was Dr. Larose, who, it is understood, practised in this area. His wife was a pioneer teacher at Deleau School. The Lapham family were among the first settlers, the father operating a store and also the post office. His one son, Ed, a farmer, homesteading on the section which is now the home of Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Canning. A Mr. Lapham was the first photographer in Deleau.

In the Maffam School District, northeast of Deleau village, were several pioneers. Members of some of the first families still live on the old homesteads. The Maffam School was situated one-half mile north of the Malcolm home. This school district was organized in 1893. The first teacher was Miss McCallum, her salary was \$40.00 per month. On the first roll are the names of 22 pupils. The first secretary-treasurer was James Canning; trustees were: J. Benbow and Robt. Cooper. The earliest settlers in this area included the following families: Cooper, Walker, Kennedy, Brigham, Lowry, Spicer and Cornish, McFadzen, Denbow, Duncan and Canning, Malcolm, the Gordons, and the Doyle family, also the Bradleys, who came from England. Mr. Andrew Duncan, brother of James and John, was later in settling. It is impossible to obtain some history of all these pioneers, although we have been able to locate and record some.

W. Walker came from Ontario in 1882, securing his homestead on 34-7-23 that year. In 1889, he married the sister of Andrew Ireland. This wedding was of special interest in that it was a double wedding, the other couple being Mr. and Mrs. James Duncan (the two brides were sisters). The wedding was held at the home of Andrew Ireland, on Section 32-7-23.

Messrs. Walker and Duncan operated a threshing outfit in 1888, threshing the crops for 19 farmers. Mr. and Mrs. Walker's daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. D. Fleck, live on the old homestead. James Duncan came west to Brandon from Ontario in 1885. Because of the Riel Rebellion, his first job in the west was guarding the city of Brandon. The first fall, he was on his homestead, he walked to Brandon, returning with a cow and a cat. The latter to take care of the mice in his shack. The return journey was also made on foot. During the first years he farmed with oxen. He was superintendent of the Menteith Sunday School, served on the local council, and school board. His son Colin now operates the Balmoral Stock Farm, stocked with a good herd of pure-bred cattle Hereford.

J. T. Denbow and Mrs. Denbow with their daughter Bertie, came from Ontario to Brandon in 1885, taking up a homestead that autumn. Here they raised a large family. Weekly church services were held at their home. One Sunday the minister from Oak Lake baptized members of the Denbow, Duncan, Walker and Royle families. The eldest son, George, was a harness repairer. Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Denbow and family now live on the original homestead.

James Malcolm came from Scotland in 1882 to Ontario. He came west to his homestead the following year. During his first year of settlement he was unfortunate to lose his small shack by fire. Returning to Ontario, he lived with his brother at Kincardine, Andrew Malcolm of the Malcolm Furniture Company, until the following year, when he returned to the west, married, and lived on the farm until his passing. His son Bob operates the farm now.

James Canning came west in the seventies, from Quebec province, settling on his Deleau farm in 1887. He made the trip from Winnipeg to Brandon by steamboat up the Assiniboine River. He worked with the C.P.R. while the line was being built west from Brandon. Both he and his wife were

specially interested in young people, and their hospitality will long be remembered. Mrs. Canning was a Sunday School teacher at Bethel Church.

Richard Brigham was an early settler of the Maffam district, coming with his parents as a young man from the Alexander district. He married Elizabeth Robson in 1897, and they successfully farmed together on Maple Glen Stock Farm, now owned by W. A. Walker. Mr. Brigham raised a show herd of Hereford cattle, and was a frequent prize winner at local fairs with his all-purpose horses.

The Robert Cooper family settled on their homestead in 1888, raising a family of three girls and four boys. The members of this family have contributed much to the field of education. A son and a daughter are teaching higher education after receiving degrees, a son is clerk to the Municipality of Estevan, Mrs. Edward Cooper, C.C.F. member of the Saskatchewan Legislature, is often heard on the radio talking about legislative session proceedings.

The Andrew Doyle family of six girls and five boys, came from Dryden, Ont., to their homestead on 14-8-23. The Doyle children were all very fond of sport, and added a spark to the recreation of the community.

The Gordon family came to the district east of Deleau around 1890, homesteading on 27-7-23. This family of Presbyterian faith were an asset to the Menteith and Bethel Church communities in which they served. They were a musical family and acquired higher education. Their daughter Grace, Mrs. Mr. Bigelow of Brandon, was a teacher during the first years of Menteith school. J. L. and Mrs. Gordon lived on the homestead until their retirement in 1944.

Thomas Daniel homesteaded the land presently owned by Garfield Jasper. He came to Manitoba from England in 1884. He worked with his neighbor, William Robson, on the railroad. On leaving the farm they returned to Souris.

Andrew Duncan, brother of John and James, came to Maffam district in 1892 from Ontario. It took Mr. Duncan 14 days to reach Brandon due to a railroad strike. He worked for his brother James for five years at \$14.00 per month. Telling of his first spring in Manitoba, when a snow-storm at the end of April brought two feet of snow after the wheat was all sown and the cattle turned out to graze. Following the storm the cattle were found eight miles away, having travelled ahead of the storm. Mr. Duncan is enjoying good health at the age of 84 years.

The Menteith School District was organized in the year 1890. The school was situated near the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Scarff. On the first roll of pupils are the names of two present Hartney residents, namely, Mrs. A. Ames, and Miss Anna Scharff. The first teacher at the school was Miss Dempsey. W. J. Jasper was the first secretary-treasurer, remaining in office until consolidation. Early trustees were W. H. Winter, John McSorley, G. Scharff and W. H. Hayter. The school district included land from two municipalities, hence the name "Menteith Union." The Magwood family settled in Cameron Municipality nearby, with the children attending Menteith School. William Magood was the first white baby born in the district in the year 1882, on the farm where Mr. and Mrs. Jim Woodcock now reside. William Magwood, now living in Winnipeg, spends some time each summer on the old homestead.

Alfred Andrews, a pioneer of 1882, came from Ontario, secured his homestead and joined the group of neighbor bachelors. In 1887 he returned to Ontario, and later that year arrived back west with his bride, Annie Robson. Always interested in horticulture, tree-planting and gardening were his main hobbies. The tree seed plot he planted still stands. From this plot he landscaped his home yard, and also the farm with maple trees. His farm home,

lawn and garden were awarded first prize one year by the C.P.R. for the division, the railroad being near his home.

Gardiner Scharff came from the east to Fort Garry in 1874, making the journey on foot and by canoe or boat. He stayed for the summer and then returned to Ontario. In 1885, he came back and secured a homestead, where he lived with his family for the remainder of his life. His son John, his wife and family now live on the old homestead. An elder son, Delmer, was an outstanding mechanic of the Hartney district, and is remembered for his many years of operating his threshing machine throughout the area.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred West, pioneers of the early 80's, lived near the present Denbow C.P.R. siding. Then around 1890 they moved to their homestead, the N. R. Jasper home later, on which Mr. and Mrs. Wes Jasper now reside. Mrs. West had very few white women to keep her company. She cared for some of the bachelors' needs, baking bread, etc. The West family moved to Alberta in 1912.

William Robson and his bride, accompanied by his sister Mary, later Mrs. Wm. Brooks, arrived in Manitoba from Ontario in the spring of 1889, their destination being Griswold, Man. For a while they lived with his sister, Mrs. Alfred Andrews, and also worked on the railway line which was being laid near Wawanessa. Later that year he helped with the harvest on the farm of John Duncan. Mr. and Mrs. Robson moved to their homestead, 16-7-23, "Sweet Sixteen" Stock Farm, and remained there until retiring in 1932. They were always interested in farming and with their family operated large farm holdings. Their four sons took training at the Manitoba Agricultural College, one receiving his degree, and their two daughters received degrees in Home Economics. These pioneers were ardent church members. Mr. Robson was the first superintendent of Bethel Sunday School, which was held first in the homes before the church was built. He served as councillor and reeve of Sifton Municipality, later giving leadership in the organized farm movements, the U.G.G., U.F.M. and M.F.A.C. He helped to establish the Hartney Consumers Co-operative, becoming the first president. His term in the provincial Legislature as an Independent, from 1920-22, indicated his sincerity of purpose. Mrs. Robson is the remaining pioneer of the early days, and spends much time in her home on the old homestead, where her youngest son and family live.

Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Jasper settled in the Menteith district in 1892. For some years previously he had lived with his parents south of Hartney. Both Mr. and Mrs. Jasper served on the local school board. Mr. Jasper served as councillor to Sifton Municipality for one term in the early years. Mrs. Jasper is now living with her son in Hartney.

Mr. and Mrs. John McSorley came from Ontario in 1893, living first in the Hayfield district, then in the Forbes area for short periods, finally purchasing the Will Forbes and John Scharff Sr. homestead in 1893, where they lived and raised their large family of girls and son W. J. McSorley of Winnipeg.

Mr. and Mrs. Jeremiah Abrey and their large family of nine sons and one daughter were early settlers. Mr. Abrey came west in the year 1882, returning to Ontario, and coming west again in 1889 to the Souris area, living for a brief time north of town. He then moved to Menteith, later settling on the homestead, Section 19. Today their only daughter, Mrs. J. Denbow and her son Lloyd, live on the family farm. During the first years the Abrey family drew their grain to Griswold by oxen. The family also drove to Menteith Church by oxcart. Fred, who now lives in Hartney, tells of a wonderful pair of oxen they owned, which would make the trip to Souris, a distance of 10 miles, in one hour.

The McBurney family settled southeast of Hartney on the land now owned by W. Witt, in the year 1893. In 1899 the family moved to their farm in the Menteith district. The McBurney boys were baseball enthusiasts and real-time threshermen. Mr. and Mrs. Art McBurney and family lived on the old farm until their retirement to Souris.

The W. H. Hayter family moved to this district from Oxbow in the 1890's. Mrs. Hayter died during the early days of the district. Mr. Hayter retired years later, living in Deleau for some years. His son Russell taught school.

Mr. and Mrs. John Bartley, early settlers, lived in the district, west of the present No. 21 Highway and near the home of Mrs. Hunt, as did also Mr. and Mrs. Blizzard, some years later in 1897 and 1898. Mrs. Bartley is remembered for her nursing ability and assistance when many of the pioneers' children were born.

Frank Milson, a pioneer, who came and went a bachelor in the 90's, lived on his farm, 24-7-23. Frank was a valuable citizen, giving leadership in Bethel church as choir leader and Bible class teacher. He also trained the children for Christmas and other program presentations.

Other folk living in the Menteith area for a while in the early days were Arthur Winter and S. H. Winter, the Ayre family, and A. Winter families, both homesteading on the land now owned by Arthur Canton.

The Warner and Fleming families, also the Graham and Miller families, were early 1900's pioneers. Frank Maguire, who lived on Sec. 12, owned the first steam engine in the district. Mr. and Mrs. George Dooks, living in the district since 1898, on the farm now operated by Clinton Jasper and family.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Schardd homesteaded on Section 16-7-23 in 1893. Later Mr. and Mrs. W. Brooks and family took up residence on this land for a short while.

Thommy Guest was an early settler on the A. T. H. Robson farm, as was also Mrs. Hartsel and son Syd. Some years later, Mr. Horton moved on his farm.

The Irwin family lived on Section 24 in the early 90's near the Denbow P.R. siding.

Joe Denbow was the early resident of the present farm of Mrs. Hunt. He was a well-known thresher of the early days.

Mr. John Perkins, an early settler, lived on the Russell Duncan farm. On the road which passed along his land, is what has always been called "The Perkins' Cut."

Churches: The religious life of the Deleau district has centred in the church in Deleau village, and in Bethel Church (Methodist), situated near the junction of Highways 2 and 21, also in the Menteith Presbyterian Church, which was situated on S.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  25-7-23.

This church was in use in 1892. For a while both Presbyterian and Methodist services were held in it. The Menteith Church was later moved to Whitefield district on the John Hume farm, and finally it was sold. Before Bethel Church was built in 1895, church services were mostly held in homes, and in Maffam and Deleau Schools. A Sunday School was organized at Deleau with Wm. Robson as superintendent and John McSorley as secretary-treasurer. The McSorleys travelled to Deleau Church services in the buckboard. Bethel United Church held its 60th anniversary in 1955. Mr. A. Andrews, Mr. Wm. Robson and Mr. J. McSorley with their wives and families were among the first members of the church community. Regular church attendance and interest was of primary importance in their lives. Very soon the families were all joining in the fellowship of the church of their faith. The Bethel

community have remained church centred, but the social life pattern has changed, since a larger school is now situated in Deleau, where all the children attend. Most social activities take place there. We have children and grandchildren of the pioneers living in the community who are attempting to carry the torch their forefathers handed to them. The Bethel Auxiliary of the Woman's Missionary Society will observe a half-century of active service in 1958. Mrs. Wm. Robson is the one active charter member, and also a life member. Mrs. Dolmage of Souris, organized the Auxiliary in 1908. This woman's organization has been active through the years doing both W.M.S. and W.A. work.

For recreation, the pioneers met in their homes, travelling in sleigh loads, having fun and enjoyment at their parties. Skating parties were enjoyed on Plum Creek and the James Canning farm, especially enjoyed was the hospitality of Mr. and Mrs. Canning after skating. Skating parties to Hartney rink were frequent, the young folk driving in cutters and sleigh loads. The home of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Jasper was a half-way stopping place. The local boys participated in baseball games, providing healthy entertainment in the early 1900's. Later a Bethel Baseball Club was formed the boys wearing green and white uniforms. R. Brigham was manager of the club. Today the boys at Deleau have a fastball team and the girls a softball club.

Happy times were held on the sandhills, one mile north of Deleau, where there was a toboggan slide. Coal oil and gas lanterns lit the hill and slide, and old and young folk rode their toboggans, sleds and even scoop shovels, down the trail. The late Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Gordon chaperoned the groups, and were on hand if any injury occurred. This spot was named "Gordon Heights." The Bethel annual picnic and ice-cream social were gay times, as was also the annual fowl dinner and concert. In more recent years a community club was formed, the social events and meetings being held in the school auditorium.

Today young and old enjoy the curling rink for their winter sports. It is situated on the school grounds and is available to the pupils.

A project of the Boys' Sunday School Class under the supervision of their teacher, Mrs. J. L. Gordon, was the Bethel Plowing Match, held annually for seventeen years. The last plowing match was held in 1933. For a few years almost \$1,000 was paid for trophies and prizes. The Bethel ladies served meals for the event. In 1933, on the poster is the following advertisement. "Dinner and supper served for 30 cents. Meals for plowmen, 20 cents."

The two world wars affected this area like all others. The women of the district organized themselves for war work. In World War II, the local Red Cross unit was a very active one. A Red Cross donation sale was held each year in Deleau village, when as much as \$1,000 to \$1,500 was raised. The auctioneer, W. T. Draper, donated his services.

On the Bethel and Hartney Rolls of Honor are inscribed the names of the young men and women of the district, who served in the two world wars.

Deleau Consolidated School No. 785: In a period of eight years the attendance increased, and another classroom was added. A crescent shaped park of flowers, shrubs and trees, was begun at this time, and some years later two hundred white spruce trees were planted around the school grounds. The grounds have been enlarged by three acres, and evergreen trees now surround the entire grounds. A curling rink has been erected on the school grounds, with an out-door skating rink adjacent, providing winter recreation for the pupils. A five-room bungalow purchased for a teacherage, provides accommodation for the teaching staff. At present seven motor vans, heated

nd well-equipped, transport the school children. The school has a modest auditorium and lunch bar, where social affairs, concerts and meetings are held. A 16 mm. movie projector has been purchased recently for classroom instruction, and for community entertainment.

Local leadership has been given to 4-H Clothing and Calf Clubs, where members receive useful training. A study group who spent one season on credit unions, resulted in the organizing of the Deleau Credit Union, in 1942, with Mrs. R. G. Jasper as first secretary-manager. From a small beginning this has expanded, and now the Credit Union office is situated in the town of Hartney.

Deleau has two Farm Forum groups. This adult education appeals to members. The groups began when the national organization was begun. The forums are held in the members' homes, each Monday night throughout the winter season.

Men of the Deleau district, serving on the municipal council down the years, are recorded: A. Andrew, John Duncan (reeve), W. J. Jasper, Wm. Robson (reeve), James Duncan, R. H. Baker, Frank Decock, W. A. Canning (reeve), Gaston Deleau, Henry Gatin, N. R. Jasper, W. A. Ealker, E. P. Robson.

For many years Hartney has been the business centre for the Deleau district. On this 75th Anniversary, we of the Deleau area, salute the Town of Hartney. May we all keep faith with the pioneers who laid the foundations of a better way of life, and may we in turn pass on to those who come after us, a district as united and progressive as has been transmitted to us.

#### HARTNEY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

For many years the town of Hartney had a Horticultural Society, but was inactive from 1940 to 1950, when it was re-organized into the present society. Directors of the newly-formed society in 1950 were: president, Mrs. John Turvey; vice-president, D. D. Sarvis; secretary-treasurer, M. L. MacDonald; executive: Mrs. J. G. Jasper, Miss F. Caldwell, Mrs. E. Underhill, Mrs. Norman Jasper, Mrs. J. A. Fray, and Mrs. W. H. Hodgson.

Meetings were held monthly.

In 1953 a horticultural school was held in the Hartney Town Hall, with representatives from Killarney, Souris, Reston, Deloraine, Medora, Dand, Dauphin and Hartney.

In 1954, apple trees from the Morden Experimental Farm were distributed to all members who wished to have them. Each year the Horticultural Society is responsible for the Flower Show in the Town Hall. In 1952, the secretary-treasurer, M. L. MacDonald, moved to Winnipeg, and Mrs. J. A. Fry took over as secretary, with Mrs. P. Lougheed as treasurer.

The 1957 directors and executive are: president, Mrs. N. R. Jasper; vice-president, Mrs. R. Delmage; secretary, Mrs. J. A. Fry; treasurer, Mrs. C. Morrison; executive: Mrs. Gordon Jasper, Mrs. J. G. Jasper, Mrs. L. Hicks, Miss Nellie Hall, and Mrs. W. Roper.

#### THE HARTNEY CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY

A community enterprise is the Hartney Co-operative Society, which held its first meeting on May 24th, 1929. Officers elected were: president, Richard Smith; vice-president, Wm. Robson; secretary, C. S. Thomas. Charter members were: N. R. Jasper, W. P. Cowan, M. J. Barber, W. H. Gibson, Geo. Gibson, W. H. Hodgson, and Richard Smith.

Business was first in operation on the C.N.R. property at the south end of East Railway Street, but 1943 saw a new store built on the corner of East Railway Street and Queen Street, where the old Beaver Lumber Yards stood for many years. In 1955, the society bought the Alford Lumber Yard, and moved the office there in 1956.

At the present time (1957) there are 420 members.

Cash value of the business is approximately \$144,000. It has paid into the district, in dividends and deceased member accounts, approximately \$20,000.

The first manager was J. W. Reid, and the present manager is Darcy Reynolds.

#### HARTNEY GOLF CLUB

The Hartney Golf Club opened in the year 1926 and the formation of the club was due largely to the efforts of R. L. Stidston, the manager of the Bank of Montreal at Hartney at that time. He was the first president and Mrs. Fred Underhill was the first secretary-treasurer. In the early years the members looked after the grounds and performed the duties of a caretaker, later a caretaker was hired and in 1956 William Clay completed 19 years as a caretaker but he was not physically able to carry on in 1957 and Archie Douglas was hired in his stead. Hanging in the club house is a plaque which reads, "To the Hartney Joy Girls, whose talented efforts were the means of providing the nucleus of the building fund of this club house, the members of the Hartney Golf Club record their grateful appreciation." This group was well known throughout this part of the province, the names of all the girls are listed but it is possible that someone will be writing a history about the Hartney Joy Girls, although this group is not longer active.

The club has prospered and marched along through the years, even though the membership has been small. Brock Henry, who is an ardent golfer, has given much financial support to the club and has assisted in many ways to make the club successful.

Starting in 1941 an open tournament has been held annually since that time and these have been most successful and have assisted greatly with the finances of the club.

There is a special praise for the ladies of the club, although few in number, who provide the lunch for the open tournament and for the social afternoons which are held each Thursday.

There is no doubt that the golf course is a definite asset to this community and it is hoped that it will be in existence for years to come.

The officers of the club through the years have been:

President		Secretary-Treasurer	
1926	R. L. Stidston	1926	Mrs. Fred Underhill
1927-1933	H. Perrin	1927	R. L. Stidston
1934-1939	N. K. Agnew	1928-1933	L. H. Gabel
1940	L. H. Gabel	1934-35	Les. Kitson
1941-1947	W. B. Henry	1936-1938	M. L. McDonald
1948-1949	J. A. Fry	1939-1940	T. Ballance
1950-1956	N. F. Ready	1941-1957	E. H. Mills
1950-1952	G. Suddaby		
1957	Miss Irene Hill		

#### THE VICTORIA CHAPTER NO. 5, ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR

One of the outstanding organizations contributing to the life of Hartney and community, had its beginning when a chapter of the Order of the Eastern

Chapter was formed in 1918. Victoria Chapter, organized on May 24th of that year, became one of the pioneer chapters of the order in Manitoba. Previously chapters had been established in Winnipeg, Portage, Brandon, and Carman. The organization meeting was held on May 24th, 1918, hence the name "Victoria."

Much of the initiative in getting the chapter started was provided by Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Thomas and Mr. Robert Smith. Mrs. Thomas had come from Michigan, the home of the oldest Grand Jurisdiction of the Order, and she was an enthusiastic promoter for a chapter in Hartney. With the support and advice of many of the Past Masters of Hartney Masonic Lodge, it was decided that Mrs. Thomas and Mrs. Coulter should co-operate in contracting those, who later formed the charter list of Victoria Chapter. Membership in the Eastern Star is based on relationship to Master Masons.

At that time there were not enough chapters in Manitoba to form a Grand Chapter, so organizational work was conducted by the General Grand Chapter with headquarters in Washington. The Most Worthy Grand Patron deputized Mr. Bolton of Queen Mary Chapter No. 3, Brandon, to organize a chapter of the Eastern Star at Hartney.

On May 24th, the deputy from Brandon met with the petitioners. The original records show that on motion of Mr. A. T. Foot and Mrs. H. W. Thomas, it was decided to proceed with the business of forming a chapter of the Eastern Star in Hartney. Another motion by George Morrison and Mrs. R. Smith, that the chapter be called "Victoria," was carried. Mrs. Coulter, whose late husband had been the first Worshipful Master of the Masonic Lodge in Hartney, was elected to become the first Worthy Matron of the new chapter.

The first slated of officers elected was as follows:

Worthy Matron, Mrs. Coulter; Worthy Patron, George Morrison; Assoc. Matron, Mrs. H. W. Thomas; secretary, Miss Elsie Batty; treasurer, Mrs. Wm. McDonald; Conductress, Mrs. W. Muir; Assoc. Conductress, Mrs. R. Smith; Chaplain, James Duthie; Marshal, Mrs. H. Galbraith; Organist, Mrs. A. T. Foot; Adah, Mrs. C. Blay; Ruth, Mrs. J. Bartley; Esther, Mrs. A. E. Fry; Martha, Mrs. Jas. Callander; Electa, Mrs. S. Robinson; Warder, Mrs. J. Somerville; Sentinel, A. E. Fry; trustees: Mrs. R. Fry, Mr. C. D. Batty and Mr. R. J. Taylor.

July 18th, the Victoria Chapter was instituted, and the degrees were conferred by the officers of Queen Mary Chapter No. 3. Much help was given in the early days of the chapter by Miss Jessie Crawford, the Worthy Matron of Queen Mary Chapter, a former Hartney girl.

In addition to the officers already named, the following were charter members:

Mrs. R. Smith, Mr. A. T. Foot, Mr. H. W. Thomas, Mrs. C. D. Batty, Mr. W. B. Muir, Mrs. D. J. Eastman, Mrs. E. A. Shillington, Miss Ella Morrison, Miss Marjorie Duthie, Mr. J. F. Bartley, Mr. J. A. Callander, Mr. R. H. Fry and Mr. H. Galbraith.

Much of the success of the chapter down through the years can be attributed to the vision and untiring efforts of its pioneer members.

Early recognition of the quality of the officers of Victoria Chapter was made by Grand Chapter. Mrs. Coulter was elected into Grand office at the first session of Grand Chapter, and became the second Worthy Grand Matron of the province. Mrs. W. B. Muir held the office of Grand Adah, the same year. Other Grand officers during the earlier years were: Mrs. Wm. McDonald, Grand Martha; Mrs. J. A. Callander, Grand Chaplain; Mr. A. T. Foot, Grand Sentinel; Mr. Geo. Morrison, Grand Sentinel; Mrs. H. W. Thomas, Grand Martha. Mrs. H. W. Thomas also served as Grand Trustee for a term of three

years. Mr. W. A. Bourns and Mr. James Purdy, also served as Grand Trustees. The only Grand Organist from Victoria Chapter was Mrs. W. A. Bourns in 1938. At this time also, Mr. W. A. Bourns was elected Grand Sentinel, advancing to Worthy Grand Patron in 1940. That year Mrs. C. S. Thomas was appointed Grand Martha. In 1945 she was appointed Grand Esther. The following year she was elected to other successive offices, to become Worthy Grand Matron in 1949.

Additional honor was brought to Victoria Chapter by the appointment of Mrs. H. C. Batty as Grand Marshal. In 1950 Mr. C. S. Thomas was elected Grand Sentinel, to advance to Worthy Grand Patron in 1952. Miss Jean Landreth was another Grand officer that year—Grand Adah.

Over the years benevolence and relief, both local and national, have received generous support. Major projects of the Order of the Eastern Star in Manitoba include the following: Red Cross, The Navy League, cancer research and dressings, equipment for the Shriners' Hospital for Crippled Children, Children's Hospital, wheel chairs for Deer Lodge Hospital, training awards for religious leadership. Arthritis and Rheumatic Fund, Tuberculosis X-Ray shelter. Societies such as the Children's Aid and the Institute for the Blind, Clinic, flood relief, educational loans, International Peace Garden picnic are regularly supported by all chapters.

Locally, contribution has been made to the Hartney Hospital Medical Unit, where the Victoria Chapter has furnished and maintained the nursery. The Past Matrons, also, have presented two wheel chairs for the use of the hospital and the community.

Victoria Chapter No. 5 takes pride in joining with Hartney and District in commemorating its 75th Anniversary in July, 1957, and looks forward to future years of service.

#### THE GRAHAMVILLE WILLING WORKERS

The Grahamville Willing Workers were organized in November, 1939, to do war work by sewing articles of clothing, making quilts, and knitting for overseas parcels and the Red Cross. Charter officers were: president, Miss Jessie Graham; treasurer, Mrs. Arthur Galbraith, and secretary, Mrs. Robt. Mullett. Miss Jessie Graham held the office of president for fourteen years, and Mrs. Nick Bell, for three years. The 1957 officers are: president, Mrs. G. Jasper; vice-president, Mrs. G. McBrien; secretary, Mrs. Ellen Taylor; treasurer, Mrs. M. McKenzie; welfare, Mrs. Chas. Morrison; Hospital Aid rep., Mrs. Ellen Taylor; quilt convener, Mrs. Russell Graham; sewing, Mrs. G. McBrien and Mrs. J. Agnew; social, Mrs. Nick Bell and Mrs. Gordon White; lunch, Mrs. Jack Morris; reporter, Miss Nellie Hall.

Projects over the years range from war work to making toys for children, raising money by means of catering to suppers, receptions, etc. A table and two chairs donated to the local rest room, and gifts of money and goods to worthy causes, as well as welfare work among the members and their families, during illness or other need.

The membership totals 18. To date they have completed 117 large quilts, 32 crib quilts, 9 comforters, 554 new articles of clothing for the Red Cross and overseas parcels, and 225 aprons. The Workers won first prize for exhibited group-made quilts at the Hartney Fair.

#### EXCELSIOR REBEKAH LODGE NO. 70

Excelsior Rebekah Lodge No. 70 was instituted on March 1st, 1922, by the late Mrs. Hazel Munn, president of the Rebekah Assembly, and Mrs.

George Boyd, secretary, Rebekah Assembly.

The following were the charter members: Mrs. Emma McGill, Mrs. Emma McGill, Mrs. Ada Perrin, Miss M. Woodhull, Mrs. Annie Forbes, Mrs. Brunson, Mrs. M. I. Forbes, Miss Minerva Brunson, Miss Rachel McArter, Miss Lizzie Will, Miss Tena McDonald.

Twenty-four ladies and nine gentlemen made application to become members. A degree staff from Countess Rebekah Lodge, Elgin, conferred the degree.

The first officers were: J.P.N.G., Emma McGill; N.G., Essie McGill; W.P., Margaret Woodhull; R.S., Ada Perrin; F.S., Annie Forbes; treasurer, Brunson; Warden, Ruby McDonald; Conductor, Edna Mills; R.S.N.G., Lizzie Will; L.S.N.G., Rachel McArter; R.S.V.G., Tena Hopkins; L.S.V.G., Annie Gibson; I.G., Eva Simmons; O.S., J. S. McGill.

Six more applications were brought in that year, and now have a membership of 71.

This lodge was honored by having one of its charter members, the late Underhill, president of the Rebekah Assembly.

The Excelsior Rebekah Lodge meets the first Tuesday in the month in the I.O.O.F. Hall.

#### THE LADIES' AUXILIARY TO THE CANADIAN LEGION B.E.S.L.

On February 19th, 1924, a meeting was held above Hill's Store to discuss forming of an auxiliary to the Great War Veterans' Association. Twenty-ladies attended the meeting, and from this group the first slate of officers was nominated, as follows: president, Mrs. H. Batty; vice-president, Mrs. Kin; secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Rothnie; executive: Mrs. H. Fry and Mrs.

The G.W.V.A. continued as such until 1927 when it was decided to adopt the name of the Ladies' Auxiliary to the Canadian Legion of the British Empire Service League, and a charter was applied for. The charter now hangs in the Legion Hall and names the 1927 officers as: president, Mrs. Rothnie; vice-president, Mrs. McKenzie; secretary-treasurer, Mrs. H. Batty; executive: Mrs. Hill and Mrs. Rae. The records show that the auxiliary continued with its main project, the helping of returned veterans and their families, by sponsoring card parties, dances, etc., until 1939, when they received an invitation from the Red Cross to act as an auxiliary to that organization. The invitation was readily accepted, and the work which was accomplished during the war is a splendid example of co-operation between the two organizations.

In 1943 the Board of Trade asked the auxiliary to form and operate a service centre. The ladies agreed and started work fixing up the premises now occupied by the Hartney Bakery. This centre was widely used by service men from all over Canada and the United Kingdom, until the end of the war when it was closed down. Mrs. G. Moir, who attended the first meeting in 1924, is still an active member of the auxiliary. Mrs. H. Batty and Mrs. A. McDowell were also present at the 1924 meeting, but although they are no longer active in auxiliary work, they are still both interested in Legion affairs.

#### THE INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODDFELLOWS

The first Oddfellows Lodge in Manitoba was Manitoba Lodge No. 1, Winnipeg, instituted on August 18th, 1873.

The Hartney Lodge No. 25, I.O.O.F., was instituted on February 16th, 1873, with Dr. F. Woodhull, W. F. Forbes, G. W. Rose, John Bowes, J. E. Brown, and Alex McDonald as charter members. Little is known of the activities of the Hartney Lodge until December 7th, 1905, as all the records were destroyed by fire on the night of November 11th, 1905, when the Brook-

bank Hall, in which the lodge met, was burned to the ground. On December 7th, 1905, they resumed their meetings in a vacant room in the Hartney School. At this meeting degrees were to be conferred, but as all the Hartney Lodge regalia had been lost in the fire, two members of the Elgin I.O.O.F. Lodge drove by team to Hartney, bringing with them the necessary regalia, to dress the degree staff in the proper manner.

On December 6th, 1906, they moved into the present lodge room in the Town Hall. The Hartney Oddfellows Lodge continued to flourish until 1915, when as a result of the First World War, they decided to discontinue lodge meetings for four years. During this period the Hartney Lodge room was used to billet soldiers, and following the cessation of hostilities, during the influenza epidemic, it was used as a temporary hospital.

Regular meetings were resumed in January, 1920, and the lodge has continued to function ever since. In the fall of 1948 the Grand Lodge of Manitoba chose Hartney as a meeting place for a regional meeting for southwestern Manitoba.

Every year the Hartney Oddfellows and the Rebekah Lodge members hold a very successful memorial service to honor the birthday of Thomas Wildey, the founder of the Independent Order of Oddfellows on the North American continent. In 1922 an Oddfellows Home was built at Charleswood, Man., at a cost of \$140,000. This was furnished by the Rebekahs at a cost of \$25,000. From that time the Hartney Oddfellows and Rebekahs have never failed to pay their share towards the upkeep and operating expense of the home. At this home many orphans of members of the order are raised and receive their education, also many of our senior citizens spend their declining years there. When the Hartney Hospital was built the Oddfellows and Rebekahs of Hartney were responsible for the furnishing of one ward. The first Noble Grand in 1893 was F. Woodhull, and the 1957 Noble Grand is L. Ames.

#### HARTNEY SQUARE DANCE CLUB

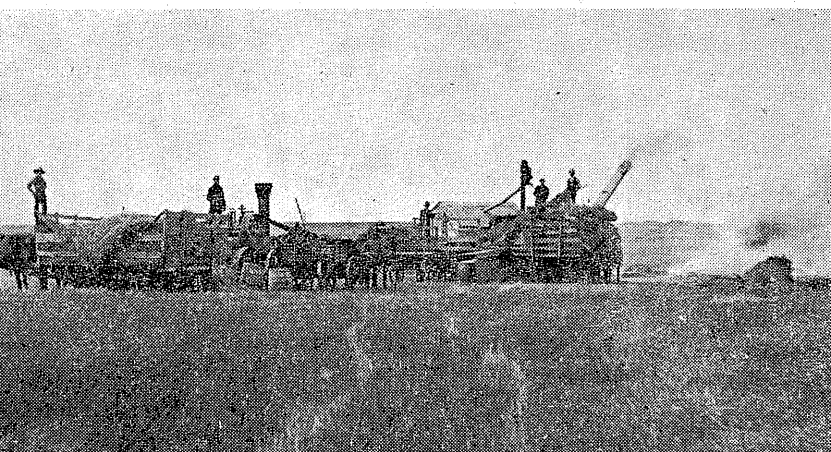
The Hartney Western Square Dancing Club was organized in 1955 with a membership of about one hundred, from Hartney, Lauder, Melgund, Souris and districts. The first president, Harvey Mosby, and the vice-president, William Morrison, both hailed from Melgund. Don Sarvis was the secretary. Mrs. Doris Mitchell and Mr. Leo Kennedy of Brandon were our instructors and eight lessons were given in a series, spring and fall, along with the lessons many social times were enjoyed.

The next year Mel Ham of Lauder was president, William Morris vice-president and Rollie Crowe, secretary. Early in 1957 the club held its first jamboree; an enthusiastic crowd attended from many other clubs. The members also attended many jamborees in other districts.

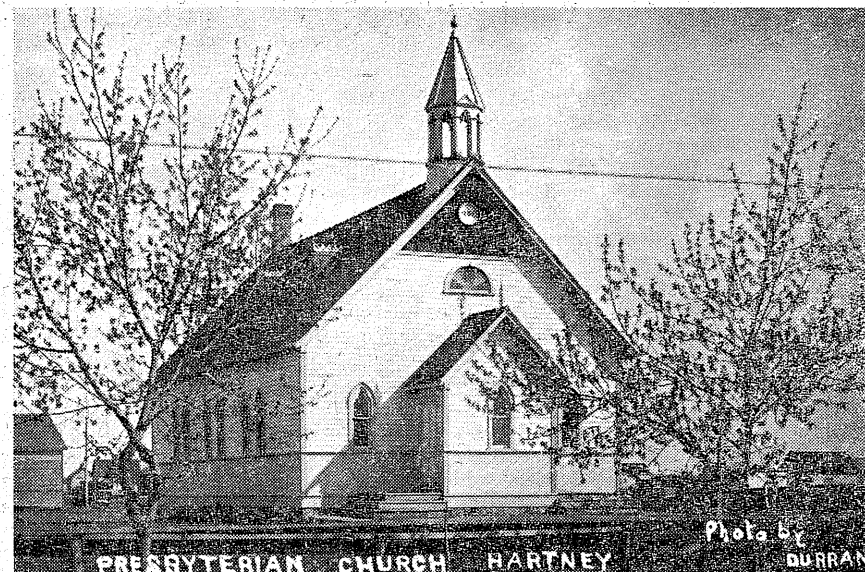
Leo and Doris were unable to instruct, so the club purchased a public address system and record player and carried on. Each district looked after an evening's entertainment. The membership was reduced to about seventy, the club losing old members but gaining new ones.

The members of this young organization are not too numerous, yet they are very enthusiastic and dance at every opportunity. On square dancing nights the bright colored shirts of the men and the full skirted crinolines of the ladies make a pretty picture as they go through the squares and rounds which comprise western square dancing.





AN OLDTIME THRESHING RIG IN THE HARTNEY DISTRICT



## HARTNEY-CAMERON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

E. H. Mills

It is unfortunate that the records previous to 1946 have been lost, therefore it is impossible to state just when the Chamber, formerly known as the Hartney Board of Trade, was started, but it is known that it has been on the go at least thirty or forty years. There have been times, from lack of interest, the chamber has folded up, but then it has been revived again.

During World War II the Chamber was very active in the collection of salvage and the funds from the salvage were used to send cigarettes to the boys overseas. At the close of the war some of the funds were used for a banquet for the boys on their arrival home and for the purchase of a gift for each one of them. The balance of the salvage fund was donated to the Hartney branch of the Canadian Legion, when they purchased their present building.

At the present time the membership of the chamber is about fifteen, when it might easily be fifty, but the local citizens do not seem interested. Despite this the chamber will this year again sponsor the Red Cross Swim classes and each year in co-operation with the merchants the Chamber looks after the Christmas street lighting. The Chamber has been delegated to prepare the street decorating for the 75th celebration, and this is well in hand.

It is regrettable that the officers through the years cannot be listed due to the loss of the records.

It is hoped that despite the lack of interest the Chamber will continue to function and this brief history of the Chamber will be useful when the 100th anniversary of this area is observed.

## ST. PAUL'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH—HARTNEY

During the summer of 1883, Mr. W. Rochester, a student missionary, was sent to this area to hold worship services in the homes and to work towards organizing a permanent pastoral charge. In 1885 the Whitewater Mission was organized and comprised the districts of Westhall, McKellar, Whitewater, and Swaffham. In 1890, with the extension of the Brandon-Souris railway to Hartney, the town became the centre of Presbyterian activities for the area. The Reverend S. Polson was the minister. On December 4th, 1892, Messrs. W. J. Higgins, S. H. Dickson and W. Sutherland were duly ordained as the first elders. Early in the following year, Messrs. Thomas Dougald and John Scott of Westhall, John McKellar and James McEwan of McKellar were ordained to the eldership.

During the summer of 1892 the present church building was erected, the contractor was Mr. H. H. Hatham and the contract price was \$2,579. The dedication service was held on October 23rd, 1892. Later a basement and gallery were added. The manse was built in 1891 and in 1956 was sold and a new manse erected.

In 1893 Lauder was added to the Hartney pastoral charge. Millerway, McKellar and Westhall were formed into a separate charge. Later Lauder was disassociated from St. Paul's Hartney. During the ministry of the Reverend S. Polson, Messrs. James Duthie and George Morrison were ordained to the eldership in 1896. Following the resignation of Mr. Polson in 1898, the following ministers occupied the pulpit: S. Niven, J. A. Bowman, E. S. Logie, C. A. Campbell, R. M. Hanna, J. M. Wallace, J. J. Cowan, Robert Boyle, J. H. Stewart, A. P. Floyd and A. W. K. Herdman. The congregation was served by student ministers from 1942-1946. The Reverend J. D. C. Jack was inducted into the pastoral charge in 1946, and the Reverend A. C. Aitkin in 1948. The Reverends A. Douglas and R. A. Davidson served as interim-moderators from

1954-1956. In the spring of 1956 Hartney and Melita congregations amalgamated. On September 4th, 1956, the Reverend W. W. MacNeill was inducted into the pastoral charge of Hartney-Melita and is the present minister.

The following groups play a prominent role in the life of St. Paul's: The Ladies' Aid (organized in 1893), The Evening League, The Women's Missionary Society, The Church School, the choir, The Children of the Church, The Explorers, The C.G.I.T., and an annual Vacation Bible School.

The present board of managers are: Messrs: P. Hopkins (chairman), D. J. McBurney (treasurer), T. K. Agnew, W. G. Agnew, W. H. Fry, R. McPherson, W. Muir, G. A. Rollins and R. VanDusen.

The following are the members of the present Kirk Session: the Reverend W. W. MacNeill (moderator), J. G. McBurney (clerk of the session), W. F. McPherson, J. C. Duthie, W. M. Duthie, H. A. McArter and T. K. Agnew.

## HARTNEY HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

On Friday, October 21st, 1949, a number of parents, teachers and interested friends met in the Hartney School to discuss the possibility of organizing a Home and School Association. Mrs. Evenden, a member of the provincial executive, was present, and outlined the aims and objects of the association. F. K. Breakey was chosen as the first president, with Mrs. K. Agnew as secretary. The first project undertaken by the newly formed association was the purchase of a film projector, assisted by several local groups, which has proved a source of much value through the years. Another worthy project was the serving of hot lunches to country children at noon, under the direction of Mrs. R. Graham.

Many interesting films and special talks have been seen and heard by the members, while items by local school children have added from time to time to the entertainment enjoyment. The Home and School is not a money-raising organization, the only funds raised being through collections, teas, etc.

When the new Hartney School was built and opened in January, 1955, the Home and School sponsored a kitchen shower that was so successful it almost furnished the entire kitchen with necessary equipment.

The yearly growth of the Home and School Association has definitely proved its value to all homes and schools that are interested enough to give it the assistance it should be given. Presidents of the Hartney Home and School Association from 1949 to 1957 are: K. F. Breakey, Rev. W. Donogh, Mr. Williams, J. G. McBurney.

## AVONDALE CHAPTER, ROYAL ARCH MASONS

The Avondale Chapter, Royal Arch Masons was instituted on May 2nd, 1907, with a charter membership of 21 by ex-Companions Baine, Willis and Buckingham, of Corinthian Chapter, Boissevain, Man. Members of various lodges in the district were present.

The following officers were installed: J. C. W. Reid, Z.; J. H. Sharpe, J.; W. E. Crawford, S. N.; J. C. Callender, S.S.; F. Hill, treasurer; J. U. Johnston, H.; C. D. Batty, S. E.; E. S. Logie, P.S.; W. McDonald, J.S.; E. Underhill, janitor; R. Shore, 1st V.; G. Coulter, 2nd V.; J. Duthie, 3rd V.; W. B. Muir, 4th V.

The Avondale Chapter will be celebrating their 50th anniversary since organization in October, 1957, when Grand Chapter officers are expected to be present. This will be held on the third Tuesday in October.

Charter members were: J. C. Walker Reid, Jos. Johnston, Jas. Gray, C. D. Batty, Rich Shore, John Scott, Jas. Innes, Frank Hill, Jas. Duthie, Wm. Hopkins, Chas. Redpatch, W. B. Muir, G. A. Coulter, John Hunter, Wm. McDonald, Jas. Sharpe, J. C. Callander, E. S. Logie, Thos. Carson, Ed Underhill and W. E. Crawford.

## HARTNEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Some time before January, 1914, Miss Annie Playfair, who was at that time editor of the "Hartney Star," called the women of the district together for the purpose of forming a Home Economics Society. The Hartney charter for that society is dated January 9th, 1914. The first directors and charter members were:

Mrs. E. Hodgson, president; Mrs. W. H. B. Hill, vice-president; Mrs. Thos. Fry, second vice-president; Mrs. Will Scharff, secretary-treasurer; Mrs. H. Perrin, Mrs. J. Scharff, Mrs. A. McDonald, Mrs. C. Forbes, Mrs. W. J. Jasper, Mrs. H. Cowan, Mrs. W. Hicks, Mrs. H. McArter, Mrs. G. Wells, Mrs. W. Forbes, Mrs. J. A. Callander, Mrs. A. Rollins, Mrs. F. Underhill, Mrs. Sutton, Mrs. T. Hopkins, Mrs. W. McDonald, Mrs. S. Blair, Mrs. Gardner, Mrs. Shier, Mrs. Paul, Mrs. A. McDowell, Mrs. D. O'Neil, Mrs. A. Coulter, Mrs. J. Mountain, Mrs. C. R. Somerville, Mrs. W. Robson, Mrs. Lardson, Mrs. Hardy, Mrs. J. White, Mrs. T. Eastman, Mrs. J. Reid, Mrs. D. Storey, Mrs. Wm. McPherson, Mrs. J. Williams, Mrs. J. Dixon, Mrs. E. Somerville, Mrs. Peaslee, Mrs. R. Jackson, Mrs. H. Jackson, Mrs. Turnbull, Mrs. J. J. McBurney, Mrs. Jas. Roper, Mrs. H. Galbraith, Miss Playfair, Miss T. Hopkins, Miss Dale, Miss Jackson, Miss M. White, Miss Marjorie Duthie, Miss Jessie Duthie, and Miss Robinson. The "Home Economics Society" was changed to the "Women's Institute." The new charter No. 31 being dated October 2nd, 1922.

At the third biennial convention of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada, held at Fredericton, N.B., in June, 1923, Miss Annie Playfair had the opening address entitled "Viewpoint of National Women's Institutes," which dealt with the desirability and value of a women's division at Ottawa in the Department of Agriculture.

Down the years the women of the Hartney Home Economics Society for the Women's Institute, as it is now called, have worked tirelessly for the betterment of home and district. The outstanding project undertaken by them was the improvement of the cemetery. They were responsible for the planting of the lovely fir trees in the centre plot. From their efforts interest spread, until today we have a cemetery of which we are proud, maintained by the town council through levies on each plot owner. They have assisted and supported the Tourist Camp, sponsored the 4-H Girls' Club, and the Music and Drama Festival, given help to worthy causes such as cancer, T.B., X-ray surveys, tonsil, dental, blood donor and baby clinics. They have worked for the Red Cross. Prior to the Horticultural Society show, the W.I. sponsored an annual flower show in the Town Hall. To raise the necessary funds, the ladies cater at banquets, produce plays, concerts, etc. This year they had "Gay 90's" tea, with the servers dressed in old-fashioned costumes.

Many of the W.I. members have brought honor to the town. Mrs. Norman Jasper has been convention pianist a number of times, Mrs. Everett Underhill was our district president for five years, and provincial president in 1952-53.

The 1957 officers are: president, Mrs. K. N. MacDonald; vice-president, Mrs. J. A. Fry; secretary, Mrs. N. R. Jasper; treasurer, Mrs. Allan Moffat.

## ST. PAUL'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH LADIES' AID

Although the available records of the Ladies' Aid Society to St. Paul's Presbyterian Church only go back to March, 1911, other records show that in the year 1893 a group of interested women formed a Ladies' Aid Society. In 1911 there were 23 members, who met regularly to assist in the spiritual and material aspects of the church life. The 1911 officers were: president, Mrs. C. A. Campbell; vice-president, Mrs. John Scott; second vice-president,

Mrs. W. McDonald; secretary, Mrs. M. I. Forbes; assistant secretary, Mrs. A. McDonald; treasurer, Mrs. A. Coulter; assistant treasurer, Mrs. G. Morrison; organist, Mrs. A. Coulter. It is interesting to note that the present Ladies' Aid Society follows the tradition set by its predecessors. To this date the society caters to the Fair Day dinner, with one exception, the price of the meal in by-gone days was 35 cents.

Officers for 1957 are: president, Mrs. H. A. McArter; vice-president, Mrs. N. Agnew; secretary, Mrs. M. V. Duchesneau; treasurer, Mrs. W. Duthie; pianist, Mrs. A. Muir.

## ST. PAUL'S EVENING LEAGUE

On January 20th, 1946, a group of young women gathered at the home of Mrs. Everett Underhill to organize an evening group of St. Paul's Presbyterian Church. The officers elected were: president, Mrs. R. J. Wood; vice-president, Mrs. T. Ballance; secretary, Miss V. Muir; treasurer, Miss Ruth Free; other committees were also formed. The named decided upon was the Junior League, but this has since been changed to the Evening League. The main object of the group is to assist spiritually and financially with the work of the church. An annual bazaar is one of its big projects. On June 23rd, 1947, the Evening League affiliated with the W.M.S. to assist in the mission work of the church. The officers for 1957 are: president, Mrs. A. P. MacDonald; vice-president, Miss Mary Ross; secretary, Mrs. R. Vandusen; treasurer, Mrs. R. McPherson.

## HISTORY OF HARTNEY BAND

In the spring of 1896, Fred Woodhull and a few businessmen called a meeting in the former's drug store for those who were interested in organizing a band. Dr. Woodhull was elected bandmaster over the 15 members of the newly-formed "Hartney Brass Band."

Some members bought their own instruments, but a ladies' group generously raised \$169.00 to help pay for instruments. At once instructions in music and the playing of band instruments was begun. By late summer the band made its first appearance in public, when it played at a picnic attended by people from many miles around. This was held at the new stone farm-home of Moses Calverley. The band also played at the laying of the foundation stone of the Anglican Church. To raise funds, concerts were given, and music furnished at the skating rink. The next spring, under the leadership of Jack Shellston, attired in new blue tunics and caps, with patent leather peaks, the band played at numerous picnics and lawn parties.

Two years later Dr. Woodhull again became the leader. In December, 1902, the band supplied music for the opening of the old rink. They played two nights a week at the rink, for 23 seasons. Mr. Walton, an experienced bandmaster, conducted the band for two years. After his departure, Dr. Woodhull once more led the band. Because so many of the members left town at this time, the band was discontinued until 1910, when W. E. Crawford became manager and reorganized the group. In new uniforms of brown tunics with white pants and caps another busy season commenced. That year at the Hartney Fair, they played "Star of the East" for 45 minutes for a drill performed by 50 girls. In 1915 Russell Spencer was appointed assistant bandmaster, as Dr. Woodhull's health forced him to take a less active part. The band disbanded again during the First World War owing to so many of the members having joined the services.

In March, 1919, with Mr. R. R. Perry as manager and Mr. Spencer as

leader, the band started up again; they were now known as the Hartney Citizens' Band. Their many engagements soon made them a self-supporting organization. A special highlight in the history of the band was a mass band under the leadership of Bandmaster H. Simm of Virden. Six bands from Virden, Hartney, Souris, Melita, Oak Lake and Elkhorn took part. These 135 players played at Sunday concerts in all six towns. In 1930 Ralph Scott re-organized the band, this time with quite a few girls and young boys among the players. In 1956, under the leadership of Keith Agnew, the band was again in circulation. It has already played in public. This organization has throughout the years been an asset to the Hartney community. (Fred Simpson is still living in Brandon. His grandson, James Simpson's son, is the present bandmaster of the Salvation Army Band.)

#### THE HARTNEY JOY GIRLS

The Hartney Joy Girls concert troupe was organized and directed by Mrs. Harold Gordon, who came to Hartney in 1924, when her husband took over Dr. Riddell's practice. Mrs. Gordon and her sisters, Edith and Dorothy Mackay, had been professional dancers in Scotland and the United States. They soon formed a dancing class of 25 teen-age girls. Mrs. Gordon was an excellent teacher and a strict disciplinarian. During the years 1925 and 1926 many concerts were given in Hartney and the surrounding towns. Their program consisted of novelty dancing, singing, ballet, etc. A play entitled "A Modern Cinderella" was the feature one season. The girls were assisted in this production by Mrs. Alex McDonald, Mrs. D. W. Storey, and Mrs. J. W. McCarter. The Joy Girls provided entertainment at local fairs, and at the Brandon Winter Fair in 1926. As well as the excellent training received by the girls, the organization provided lasting benefit to the town. The velvet curtains, still in use at the Town Hall, were purchased by the Joy Girls, and the first bathing hut at the river was built by them. When the troupe disbanded, their money was voted to the newly-formed Golf Club, and the present club house was built. A plaque in the club house records the event, and lists the following names:

Mrs. H. Gordon, director; dancers: Dorothy Mackay, Helen Nixon, Rachel Ramsay, Betty Houck, Hannah McCarter, Doris White, Christabel Ramsay, Lizzie Sellers, Dorothy McKenzie, Annie Taylor, Hilda Youd, Bernice Kirkland, Avril Scharff, Aileen Ramsay, Ethel White, Mary McKenzie, Mamie Shannon, Mary Lee, Jean Shannon, Mary Dawydowski, Peggy McCarter, Marjory Stidston, Jessie Taylor, Margaret Jasper, Nellie Taylor, and Isabel Duchesneau. Pianists: Miss Edith McMillan and Miss Martha Somerville. Violinist: Frank White. (Dr. and Mrs. Gordon now live in Louisville, Kentucky.)

#### HARTNEY HOSPITAL AID

During the year 1951 the hopes and dreams of many people in the community were about to be realized. A hospital was to be built during the next year. The women of the town and district were ready to assume their responsibility for this project. On November 23rd, 1951, the women of Hartney and the surrounding districts met in the Legion Hall. Mr. M. McDonald, member of the Souris Area Board, presided, introducing three guests from Souris, Mrs. Fawlie, president of the Souris Hospital Aid; Mrs. Grant, sewing convener, and Mr. G. H. Grant of the Souris Hospital Board. These speakers outlined the aims of a Hospital Aid, and the great service it could afford to a hospital. Following discussion it was unanimously agreed to organize a Hospital Aid Society for the Hartney Community Hospital. The first board

of directors was named as follows: Mrs. W. P. Cowan, Mrs. R. Crowe, Mrs. C. Moir and Mrs. T. Kilby, Hartney; Mrs. S. Roper, Meigund; Mrs. E. Jones, Westhall; Mrs. J. G. McBurney, Whitewater; Mrs. R. G. Jasper, Deleau; Mrs. H. Flick, Grande Clariere; Mrs. R. Hicks, Lauder; Mrs. G. McBrien, Lauder, and Mrs. W. Whetter, Dand.

Mrs. W. P. Cowan was elected first president; Mrs. S. Roper, secretary; Mrs. T. Kilby, treasurer; Mrs. C. Moirs, ways and means, and Mrs. J. G. McBurney, buying and sewing. Money was raised all through the winter. In April, 1952, the Hospital Aid pledged \$750.00 of a \$2,000 guarantee required by the building committee, to cover unexpected costs, and agreed to co-operate in selecting and purchasing furnishings. A shower for small equipment and articles for kitchen and laundry and nurses' residence was held, supported to the hilt. At this time the hospital building was almost completed except for water, water pressure equipment and decorating. At the annual meeting in December, 1952, the Hospital Aid decided to affiliate with the Manitoba Women's Hospital Auxiliaries Association. \$2,008.00 had been raised this first year. By June, 1953, the hospital was ready for occupancy. On June 19th, prior to admitting the first patients, a Hospital Aid Tea and open-house was held at the hospital. In spite of a very rainy day, many people visited the new hospital to view its modern equipment and attractive furnishings. The official opening of the hospital was held November 11th, 1953, in the Town Hall and at the hospital, with the Hospital Aid acting as hostess.

Each year a membership drive is held. During the past five years \$7,687.00 has been raised. \$5,906.00 has been used for new equipment, furnishings and linen. In addition goods and pantry shower donations have amounted to \$2,687.00. The Hartney Hospital has given four years of valuable service to the town and community, and the women may be justly proud of their privilege and opportunity to share in this service.

#### MULVEY L.O.L. NO. 1613

On January 15th, 1892, R.W. Bro. Wm. Connelly, Grand Lodge secretary, journeyed to Hartney, bringing with him a warrant issued by the Grand Orange Lodge of Manitoba, on November 19th, 1891. A Loyal Orange Lodge was duly organized in Hartney, and the name of the said lodge was Mulvey L.O.L. No. 1613. It was named after Major Stewart Mulvey, the first Grand Master of Manitoba. The first slate of officers elected were: W. M., Joe Young; recording secretary, B. Andrew; financial treasurer, R. J. Taylor; D.M., Geo. Pettypiece; D.C., W. C. Robinson; treasurer, Wm. Magwood.

A committee was formed to find a suitable place to hold meetings. A suitable place was found over Chapin's lumber yard office, better known now as the municipal offices. Later the old Webb School was purchased and fixed up as a lodge room. The first 12th of July celebration was held in Hartney in 1894. From May 31st, 1901, to November, 1908, the records were destroyed when the recording secretary's home was destroyed by fire. In 1921, the Mulvey L.O.L. purchased a banner to head the lodge on the 12th of July and other parades. During 1927 Manitoba celebrated her 60th birthday and the Orangemen of Manitoba held the 12th of July celebration in Winnipeg. Mulvey L.O.L. entered a float in the Hartney 1st of July celebration. The float was in the shape of an ocean liner. It won first prize. In 1931 the Mulvey L.O.L. held its 40th birthday celebration. Hartney had the honor of having the Grand Master of Manitoba with them on this occasion, along with thirteen other lodges. J. Gibson, retiring master, presented to the lodge in 1935 two paintings by Miss M. R. Black. One in the form of a memorial tablet which

contained the names of deceased members, and the other in the form of a register to record the names of the past masters of Mulvey L.O.L. In 1942 Mulvey celebrated its 50th anniversary, with seven outside lodges being present. In 1945 the Orangemen painted their hall.

This year, 1957, Mulvey L.O.L. are preparing to celebrate the 12th of July in Hartney. This occasion will be held in conjunction with the 75th Anniversary of the Town of Hartney and Municipality of Cameron. 1957 officers are: W.M., R. Delmage; D.M., Joe Thomas; recording secretary, J. G. McBurney.

## HISTORY OF ST. ANDREW'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, HARTNEY

The first meeting of the founders of the St. Andrew's Anglican Church took place in March of 1894. Previously the Rev. Wm. Albert Butterworth had held services since 1892 in Bateman's Hall, in a building owned by J. Sparrow. The first officers were: wardens, J. Sparrow and Dr. Gahan; auditors: W. B. Muir and C. D. Batty; supt., Mr. Hallen; secretary-treasurer, Mr. Sparrow; vestry: E. C. Nixon, W. E. Crawford, Mr. Pettypiece, Mr. Batty, Mr. Muir, Robert Taylor and Mr. Hallen.

The first recorded baptism was that of Henry, son of W. E. Crawford. This took place at Mr. Butterworth's home in January, 1893. Four other baptisms took place that same year in the Orange Hall: Wm. Dooley, John Sparrow, James Jones and Herbert C. Batty. H. C. Batty is thus the only person living in Hartney now, who was a member of St. Andrew's Church at its inception.

The first baptism in the church was Myrtle Ellen Shepherd on June 8th, 1895. One of the first marriages in the church was that of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Moore of Elgin. The name St. Andrew's was chosen by Mr. Muir and Mr. Nixon in memory of their hometown church at Grimsby, Ontario, one of the oldest churches in Canada. The church was built by J. E. Sparrow at a cost of \$1,500, of which \$500 was raised in cash. The cornerstone was brought from Boissevain by team and wagon by R. Taylor and Ben Roper. The cornerstone was laid by J. Ovas, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba. The rector's stipend in 1896 was \$250.00 per year.

Mr. Butterworth remained as rector until 1897. The Rev. John Gibson was rector from 1899 until 1906. The Rev. D. J. Hull succeeded him in 1906. The Rev. G. Brownlee was rector from 1910 to 1912. Mr. Drysdale was choir leader and Mr. Harris organist, until 1911, when Miss Isobel Woodhull was appointed to the position which she held until 1923.

The Rev. C. A. Blay began his ministry in Hartney on June 23rd, 1912, and remained for ten years, which is the longest recorded time of office. At the annual meeting in April, 1914, the ladies of the congregation were for the first time granted the right to vote on church affairs. On October 24th, 1915, the church was consecrated by His Grace Archbishop Matheson of Rupertsland. The faded pennant which holds a place of honor in the church, was carried through France and Belgium in the First World War and bears the names of the men in the Hartney platoon. The plaque bearing the names of the boys who served in the Second World War was dedicated by Bishop Thomas on Easter Sunday, 1947.

In 1919, November 30th, the 25th anniversary of St. Andrew's Anglican Church was celebrated with His Grace the Archbishop of Rupertsland taking the services. C. D. Batty held the post of people's warden for 33 years. W. H. B. Hill was rector's warden for the longest period of anyone holding office. They were both made honorary life wardens. Mrs. Geo. Moir has been a mem-

ber of the St. Andrew's choir since the year 1908. The 50th anniversary of the church was held in November, 1944, when the services were in charge of Rev. J. McKinney. The Rev. George Morrison, now minister at St. Mary's Church, Brandon, was the rector in 1947, during which time he was stationed at Deloraine. The Rev. Lionel Rowe was rector from 1948 to 1951 when he moved in Innisfall, Ontario. The Rev. Orval Spencer came in 1952. He moved to Pilot Mound in 1955, and the present rector, Rev. T. Thurlow, took over the parishes of Elgin, Hartney and Fairfax.

The Rev. A. Syms, Souris, and Rev. G. E. Cox, Deloraine, have also taken many of the services at St. Andrew's. The passing of Bishop Thomas in Brandon saddened many of his friends in the parish. The present Bishop of Brandon, Ivor Norris, was consecrated and ordained at St. Matthew's Cathedral in April, 1950. Mrs. E. C. Nixon, Mrs. F. White, and Mrs. B. Roper were made life members in 1929, and Mrs. G. Moir, in 1953, by the St. Andrew's W.A. St. Andrew's Church was completely redecorated for the celebration of its 60th anniversary in November, 1954, and a stained glass window purchased in memory of the pioneers of the church. This will be installed in 1957 by the Women's Auxiliary of the church.

## HARTNEY SPORTS

Sports carried on in the district in 1897 were skating, lacrosse, curling, football, cricket, lawn tennis, checkers and quoits.

Early curling was in a rink on the west side of the railway, with two sheets of ice. The building was put up each fall and taken down in the spring. Everyone played. "The Big Four" of those days was Ossie Shore, Jim McArter, Bill Hunter and Angus McDonald. The new rink and agricultural building opened for skating and curling in 1902, has two curling sheets and the skating ice. Many hockey and curling games were staged there for close to fifty years.

In 1947, work started on the present Memorial Rink, and in 1950, when it was completed, Hartney had its first annual "open" bonspiel. This was by no means the first open bonspiel at Hartney, as for years the skaters' ice has been confiscated for the open 'spiels.

The present rink has three sheets of curling ice and a fine skating and hockey rink, each under its own roof, but connected across the front. The skating ice is still used for the bonspiel. Many fine curlers have been produced in Hartney. In the 1951 bonspiel at Souris, the Hartney rink of Garry Scharff, Brock Henry, Cy. Moir and Norman Briggs had ten straight wins in the main events, and the grand aggregate.

The ladies also have an active Curling Club, which stages annual bonspiels with rinks from neighboring towns.

Lacrosse was popular in the early days—each town had its team. Hartney won the provincial championship in 1898, when their homecoming was something to be remembered. The whole town turned out to welcome the team.

There were eight or ten football teams, mostly in the country districts.

The original tennis courts were on the C.P.R. property north of the station; later three fine courts were made south of the station, and these were enjoyed until sometime during the First World War. Later, the Tennis Club was reorganized, and although it was forced to compete with golf, it enjoyed a few more years of new life during the early 1920's, on the courts at the north end of East Railway Street. Golf finally won out, and tennis was a thing of the past. Many Hartney tennis players learned the game on Miss Hopkins' grass courts which she for years kept for her family of boarders and her friends.

A checkers club thrived in the nineties, as did quoiting. Not so long ago many horseshoe battles were staged on the C.P.R. property in front of the hotel.

In the early 1900's, lacrosse gave way to baseball. Outstanding players were Harvey and Charlie Woodhull, the Shore boys, Billy and Jimmy Armstrong, Connie Riddell and Casey Graham. Old-timers will be able to recall others. In 1907, Hartney won the Southwestern League. From then to the present, baseball has had its ups and downs, and today we appear to be leading for a good season, due largely to the formation three years ago of the "Junior Sports Club." This club takes care of about 40-45 boys in hockey, as well as baseball, and is under the management of Darcy Reynolds, who states "of all the good things I've done, I've had the most fun out of this." He is assisted in this work by Keith Agnew and Art Cowan. In 1956 the Junior boys were in the baseball playdowns, and in 1957 they were in the hockey playdowns. Hockey has also had its good season, with many of the same boys playing as we found on the baseball teams. In hockey there were also Bill Kirkland and Sandy McArter. Our Junior boys are doing well in hockey: in 1955 they lost only one game in 15; in 1956 they lost two games in 15, and in 1957 lost 4 in 13.

In 1950 a figure skating club was formed with 76 members present for the first evening. This club has put on a fine show each spring, with the exception of 1957, when no show was held.

Hartney business girls have a lively and well organized softball club which attends many neighboring sports days. Last year, under the coaching of Bill Chapin, they won first money at Souris, Deloraine and Grande Clairiere. Mr. Chapin's coaching job is taken over by Dennis Booth for 1957. The girls are starting out the season with new uniforms, purchased with the proceeds of a dance, and new caps donated by Earl Ramsey.

#### GRAND BEND COMMUNITY AND SCHOOL

(Written by the late Miss Mary Landreth in 1951)

It gives me a great deal of pleasure as one of the older living residents of the Grand Bend district, to tell something of the history of the early days. My father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Landreth, with their young family of seven, arrived in May, 1891, from Ontario, and bought the farm we still call home. But you may be surprised to know that there were more people and homes there, than now. I am not sure who would be the earliest settlers. Possibly the year 1882 would see the arrival of the first ones, and I would say they would include, Mr. John Ramsey, Mr. Hicks, the Shillingtons, Cheynes, Bell, Mann, Baker, Duthie, Lister, Smiley, Alcock and Beamon, and in about that order. Some drove up from Emerson others came from Brandon, and some came in from the south. Deloraine had a railway from the east about 1886, but the railway from Brandon to Hartney was not put in until 1890, and continued west to Pierson in 1891. The main trail into the west angled across the Melgund district, up the road past the Grand Bend ravine, then across country in the direction of Melita. There was also a trail, some of it is still in sight, up the north side of the Souris River. It was in the summer of 1889 that the folk in the district started to plan a school. The district comprising Sections 19 to 36, was formed and named Grand Bend, we believe, by some one who had come from near a village of that name in Huron County, Ontario. The first trustees appointed were Messrs. R. Mann, S. Baker, W. T. Shillington, and the secretary, M. M. Baker. Tenders were requested for the erection of a school house, and J. W. Alcock was given the contract at a cost

of \$675.00. The school was opened in February, 1890. The first teacher was J. H. Cameron, but owing to illness in the spring of 1891, his term was completed by Will Mann. The school house was also the centre of all religious services, after it was completed. Prior to that time there was a student minister at Melgund. The Rev. J. H. Joslyn was the first ordained minister of the Methodist Church to hold services at Hartney, Melgund and Grand Bend, from 1889 to 1892. The Rev. Samuel Polson held services for the Presbyterians, until their church was built at Lauder in 1892. There was a great religious awakening when evangelistic services were held at Melgund and Grand Bend in early 1891, conducted by the Misses Judd. There was a good Sunday School and a flourishing Christian Endeavor Society, and very often weekly prayer meetings. However, with the arrival of the railway in 1891, came the village of Lauder. A railway station, Mr. Sam Scott's elevator, his house, a Roman Catholic church, a hardware and general store, etc. The Methodists moved their services to Lauder in 1893, when the Rev. Thompson Ferris was the pastor. The services were held for some years in the hall. When the Presbyterians changed their hour of service to evening, the Methodists changed theirs to the morning. Mr. McVicar was the first station agent, and Mr. Muirhead, the first section foreman, Miss Jessie Rawson, the first teacher, Mr. Archie Hunter, the first blacksmith, with businessmen, Messrs. Moore, Young, Challoner and Duffy. As the land gradually became broken up, the old trails were abandoned, and the road allowances put to use. It was a friendly neighborhood for both young and old. People visited each other in those days unannounced. There were many house parties. The telephone was not installed until 1909, but there were good driving horses, and comfortable buggies and cutters to ride in as well as sleighs, and people used them.

The Grand Bend school house has been closed for several periods during its sixty odd years, and we still hope to see it running once more. It was never enlarged, but it has a good foundation. It is well painted, and was re-finished inside. At the present moment it stands silent and empty at the turn of the highway. Many of its early teachers have since held responsible positions, and we hope its many scholars have taken their places efficiently and faithfully in the world. The early settlers took time to plant trees, and they add greatly to the appearance of the district now. We have come a long way from the days of the early sod or log houses and stables, the oxen, and the walking plow, to the well-built houses and barns of today. The automobiles, tractors, power machinery, furnaces, bathrooms, and electric power.

A few of the earlier teachers were: Miss Lillian Beynon, Harvey Clare, Miss Burland, George Oliver, Dave Dorrance, Miss Edmondson, Miss C. Campbell, Miss I. Fox. Some of the later ones were: Miss Alice Jordan, Miss Mary Jordan, Jean Bent, and Miss Isobel Drummond. Now our school stands closed, and the children attend the Lauder School.

#### MELGUND SCHOOL DISTRICT

Rose School District was organized in 1884, and in 1901 the name was changed to the Melgund School District. It was in the Municipalities of White-water and Brenda, the Counties of Turtle Mountain and Souris River. No mention is made in the minutes of the Cameron Municipality until 1902. Melgund received its name from Lord Melgund, who came out from Scotland, but we are not sure of all the particulars of the story. In 1903 the present school board were J. M. Fee, secretary-treasurer, and Wm. Callander, chair-

man. Ratepayers present at the first meeting were: David Callander, Robert Livingstone, James Duthie, W. J. Higgins, A. H. McGaffin, W. Cross, and Robert Callander. Mr. D. Cram was the first school-teacher, 1885-1887. His great-grandson, Rykie Cram, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Cram, is attending the school now.

Among the first settlers in the district were: J. M. Fee, S. F. Long, B. Roper, W. J. Higgins, Wm. Callander, H. White, A. H. McGaffin and James Duthie.

The Melgund post office was at the home of W. J. Higgins, the property now owned by A. G. McBrien. The mail was brought from Deloraine.

The Melgund Methodist Church was built in 1892, but religious services were held in the district long before that. The earliest services were conducted by Mr. W. Callander, a local resident who lived where R. W. Mitchell now lives. The first minister to conduct a service was Rev. Harrison from Souris, who also held it in the Callander home. When the school was built in 1885, church services were held there. The Rev. T. Ferrier of Deloraine, and the Rev. T. Beynon of Souris officiated. The first resident minister was W. H. McHaffie, a student who boarded at the McGaffin home, near where Wm. Morrison Jr. now lives. When the Rev. J. H. L. Joslyn came, he was a married man, so a parsonage was built near the ravine west of the school. After a couple of years the railway arrived in Hartney, and it was decided to move the parsonage there. All the ministers resided there in the years following, until Melgund was changed to the Lauder circuit. A board of thirteen trustees, Mr. J. Dunning being one of them, were appointed to arrange for the building of the church. Money was raised by local donations, and some farmers gave an acre of wheat to the building fund. The land for the site was donated by Mr. John Shillington. The stone for the foundation was drawn from Chain Lakes by Mr. E. A. Shillington, and lumber from Hartney, by several of the residents of the district. The church was heated at first by two stoves, the wood being drawn from the Turtle Mountain. On the 27th November, 1892, the church was dedicated. The pianist was Miss M. White, and the choir leader, Harvey Callander. The choir were: Hannah Keeler, Annie Callander, Priscilla Black, Lottie Black, Mrs. Doupe, Lizzie Keeler, Curt Callander, Ira McConnell, Hugh Thornton, Jack McLean, Ceph Campbell, and Bill White. They tell us they were the best choir west of Lake Superior. The first secretary was S. Long, who also taught the young people's class for several years. The first Sunday School superintendent was Mr. Fee. The first wedding in the church was October 16th, 1895, when Mary Elizabeth Keeler was married to Robert Sibbald.

In 1910 the Melgund Church was removed from the Hartney circuit and added to Lauder.

The Melgund Women's Missionary Society was organized on April 23rd, 1896, by a Miss Hargreaves, who was on furlough from Japan. Of the seven charter members, there is only one surviving member, Mrs. H. Shillington. The first president was Mrs. McGaffin. The late Miss M. J. White served as president for twenty-six years. In 1956, this auxiliary observed its sixtieth anniversary. The Mission Band was organized in 1897, and is still active.

The Melgund Community Club was organized in the fall of 1935, with A. Keeler as president, and Miss Myrtle Thomas as secretary. Meetings were held every two weeks during the fall and winter months, and a committee of four appointed at each meeting to be responsible for entertainment. The admission fee was set at five cents per person, but was later changed to ten cents for adults. It has functioned continually since that time, and has added much to the social life of the district.

On March 19th, 1947, a meeting was held in the Melgund School to determine whether the building of a curling rink in the district would be feasible. At a meeting held in April, the Melgund Rink Association was formed with A. G. McBrien as president and Mel Turnbull as secretary. Arrangements were made to build a one-sheet curling rink. The building was constructed in the fall of 1947 by volunteer labor and was financed by individual donations. Since then it has served as a recreation centre during the winter months, providing good sport and keen competition. It has a membership of around thirty people, and is affiliated with the Manitoba Curling Association.

#### TREMBLAY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 707

The Tremblay School No. 707 was built in 1890 on Section 34-4-25, and was moved in 1909 to Section 26-4-25, where it still stands. The first teacher in charge was Miss Rhoda Cates of Napinka. Teachers from 1895 to 1946, when the school closed down, were:

Harry Dewitt, Miss Perrin, Mr. Pope, Mr. Jones, Miss McKey, Miss Ferrain, Miss Dugaid, Miss M. Johnston, Miss E. Timby, Miss L. Taylor, Miss Marie White, Miss Jessie Andrews, Miss Net Slater, Miss Hammond, Miss L. Wall, Miss Leta Ballard, Miss Emily Stoddard, Miss Mae Lee, Miss H. Burchill, Miss Irene Baskier, Miss Aileen Dale, Miss Julia Dyer, Miss McElrea, Mrs. F. Chandler, Miss P. Amey, Miss S. Brigden.

Names of old-timers in the district when the school opened in 1890 were: Titus, Brigden, Cates, White, Delfasse, Bucklin, Rutledge, McKim, Sweet, Woods, La Viegn, Bowles, Couling, Orser, Hall and Chapman.

The first pupils attending the school were: E. J. Hall, Stillman Brigden, Beatrice Brigden, Julia and Susan La Viegn.

The first trustees on the school board were: Rufus Cates, Wm. Brigden, A. E. Slater, secretary. The present trustees are: A. W. Brigden, Ed Couling and Ken Hall.

#### TRURO SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 450

The history of Truro School District No. 450 dates back to June 2nd, 1886, when a ratepayers' meeting was held at the home of N. Barnes, to consider the building of a school and the issuing of debentures. Present at that meeting were: R. Grieve, V. E. Casselman, W. Luke, W. Duthie, H. H. Barnes and R. T. Logan.

On June 6th, 1886, Albert McBurney's tender for the building of a new school, was accepted. The building material was hauled from Brandon. The school was built on the north half of Section 10-5-24, on the farm of R. T. Logan. The first board of trustees were V. E. Casselman, chairman; W. Luke, and R. T. Logan, secretary-treasurer. The school was officially opened on September 1st, 1886. The first teacher was Mr. William Powell, who was engaged at a salary of \$25.00 per month. He boarded at the home of Mr. Barnes. The first pupils attending school were: Sam Hanna, Mabel Hanna, Richard and William Barnes, Frances, Alberta and Orton Logan, and Allan Luke. Settlers in the district at that time were: H. Hanna, Jack Wright, Fred Wright, Archie Coates, Alex McIntosh, W. Luke, V. E. Casselman, Robt. Grieve, Walter Grieve, H. H. Barnes and R. T. Logan.

A political meeting, the first to be held in this part of the country, was held in the school-house on September 17th, 1886. Among those present were the Hon. Thomas Greenway, Leader of the Opposition, and C. Biggs of Winnipeg. Mr. Pollock was the teacher in 1887, followed by Miss Cox in 1888. A few years later the school-house was moved to the south half of the section

owned by R. T. Logan. In the early years the school was closed during the winter months, but church services were held there regularly until the Presbyterian Church was built in the 90's.

In 1901 considerable repair work was done to the school building. New plaster and flooring, and the addition of a porch. In 1917, the school was moved once more, this time two miles east to the southwest corner of Section 15-5-24, on the farm of C. Brownell. The site was purchased from him for the sum of \$70.00, plus \$15.00 for damage to the crop. The original building still on this site, but the school has been closed since 1944. The present pupils attend Melgund and Lauder Schools. The present board of trustees are H. Keeler, chairman; A. Turner and R. Morden, with L. H. Keeler as secretary-treasurer. From 1886 to 1944, forty-six teachers were in charge of the children in the district.

#### FACTS FROM THE EARLY HISTORY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE LAUDER DISTRICT

These few facts from the early history of the Presbyterian Church in the Lauder district were taken from two old minute books and from notes in Mr. Robert T. Logan's diary, and were written down and read at the 50th anniversary of the building of the Methodist Church, July 4 and 5, 1954.

Although the Presbyterian Church held the first services in the immediate neighborhood, Methodist service was the first to be held in the community. As early as 1883 Rev. J. M. Harrison travelled on horseback from Napinka to Melgund to hold meetings in the home of Mr. Wm. Callendar on the farm now owned by R. N. Mitchell. The little house at the back now used as a garage was the first meeting house in the district. Neighbors travelled by horse-team as far as five miles to attend service.

At a public meeting held September 5, 1885, in Mr. Wm. Luke's house, now the farm home of Mrs. Edith Couling, the Presbyterian Church was established here.

The following managers were elected: Mr. R. T. Logan, J. N. Higgins, Robert Arthur and Mr. Fleming from the river farm later owned by Ed. Irvine and now by Ted Dale. Later Mr. Jas. Duthie was added to the list.

At the next meeting the field was named Rochester, the name of the man who preached the first sermon in the place. The clerk, Robert Logan, was authorized to write the Home Mission Board asking that they send a laborer to their earliest convenience. Mr. Cummings arrived the 7th of June, 1886, and made some visits in the settlement. Sunday, the 13th, he preached in Mr. H. Barnes' home at 10 a.m. to a full house.

Mr. Robert Gow came in October, 1886. His first sermon was from the text, "God so loved the world."

In this year Truro School was built and from that time service was held in the school house. Mr. Gow was minister until 1888.

The managers hoped that hearers would give so liberally there would be no need of subscriptions, just voluntary giving on Sundays. (It didn't turn out that way, however.)

Mr. Duncan followed in the fall of 1888 and preached for a few Sundays, then Mr. Lang and Mr. McGilvary for a short time.

Rev. Samuel Polson became our minister in 1890 and was with us until 1897.

The 25th of March, 1891, Hartney and Lauder joined to become one field. At a joint meeting the name was changed from Whitewater to Hartney. Mr. Coxworth was chairman and Mr. Logan secretary.

At a later date Mr. Vanduzeu was secretary and Mr. Blair, treasurer.

Mr. Polson was a native son of Manitoba with a wonderful fund of the history of the early days. He contended that the Indian was honest until the white man taught him his tricks. If the horses of the white man strayed the Indian would bring them back sometimes from great distances.

It was during Mr. Polson's ministry that the Presbyterian Church was built. Mr. Samuel Niven, cousin of Dr. Patrick, principal of Manitoba College, occupied the pulpit for two years, and Rev. J. A. Bowman was minister from 1900 to 1902.

In 1901 anniversary services were held. Rev. Munroe of Winnipeg was guest speaker. About \$500 was given and the debt wiped out.

On Mr. Bowman's leaving Rev. Tattrie supplied for some Sundays, also Rev. Tykes and Chisholm.

In 1903 Rev. Jas. Russell, who had been in the Klondyke became our minister. Before coming he went home to Ireland and brought with him his bride. In a letter written last Christmas Mr. Russell said many things had happened to them in 1953. He had lost two brothers, both younger than himself, and Mrs. Russell one, and they had celebrated their golden wedding anniversary. He is now retired and living in Kingston, Ontario, after preaching until well on in the 80's.

Rev. McIntosh was pastor in 1905 and 1906.

Rev. Andrew Russell came in May, 1907, and was pastor until 1910, and on the 12th of May both Russells were in the pulpit.

In 1907, March 21, at a joint meeting of the sessions of Lauder and Napinka, these two were united.

Jas. Welsh, R. T. Logan and Norman Leslie formed the session and Rev. Andrew Russell was moderator. This arrangement held until 1916.

Previous to this in the Napinka field the first services given the Mission Station of Napinka were in connection with the Waskada field in the spring of 1892. In the school house of Medora, the 11th of September, the Rev. Jos. White of Melita, by appointment of the Presbytery of Rock Lake, met with the congregation and dispensed sacrament to nine communicants. On the afternoon of the same day he proceeded to the hall, Napinka, and dispensed sacrament to fifteen communicants. The following year there were thirty communicants and in 1894 the Napinka Church was built. Napinka was under the moderatorship of Rev. White, Rev. Walter Beatty and H. L. Kinsman.

In November, 1907, Rev. Jas. Russell, then of Wolseley, Sask., conducted anniversary services.

There were three services, one in the morning on the parable of the vine and branches, one at 1 p.m. to the young people, and the evening subject was the Christian race. Collection in the morning was \$105.55. On Monday evening an entertainment was given in the church. Mr. Russell gave a address on Ireland.

Somewhere in the notes I read that Mr. Logie of Hartney baptized Rev. A. Russell's son, David. This same David is now head of the Education Dept. of the University of Berkeley, California.

Another instance in connection with David might be mentioned. Once the question was asked in Sunday School, I believe, "Who built the church stable?" "I don't know," said David, "but I think it was Paul."

Mr. Russell preached his farewell sermon July 3rd, 1910. He died a short time ago at the home of his daughter, Rhoda Robertson, Bradwell, Sask., at the age of ninety-four.

Rev. Burns, Decker and Hollingshead supplied until the coming of Rev. Muir the first sabbath of 1911.



In this year the managers were Messrs. Logan, Dunlop, Leslie, Moore, Lamont and at a later date, Dr. Riddell was included in the list. It should be mentioned that Mr. Geo. Moore was secretary-treasurer for many years.

A horse and harness were purchased for Mr. Muir. The horse was bought from Mr. John Muldoon for \$165 and the harness for \$18. Ed. Garland was to dig a well.

The days of Mr. and Mrs. Muir in Lauder were saddened by a great sorrow. Two of their sons, Alex. and George, died at the front. Alex. was a young minister.

Mr. Muir preached his farewell sermon November 12, 1916, from Acts 13:16, "To you is the word of this salvation sent and in My Father's words." The sermon was able and appropriate.

The subject was handled in an evangelical and masterly manner, closing with a sealed envelope for the congregation to open and read when they went home. 1 Cor. 16:24. "My love be with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen."

On their leaving Lauder the ladies of the congregation presented Mrs. Muir with cut glass and Mr. Muir with a purse of \$50.

A number of ministers then preached; Mr. Unsworth, Courts, McIvor, Hamilton, Hollingshead and Rev. Beveridge was minister from January to July, 1917.

At this time the Methodist and Presbyterian congregations formed a local union under Rev. Lund's pastorate and he handled the difficult situation admirably.

Mr. Muir had preached a sermon on union in 1912 and a vote was taken. The ballot showed a majority in favor of union.

There was always a good spirit of union at Lauder. It was not like an instance noted by a writer in the Observer where in a certain town, Deloraine, believe, the home of the writer, he told how from the Presbyterian Church came the words, "Will there be any stars in my crown?" and across the street from the Methodist Church came the refrain, "No, not one."

Rev. E. N. Johnson followed Mr. Lund in 1922 and was minister until 1927.

### HISTORY OF LAUDER METHODIST CHURCH, 1890-1917

The history of organized church activity in the Lauder district goes back to the year 1890, when religious services were held in Grand Bend School by the Methodists. The Rev. J. H. L. Joslyn conducted the first services, but when the C.P.R. came through in 1890 he was moved to Hartney. There was an active Epworth League or Christian Endeavor, which was carried on for years, also a Band of Hope temperance instruction for the children.

In 1892 Rev. Thomas Ferrier came, serving the fields until 1895. During his stay church services were moved to Lauder, sometimes in the school and sometimes in a hall over the general store. The Rev. Somerville covered the area as an evangelist until 1898, when he was succeeded by Rev. Chancellor Peeter, who was owner and driver of a fine team. In 1902 he was followed by Rev. D. Kennedy, and Rev. Wm. Pascoe Goand, who remained until the year 1904.

In the fall of 1903 the contract for the building of a Methodist Church was given to Wm. Mains, and brother George, who farmed on the Smiley farm in the Grand Bend district. The church was officially opened February 7th, 1904. The Rev. Russell and Mr. Johnson conducted the services. In July, 1904, Lauder was made a circuit with Bethel and Grandview. The pastor was the

Rev. J. C. Hartley, a young man from the States. He was married to Miss Nellie Gordon, a real helpmate through his long term of preaching. His funeral took place on July 5th, 1954, the day that Lauder celebrated its 50th anniversary, and fifty years since he had taken his first charge. His salary was \$800.00 per year and a free house. The parsonage was built in 1906 at a cost of \$2,025.00. A thriving Sunday School was organized at Bethel and Lauder. A music committee was appointed: Mrs. W. T. S. Shillington, Miss Hattie Shillington and Mr. D. Cram. Dr. Carson and family were here then. They were all good singers. The church membership at that time stood around 59; Lauder 42 and Bethel and Grandview about 12. The preacher's salary was raised to \$1,000 per year. A mortgage of \$1,500 was put on the church in 1906 and cleared off in 1911. In 1908 the Rev. J. W. Aitkins was stationed in the field. The following year changes made by the Arcola, Souris and Deloraine districts affected the Lauder circuit. The change was made in 1910 when Melgund joined Lauder with a membership of 55. Bethel was transferred to Medora, with 34 members. This change was very practical, as it cut down long drives on indifferent roads. When Dr. T. Talbot came to the circuit in 1911, the salary was raised to \$1,200, and the debt on the parsonage paid off. In July, 1914, Rev. J. Gregg became minister, with a family of two girls. Systematic giving was introduced that year, but not accepted at that time.

A Ladies' Guild started up in 1915. The topic of church union was freely discussed and in April, 1917, a vote was taken; 43 members and 31 adherents, voted unanimously in favor of the Presbyterian and Methodist congregations uniting. This became effective July 1st, 1917. The following years were encouraging, probably due to the fact that the First World War was over, bringing normal times again, and the actual results of two congregations making a decided success, working as one. In 1922, the Rev. Lund decided to move, and Rev. E. W. Johnson came to the circuit. In the spring of 1923, the Chain Lakes Board asked to be admitted to the Lauder circuit. This was granted. With a larger field, the salary was increased to \$2,000. The following years were encouraging. The M. and M. Fund was introduced in November, 1925, and an allocation of \$1,000 accepted. The Presbyterian Church was leased to the school board, and an adjacent lot sold to Mr. Joe Ramsey. In 1927 an extension was made to the parsonage, comprising a kitchen and a study. At this time the Rev. W. J. Allen with a family of six came to the field. A new furnace was installed in the church, and again the seating arrangements came up for discussion, but the matter was laid on one side. All the buildings were painted. In April, 1931, the Rev. Allen moved to Brandon, and for three months the Rev. Donough, a student at Brandon College, came out every Sunday. In July, 1931, Rev. H. C. Harris became the pastor. These were the years of the depression and drought, and there was a great deal of field work to do. The salary dropped to \$1,200 for 1932-33. In 1935, the Rev. Harris received a call to go east, and this was granted. In 1935 the Rev. J. Robinson came to the field, willing to accept adverse conditions. His term ended in 1938, and he was succeeded by Rev. A. Carruthers and family of four. Conditions were improving a little, the salary was still \$1,000 with a grant from M.B. of \$250. In 1942 the Rev. H. Dodd became pastor, salary \$1,100 and \$200 for transportation. At the Presbytery Conference this year it was decided to present the Pension Fund, assessing each field a percentage on the salary paid. In 1946 the salary was boosted to \$1,800. The Rev. Dodd received the honor of Doctor of Divinity while with us, and the circuit presented him with his gown.

In 1948, Rev. A. Lockham, an accomplished pianist, came to the field. He took charge of the choir. In August, 1950, the Rev. R. D. Thompson, a

young student from London, Ont., came to the field full of energy. He seemed to keep all organizations functioning, as well as attending well to the Juniors. At the close of his term in 1952, he married Miss Freida Couling of Lauder and moved to Knox United Church, Winnipeg, as assistant. In 1952 the Rev. Ralph Clark, also a young graduate, came to the field, and is still here in 1957. The salary has now climbed to \$3,100 and \$400 for transportation. The church property is kept in good condition; New flooring was put in the parsonage this year, and a new furnace installed last year. A new furnace was placed in the church in 1954.

Today our session comprises: trustees: C. Turner, C. R. Molison, George Phillips; elders: C. Turner, Wallave Keeler, Martin Phillips and Arthur Turner; stewards: Howard Swerdfeger, Art Turner, Gordon Duthie, Chas. Molison, Howard Turner, Leonard Couling, Howard Sadler, and Arnold Ramsey. Treasurer, Wallace Keeler; secretary, Jean Landreth, and pianist, Mrs. W. Keeler.

#### THE LAUDER WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The Lauder Women's Institute was organized at the home of Mrs. Bernard Goodman on February 1st, 1938. Several of the ladies attending the first meeting are still active members, namely: Miss J. Landreth, Mrs. R. Hicks, Mrs. S. Casselman and Mrs. G. Houck.

The two ladies instrumental in organizing the Institute were Mrs. Edith Amey, Tilston, and Mrs. Cosgrove of Napinka.

Mrs. Allan Trollope was the first president, with Mrs. Goodman as secretary, and Mrs. S. Casselman as treasurer.

Down the years it has been a very active organization, aiding in all community projects, and subscribing to worthy causes. Remembering the sick and bereaved, and working together as a club for the betterment of our Homes and Country."

At the present time (1957) there are fourteen members on the roll, who meet together monthly.

#### LAUDER W.C.T.U.

One of the first organizations for women in the Lauder community was the Women's Christian Temperance Union, organized on February 3rd, 1898, with thirteen active members and four honorary members. A meeting was held once a month. The first year a Band of Hope for children was instituted. At one time the membership reached a total of twenty-two with seven honorary members. This was not a money making organization, but they held a lawn social in the summer, and a box social or house party in the winter, to replenish the funds. Donations were made annually to both the Presbyterian and Methodist Churches and to the missions.

The first president was Mrs. E. McRobert; secretary, Mrs. J. Cheyne; treasurer, Mrs. G. Moore. Some of the earliest members were Mrs. J. B. Alcock, Mrs. S. McRobert, Mrs. W. T. Shillington, Mrs. R. J. Rutledge, Mrs. Landreth, Misses M. and J. Landreth, Miss L. Smiley, Mrs. Welsh, Miss R. McRobert, Mrs. Maines, Mrs. A. Morton, Mrs. Tubman, Mrs. R. Phillips, Mrs. W. Hicks, Mrs. J. W. Alcock, Mrs. J. Fee, Mrs. B. Arthur, Mrs. J. H. Keeler, Mrs. Drummond, Mrs. Cram, Mrs. Swerdfeger, Mrs. Hartley, and many others.

The Union members were strong believers in distributing literature and leaflets on smoking, and temperance, etc. The members entered into Gold Medal contests, which were supported for a long time by the Union. They worked hard and earnestly for the good of the whole community, and by their combined efforts and example, we had Local Option in the municipality for many years.

#### LAUDER WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY

The first meeting of the Lauder W.M.S. took place on July 10th, 1913, when Mrs. John Dolmage of Souris, came to Lauder and organized the group. Mrs. Dr. Talbot was elected first president. Membership has been fairly consistent, although the older women have proved to be the devoted W.M.S. members.

The last few years there has been a Baby Band with a membership of 15.

Down the years the honor of being chosen president has been shared by most of the members; some of these were: Mrs. W. T. Shillington, Mrs. M. Landreth, Mrs. Moore, Mrs. Huffman, Miss A. Logan, Mrs. J. Coates, Mrs. A. Hicks, Mrs. R. Reekie, Mrs. H. Dodd, and Miss J. Landreth. Delegates have been sent to the annual Presbyterials and rallies, while other members have attended Leadership School. For many years one or two representatives have been on the executive board of the Presbyterial. Allocations have always been met, and needs supplied.

#### THE LADIES AID OF LAUDER UNITED CHURCH

The first Ladies' Aid to the Lauder Church is recorded as early as 1904. This seemed to function the whole year round. They were responsible for lawn socials, bazaars, pancake suppers, and even anniversary dinners, although there are no items in the minute books to confirm these reports. It was only natural of course, that when a manse and parsonage were built, the women were more or less responsible for their upkeep. In the first twenty years of the century, the ministers in charge furnished their own homes.

When the Presbyterian and Methodist congregations decided on union in 1917, the women's organizations united too.

The W.A. members gave generous donations to the church board, helped with the interior decorating of the church, as well as managing and paying half the cost of the new addition of a kitchen and study, to the manse in 1927.

The women put on a play each year, held Irish Suppers, concerts, bazaars, etc. Very seldom were any of these events cancelled. Their slogan was, "The show must go on." If the roads were bad and motoring was out of the question, the horse and buggy or sleigh could always get through.

Over the past twenty-five years, the members have worked diligently and earnestly. Some of the older members have passed on, but their place has been filled by their daughters, or new members, which has held the membership figure at approximately twenty to twenty-five for years. Through the depression, money was scarce, but the members carried on. Quilts were made clothing re-modelled, and made over for the children; the returns were small from the concerts and suppers, but the women kept things going. Some of the former presidents were: Mrs. Irvine, Mrs. B. Atkinson, Mrs. Moore, Mrs. Huffman, Mrs. Morrison, Mrs. J. Coates, Mrs. R. Hicks, Mrs. W. B. Atkinson, and Miss Jean Landreth. The 1957 president is Mrs. W. Burgess, now in her third year.

#### A BOY REMEMBERS

Morning sunlight struck aslant new fallen snow, and exploded in sparkling brilliance that almost blinded you! Men waded knee-deep in the crisp, clean blanket—trailed by their own frosty breath.

I see that picture as vividly on memory's screen, today, as I saw it in fact on the 9th day of April, 1898—when our family (my father, sister, brother and myself) first arrived in Hartney from Old Ontario.

That picture was the first of many taken in by the wide eyes of a small boy; and filed away in memory's storehouse—to be often overlooked; but never forgotten.

It should be so easy to respond to your request to "just write some of the things you remember" about this western community which was the "home-town" where we grew up; and from whence we went out into the world. But, as I write, the memories so long filed away, spill out in a flood that drowns one in nostalgia! Looking out my window I see, not the busy city street, but memory-pictures of school chums and teachers; of neighbors and characters; of baseball and hockey and lacrosse; of "the old swimmin' hole" and picnics at Morrison's Grove.

The love of the wild which has taken me over so much of North America perhaps began when the old Indian who summered along the Souris, not far from Spencer's Bridge, sold us a bow and two arrows for 50 cents. That was a heap of money. It meant the collection of five dozen six-ounce bottles turned into "Doc" Woodhull's drug store. Most of our archery was practised on the open ground along the railway east of the station. Part of that area was a tennis-court, where Alex Sutherland and Harvey Claire from the bank, and other enthusiasts, held forth. Part of the area provided pasture for Dr. Gahan's tethered cows. On the remainder we played "nobbies"; and, later, lacrosse and baseball.

School days! The snow was gone that day in April, 1898, when my sister led me around to the girls' side of the schoolyard to meet Miss Blanche Hunter. We found her in a sunny corner, wearing a green dress and turning a skipping rope for wee girls of her "first" room. Like hundreds of children through the years, too, we found her one of the finest of primary teachers. Another fine teacher was Miss Calder. Another, of course, was Principal B. J. Hales, whose nose had been broken by a baseball; who had a vast knowledge of Manitoba's botany; and who wielded a disciplinary strap (as we boys could testify).

That lane behind the "front street" was a fascinating trail of adventure. On a summer Saturday morning, you might be one of two or three boys lucky enough to turn the ice-cream freezer in Dave Innis' bake-shop—with the mouth-watering prospect of a heaped dish of ice-cream as your reward! In an old shed back of Macdonald Bros. livery stable, Charlie Woodhull and Walter Farewell staged the greatest of all fights—until Constable Billy Bradley stopped the contest. Walter wandered away. Charlie became probably the best hockey player I have ever seen.

Weather? Yes, I remember a Saturday when Art Fry and myself planned to go to the Sand Hills to pick hazel nuts. The day was the 12th of September; the year '04 or '05. In any case, it snowed! From early morning till night, the heavy snow piled up 18 inches deep. Another year (I think it was 1906) a similar snow on the 6th of June wrecked shade trees which were in full foliage; and brought folks into church on Sunday in cutters and sleighs. Another spring, the Souris flooded, and spread over all the lowlands from the bridge to Cemetery Hill. Harry Paine, the stonemason, built a boat; and rowed folks across the flooded valley.

Then there was the glorious summer when my brother and I herded the town cows on the "school section" in the Sand Hills. We learned that every living animal has its own individual personality. Certainly, each and every one of those cows had! A short-tailed critter (one of three belonging to Mrs. O'Brien at the hotel) caused more trouble than all the other forty. I suppose

that cow has gone to her reward, long since; and I am certain that, if there is a bovine heaven—she is not there!

So many memories! Most will never be recorded. Space is limited in every publication. I learned that lesson while working on the Hartney "Star"—first, folding the single sheet printed on a hand-turned press behind the drugstore; and, later, sweeping out the fine new office of Editor Walpole Murdock.

Written by E. S. Russenholt

## THE HORSE THAT WENT TO CHURCH

Printed in the Onward in 1915

At our home we always had a "ministers' bedroom," because from the very early days students and ministers usually made it their stopping place. One of the early students was Joe Woodsworth, who owned a sorrel roadster named Dan. When Joe went back to college in the fall Dad bought Dan and from then on, he was our transportation to Menteith School, and on Sundays he took us to Bethel Church. In some way that we could never fathom, he knew when to turn left to go to church, and when to turn right, for school. It might have been because of the difference of the hour, or perhaps because on Sunday there might be an adult driving, instead of the children.

In 1911 we got our first car, a torpedo-body gray Case, and the first Sunday we decided that we could all go to church in the car. Dan was turned out to graze, and came through the gate of the corral to find the fresh green grass in the houseyard. At about 10.30 a.m., someone noticed him trotting out the lane and a little while later we passed him almost at the church; in spite of our honking we had to turn out of the ruts, as Dan held the centre one. All through church he waited around in the church yard, and after the Sunday School was dismissed he once again took to the road at a steady trot, and arrived home at the usual time.

Dan never again went to church by himself, but we often wondered if he felt that the day was incomplete without it.

By Annie Robson (now Mrs. J. D. Guild, Winnipeg)

This story was written by C. I. "Kate" Forrest, the daughter of S. H. Forrest, one of Hartney's early school principals, and Grace Woodhull, now living in Souris. Miss Forrest was secretary-treasurer of the Town of Hartney and Municipality of Cameron from 1924 to 1939.

When I went to Hartney in 1923 as assistant to my grandfather, T. B. Woodhull, who had been secretary-treasurer of the Rural Municipality of Cameron and the Town of Hartney since their incorporation, Cameron was completing its first good roads system. There were more and more municipal cheques to sign and Reeve Geo. Morrison used to claim to get "the fikes" over them. My grandfather, with kind intent, had a rubber stamp made, a facsimile of Mr. Morrison's signature, but the bank refused to honor it. Mr. Morrison often groaned, "If had known when I was a young man that I would have to sign my name a million times, I would have cut it down to G. Morison."

W. H. Hill was mayor and town affairs were usually quiet in the early twenties but we had quite a time over the local option vote. Ed. Briggs was scrutineer for the "Wets" but he confided to me that "with beer you get full before you get tight and then you're in misery." It was not until the late thirties that Hartney finally went "wet."

Reeve Morrison had been in office since 1918 and continued until 1943, completing 25 years in the reeve's chair, following two years as councillor.

Laylor Hill was defeated some time in the twenties over an issue I have forgotten and was succeeded by Postmaster C. D. Batty. Mr. Batty always gave the council and staff an oyster supper at Fong's after the last council meeting of the year. Edge Brunson succeeded him and Edge was given to calling special meetings. Finally, begrudging so many lost evenings, I demanded \$2.00 extra per special meeting. That ended them. \$2.00 was money in the late thirties.

When I went to Hartney in 1923 the Municipal Office was in a room above the drug store and it was a tight fit on council meeting days and just before taxes were due. The office equipment consisted of council table and chairs, a small safe, an old Oliver typewriter and that was about all. The little safe had been outgrown long before and we got a fine big new one that would hold all the current records. The old ones were stored in the basement of the drug store and when it flooded I borrowed rubber boots if I had to dig into the past. The day the new safe was hauled up those long stairs under the supervision of Wm. McDonald, it got half way up and tumbled down again, taking with it the corner of the building in R. J. McKenzie's engineering office. R. J. came storming out and Murray McDonald charged out of the drug store below at incredible speed. Fortunately no harm was done to men or safe and not much to the building. The anchor was transferred to telephone poles outside the building and up went the monster.

My grandfather had a proper appreciation of soft water and always collected some from the drainpipe outside the window and kept it in the coal cuttle to water the ink. He used coal-oil to light the fire until the time he turned off his whiskers. He was away a good deal the fall I went to Hartney, he was then 83, and he left the tax roll to me. At year-end I had to admit that I couldn't get a balance. He came down to the office for the first time in weeks, found the error in no time and went back to bed.

Whenever I wanted information about non-residents' addresses, or anything else, I asked Mr. Perrin. He always helped me willingly and it never occurred to me that I was imposing on him.

The rural councillors in 1924 were John Agnew, Gesner T. Bent, Henry Martin, newly elected, and T. E. Gibson. During the 16 years I was in Hartney there were only two changes: John M. More succeeded John Agnew and R. H. Gibson succeeded T. E. Gibson. The town councillors changed much more rapidly and I have forgotten completely who served when I first went into the office.

Shortly after my arrival the town began to think about electric lights and when the town plant was installed Jim Thirde found himself helping in the plant and reading meters as well as acting as constable and fire chief. Freddy Brooks was in charge of the plant and appliance sales and we had many a battle over losses on appliances, usually a losing one for me because, as Clyde McKenzie pointed out to me, Freddy had more votes.

A few years later, soon after my grandfather's death, we finally out-rented the small office and the rural council bought the present building. Later they built a vault under the close supervision of Reeve Morrison, who passed on every stone and inch of concrete that went into it. The vault door came from the old bank building in Faler, which Gesner Bent, with characteristic drift and foresight, had persuaded the council to buy some years before.

Hardly had the new building been occupied when the thirties were upon us, a new and devastating experience for everyone. Relief was considered for some years a shameful last resort and those who had to apply for seed and feed

came into the office with furious reluctance and chips on their shoulders as big as the green poplar chunks we were using for fuel—we got the wood on taxes at \$5.00 a cord.

Sometimes during those grim years we got carloads of apples and potatoes to distribute. Provincial relief authorities laid down certain quantities to be given to each person and we resorted to devious methods to see that a young man who was getting married got enough for his prospective wife too. Reeve Morrison kept regular office hours all those years. I was somewhat overzealous on one occasion and questioned the propriety of "mules" as an item in a relief clothing order. He pointed out that they were mule work mitts, not something foolish for the feet.

The office work got heavier and Jimmy Mills became assistant until the auditors lured him away; Herb McGill came in for a time and later Hugh Mills joined the staff with his dog, who for some reason lived under my desk, not Hughie's and, all Mills to the contrary notwithstanding, smelled.

December was always a busy time anyway, and one year we were nearly swamped by a donation of toys to distribute to schools. Hugh and I set up a warehouse in the back office and pressed all our friends into service packing parcels for each school in the municipality. Then there was the donated clothing, old and new. We had a difficult time apportioning that and we had an old-fashioned black lamb jacket on hand for months until we found a lady who had one like it and put them together in a full length coat for her mother so she would be warm enough driving to town.

Times improved towards the end of the thirties but a municipal office turns up some odd chores for its staff, good times and bad. Clipping wolves' ears for bounty—there was no bounty on foxes then—was one of the least desirable. Someone brought a half-grown wolf pup one day and I attacked an ear with the wolf scissors. The pup kicked me and the scissors flew across the room, narrowly missing Gesner Bent, who happened to be there. He made the owner kill the pup properly on the picket fence outside and then finished the job for me. Whatever else you say about it, a municipal office is always interesting.

C. I. F.

## HARTNEY HERITAGE

To us who grew up in or near Hartney life was serene and happy. We did not realize that ours was a new country and that we were not far removed in time from the days of Manitoba's beginning. The town was there when we were born and we accepted it as natives of any country accept their surroundings. We had no other community with which to compare ours and we were contented with what we had.

We Hartney children owned the land about us. We took possession of it in our minds and our beings and we carry it with us as a precious possession to this day. We owned the birds, the trees, the flowers by the roadside. Indeed we owned the flowers and the green grass in the gardens of our neighbors. We owned the paths by the riverside. We owned the bridge on which we stood to watch the river gliding by. We owned the swimming hole and the smooth ice of the river over which we sped on our skates or trudged on our snowshoes. We owned the skating rink, the tennis courts, and the shaded walks about the town. In fact we still own them, however far we live from Hartney today. They have become part of us because we were part of Hartney. We became aware of this by the slow process of living as we played with the children of like background and interest.

Because it was a small town we were influenced by our whole community. We knew intimately the children of lawyers, blacksmiths, merchants, ministers, shoemakers, railways employees, farmers, doctors, tinsmiths and makers, of the men who ran their own businesses and those who were employed by others. We visited in their homes and we took them and their differing games for granted. The approval or disapproval of the community was our criterion of conduct. Community standards and prejudices were our standards and prejudices. We belonged to Hartney and Hartney belonged to us.

From our individual homes we entered the large community of the school where we formed closely-knit bands of kindred souls among our own age group. We learned to play group games and after school hours we joined other boys and girls to play "Hide and Seek" or "Hoist the Sails" in all the hiding places that the back lanes and family yards afforded. We watched the arrival of the trains and met at the post office to await the sorting of the mail.

We attended baseball and hockey games and cheered the teams of our town. We skated together at the rink. We played tennis on the town courts.

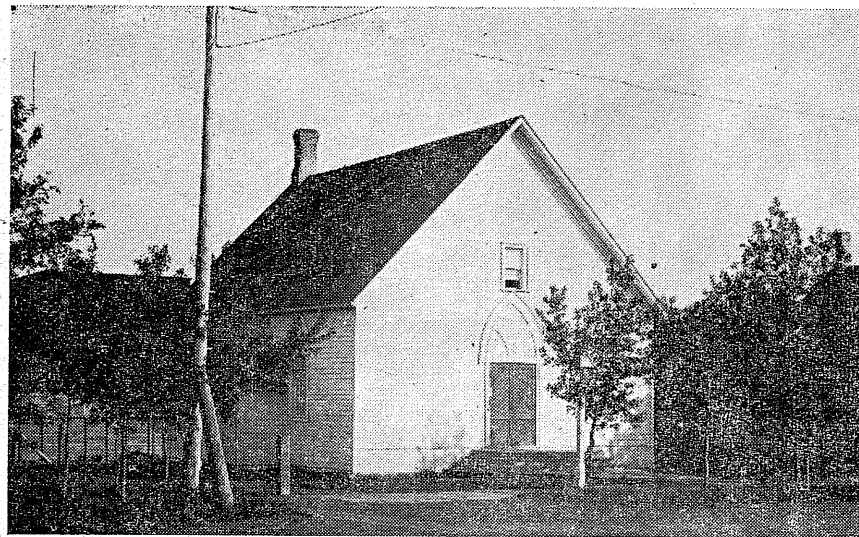
We were in constant search of reading matter. We found books of Greek and Roman myths, history and adventure stories on the school bookshelves. We borrowed from our Sunday School libraries the stories by Henty, Kingsley and Alger that we found there. I recall the joy of discovering at the home of my uncle, Angus McDonald, a set of Dickens' works that he allowed me to borrow and pass on to my classmates, whose appetite for Dickens was aroused by our having had "David Copperfield" read aloud to us by our Grade V teacher, Miss Hazel Kitson.

There were few people in our community who did not belong to one or the other of the four churches and few children who were not enrolled at one of the Sunday Schools connected with them. Sabbath observance was strict and the habits of the community may be typified by our own customary Sunday.

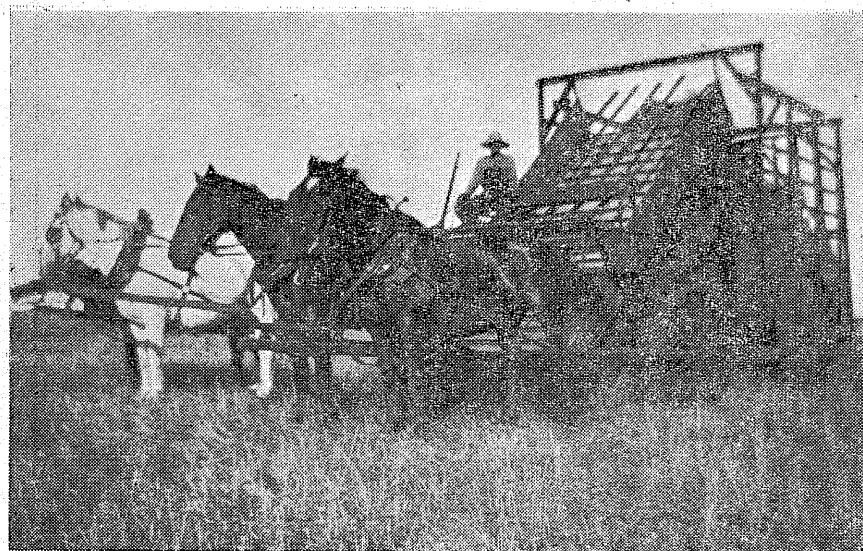
We attended service at the Presbyterian Church each Sunday at 11 o'clock, driving to the town in our best buggy, arrayed in our Sunday finery. The sermon was not short and frequently much more than an hour passed before the benediction was pronounced. Sunday School followed immediately and lasted until half-past one. Then we rushed home for Sunday dinner, usually with fowl left roasting in the oven during our absence. When the dishes were washed we read our Sunday School papers or walked to the bridge at the river to meet the boys and girls from the town who were also taking their Sunday walk. When we arrived home we found that Father had milked the cows earlier than was customary on week nights, and supper was on the table. We finished supper, washed the dishes and returned to the town for the evening service. If we had visited our cousins, the Featherstones, or our friends the Maleys, on Sunday afternoon, we accompanied them to the Anglican service in the evening. If we had visited Grandmother and Aunt Tena Hopkins we attended the Methodist Church with them. Usually, however, we went to evening service with our parents.

The question of whether we should attend church or not did not come for decision. Unless we were sick we were at church and so were the children of the other families in the congregation. Few of us complained about going, for if we missed church we missed seeing the friends from the country, who attended rural schools, and whom we saw only on Sunday. Besides, we knew of no other or better way to spend Sunday than the way laid down by community custom. Our Sunday customs of those early days came a part of us as did the other customs of our community.

— An excerpt from "The Mere Living," a book dealing with the Hartney district that is to be published about August or September, by Hazel McDonald Arkinson.



THE METHODIST CHURCH, HARTNEY, MANITOBA



OLDTIME SHEAF LOADER WORKING ON THE DUNCAN FARM



THE HARTNEY BAND, 1895 — Back row, left to right : Evans Cutbbert, Frank Barber, W. Bear, Dr. Woodhull, D. Sutherland, James Callendar, Ed. Hornibrook; Middle row: Angus McDonald, O. Shore, H. Shelston, (band-master), J. Bathie, W. O'Brien; Bottom row: F. M. dtery, F. Simpson, F. Spencer.

## I REMEMBER

We arrived at the Hartney farm after an all day drive of twenty miles. We came in sleighs although there was no snow visible on the open prairie. When we stopped beside the trail for lunch, we found a crocus, bathing its feet in the icy water from a snow-bank, held by a bunch of buffalo willow.

I mean the snow bank was held, not the crocus. It had unbuttoned its slightly battered fur coat, opened its petals and was drinking the sunlight while it swayed in a nippy wind. Seemed to us things on the prairie were a bit out of kilter, but father informed us we were greenhorns. He had been on the prairie six weeks.

I remember seeing quite a few warts on the prairie, that father told us were bachelor shacks, but only two houses. One was built of new unpainted boards. Father said it had two rooms. One downstairs and one up. The homesteader was a bachelor but expected to marry in the spring. Settlers were coming in so fast, he had tacked a notice on his door. "Come in and make yourselves at home. You'll find kindling in the wood-box. Please don't waken me but cover the fire before you leave."

Next we came to Betsy Fraser's home. I remember she gave us a hearty welcome. She had a dinner cooked for us. She said she had been watching for us all afternoon. Now the lowering sun was painting the sky.

Father was getting anxious about the ice on which we had to cross the river. He asked Betsy about it.

Betsy knew the Souris River well. Once when the Hartney family were living on the Hartney farm, Mrs. Hartney took very sick. She needed Betsy very badly. But the river was in flood. The ice was going out.

Betsy did not hesitate. Mrs. Hartney needed her. The call of friendship was strong, so was the call of adventure. Men tied the box of a lumber wagon to the wagon. They tied Betsy in the box. Then they drove the team of horses that was hitched to the wagon, up stream from the crossing. Then a man who knew the river and the horses and how to drive, forced the horses to jump into the raging flood. There, the river threw blocks of ice at them, and hurried them down past the crossing. But the driver held steady and finally the horses clambered up the bank on the Hartney side of the river, and made history.

There are several versions of this story. My brother H.B. argued several points with me when he read what I have written here but I stuck to my guns, for every version adds up to the one big fact that a woman risked her life for her friends. That is something worth celebrating, bigger even than wheat.

We were all a bit scared when we reached the crossing and Father told us to hang on tight. We stood up and tightened on the lines and eased the horses down the steep bank. As father urged them into the water, one horse turned its head, and looked at him. I have never heard of an automobile discussing the situation ahead with its driver. Father assured the horses it would be all right, and they plunged ahead.

We got across without adventure, and soon Father pointed out a clump of buildings that he said was on the Hartney farm. As we approached we saw a field of wheat, all headed out and looking like it was ripe. We asked father why they didn't cut it. He said it froze before it was ripe, and wasn't worth cutting.

Then, without waiting for any discussion, he told us that Mr. Hartney had grown wheat on that farm, that took all the first prizes for wheat at the Winnipeg Exhibition and made the Hartney district and the whole of Manitoba famous as a wheat growing country.

I think he told us that, so Mother would not ask him why he had rented

farm where the wheat froze before it was ripe. But we understood that Mr. Hartney was a wonderful man, and we were anxious to meet him.

We did and it was always a holiday when Mr. Hartney visited the Hartney farm. He was a big handsome man, with bright twinkling eyes and a big belly laugh that shook him all over and caused the gophers and meadow larks to pause in their business and chatter back at him.

His fame as a wheat grower had called him to a bigger world. He lived in a farm on the Souris now, but his heart was still on the Hartney farm. He won our young hearts by remembering our names, and telling us things we should do, just like we were grown up. He said we should learn the sections and townships and ranges, so we could read the corner stakes if we got lost. He said we should always carry matches, so if we saw a fire we could fight fire with fire. That was the kind of man he was, made us feel important.

He won my mother's heart because he liked to eat and he praised her cooking and often proved he meant it, by taking a second helping. My father liked him too. I don't know why. It might have been that Mr. Hartney was a good spirit.

Once we saw a difference of opinion, between Mr. Hartney and Mother. Mr. Hartney post office was in the Hartney farm house. Mr. Hartney asked Mother to be post-mistress. Mother agreed but on one condition. The post office would always be closed on Sunday.

Mr. Hartney looked dubious, so Mother explained. We were Methodists. Three of her brothers were Methodist ministers. One of them had been a missionary to the prairie Indians. Mr. Hartney looked more dubious and Mother looked more set.

For awhile we all talked of this and that in a soothing way. When Mr. Hartney got up to go, he said to Mother, "Carry on." As he went out the door he added, with a merry laugh, "I'd like to hear Jake when—" We did not hear the rest, but we did hear Jake later.

Men came on every kind of conveyance and wearing every kind of clothes, to get mail on Sunday. We were all proud of Mother's firmness as she answered their knock, but we stood like a bodyguard behind her. She opened the door and said clearly, "The post office is closed on Sunday." Then she shut the door firmly, like a period.

The men generally left, pounding their horses, and sometimes shouting and always followed by our two dogs, barking furiously. Then the dogs would return puffing and grinning and expecting praise for their wonderful protection of us. They generally got it. No man came for mail on Sunday twice.

Our mail carrier was named Curtis. He brought the mail from Souris. I do not remember that he ever missed. My brother thinks he missed once. We both know he risked his life many times in terrific blizzards.

It takes more to make a district like the Hartney district than prize wheat. So Mrs. Jasper and Mrs. Pettapiece and Mother started a prayer meeting on Sunday evenings. They decided to meet at their three homes in turn. They met at the Hartney house first, because it was the biggest and had a piano, although no one could play it. However, if we started a tune too high, Angus McDonald could always carry it to the highest note and bring it back perfect, where the rest of us could join in. We managed quite well.

That first prayer meeting people came walking, or on horseback, or driving in buckboards, buggies, and lumber wagons. One family came on a lake drawn by an ox. But they all got there and that was what mattered. No one was asked about their religious beliefs. We were all just folks who had started out on the great adventure of making our living in a strange, wild part of the country.

That very night when we sat talking after the prayer meeting was over, someone said they heard the railroad was coming soon. There was a sudden silence. We all wanted it, but it was coming from outside, a power over which we had no control. It meant change.

Then came a day when Mr. Hartney drove through the Hartney farm with a mere wave of the hand. A strange man was with him. Later we learned the man was Van Horn, the great railroad builder. Then came Russell, a surveyor and his helpers. They surveyed the railroad. Then came a surveyor named Ducker, and laid out the town site, on Spencer's farm. Of course everyone was disappointed except Spencers.

Many well known people who are doing important work in our cities got their inspiration in the Hartney district. I will mention only two. Ed. Russenholt, the weather man on T.V. in Winnipeg, says you never can depend absolutely on the weather or guns. We all learned that in the Hartney district too.

Hazel McDonald Parkinson, a member of the Authors Association in Winnipeg, has written a book about Hartney and district. She is the daughter of Sandy McDonald and Nellie Hopkins, who were among the first families in the district. Is history repeating itself? Who knows?

We do know her book is being published this summer and will bring honor to the district.

Lilian Beynon Thomas

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL PICNIC—1907

We waken early the morning of the picnic. We fly to the window. If the pane had been rain-washed our hearts would have been broken. But only the gold of sunlight splashes against the window, and in the sky white water-lilies float in a blue pond. On the lawn dandelions lift sunny faces, and on the young maple trees the leaves are June fresh. Oh how lovely to be a Christian and go to Sunday School. Lovely, beautiful, gorgeous Sunday School. With picnics.

And what excitement in the kitchen and what delectable smells. Prince of Wales cake with spices and raisins and caramel icing between the layers, and on top and spilling down the sides. And a great pile of salmon sandwiches. And everyone getting in everyone else's way until in exasperation mother makes the terrible threat, "Any more of that, miss, and you won't go to the picnic." Not go to the picnic! How dreadful! We almost burst our tight little skins trying to be good.

Out the gate at last, our sandwiches close-packed in a shoe box, well tied with string. Down the street to the church where a crowd of excited children screech at each other and swarm about the farmers' wagons. The wagons. The lovely green wagons. The beautiful, big horses stamping their bushy feet in the soft dust, switching their long tails, rippling their muscles to shake off the flies so that the light quivers along their sides. And the kind farmers—their voices with the lilt of Aberdeen or the twang of "down East"—helping us up with their hard hands. As though we need help when our feet and our hearts are winged.

(Sit by me Ida. Here up at the front. I saw that seat first, Allan Blair. All right for you. I was going to lend you my new pencil box, but now I won't, see! Here Ida, we'll sit on this side. Oh, why don't we start—Gee, did you ever see such a terrible big horse? I'll bet if he wanted to he could kick right into this wagon—I'll bet he could kick Allan Blair's head right spang off. Say, let's go sit at the back instead. There, isn't that nice, Ida. Oh gosh, sit down, we're starting.)

Down the long street padded thick with fine black sand. Past all the

r people who aren't going to the picnic. Across the track with a rattle  
a bump, and out into the country—the beautiful sunny country where the  
eat is brilliant green, and silvery wolf-willow breasts every tiny rise. Out  
t the "nuisance ground" where acrid smoke curls; down a little hollow;  
a little hill; along a deeply-rutted road where fox-tail waves its pale green  
shes. And all about the smell of late June, of sweating horses and well-  
ped kids; the sound of creaking harness, of whirring grasshoppers, of  
nic happiness. And in our mouths the anticipated savor of salmon sand-  
shes and ice-cream and lemonade. Oh happy, happy day.

But wait. Here's Morrison's hill. Beyond the hill is the picnic grove, but  
t the terrible hill must be climbed. Down into the gully first, the reins  
t in the farmer's hands, then up the hill, the entourage at a horrible angle.  
at if the horses fall back on us? What if the wagon-box slides off? We close  
eyes. We cannot bear to think of dying when there is so much to live for.  
pray, "Now I lay me—." And then at last we reach the top and there,  
a mile up the road, is heaven itself—Duthie's Grove.

Oh the joy of it. The swings in the tall trees. The beautiful, beautiful  
ngs that take you up, up, up to a heaven of blue sky and green leaves  
rushing wind; the swings that open in your mind a questioning wonder-  
t, an almost-discovery of something even more beautiful than a Sunday  
ool picnic. And the tables already set up on trestles, and over there,  
ered with piles of wet sacking, are the ice-cream freezers. It was straw-  
y last year. Oh, please let it be pink again this year.

Just for today the pasture and grove by the river is ours. The cows  
e been shut out, and only innumerable burnt rings in the clover remind  
of them. Little girls in dresses of all-over embroidery, dotted Swiss and  
ered muslin flit like butterflies among the flowers. Little boys in Buster  
wn suits or starched blouses hop about lively as grasshoppers. We swing,  
play, we run, we scream, we brag about how much we'll eat. And then the  
t sweet frenzy passes. A cow-path invites, and in our gentler mood we  
w. Oh the glories of a winding cow-path—under the trees, around willow  
aps, branching off in unexpected places; the smell of leaf mold and wild  
s. And something else. Something sweet and sharp. Wild strawberries!  
e, in this open space beside the path, the trinal of dainty green leaves, the  
der pink vines, the berries themselves hanging in lusters of cool green,  
y, luscious red. An the taste of them—the rain-washed, sun-warmed sweet-  
of them. Pick them. Eat them, till our fingers are stained pink and our  
ues sting with the hidden sharpness in them.

Into the quietness strikes an alarming thought. What if they didn't  
all the cows out? What if one came right down that path right now? **What**  
**BULL** came right down that path right now? Delicious terror grips us.  
hard path resounds to the swift scampering of stubby-toed, buttoned boots.  
are "early days" people being pursued by wild buffaloes. We run, we  
ble, we scream. We are having a wonderful adventure. We come at last  
ne open sunlit meadow made safe by the presence of the grown-ups. And  
aces have started. Come on, hurry. Line up, line up. The races!

Now where's everybody going? Oh, look. **Supper**. The long trestle tables.  
white linen cloths—even at picnics the white linen. Glass fruit jars filled  
wild roses and blue-bells and sweet grass. Blue Willow plates piled high  
sandwiches. Lettuce, egg and jam sandwiches, beef, salmon and ham

sandwiches. And the layer cakes. With cocanut frosting, caramel frosting,  
chocolate frosting. And tarts — jelly tarts, lemon tarts, butter tarts. And  
cookies—raisin cookies, caraway cookies, ginger cookies. And ice-cream—pink  
ice-cream, big saucers of it with a Ladies' Aid spoon sticking straight up in  
each luscious mound. Oh glorious Sunday School picnic. Reward supreme of  
Christian infants and all-time high begetter of bellyaches. Eat, drink and be  
merry, for tomorrow there is always **castor oil!**

And now the long shadows steal over the meadow. We are suddenly  
aware of sun-burned foreheads and noses. Out of the quiet woods a million  
mosquitoes zing. A tired child whimpers. A big boy shimmies up a tree and  
unties the knot in a swing rope. Mothers fold the white tablecloths. A whiffle-  
tree rattles as a farmer backs his big horses against the red wagon tongue.

The picnic is over.

Climb back into the big wagons. Weariness replaces ecstasy. Sit in the  
middle row. Up front the horses smell funny; down back the sliding ruts in  
the road seem to pull your stuffed stomach with them. Behind us the grove,  
the meadow, the sunset. Ahead the tall elevators, the flat town, the greenish  
twilight. And all about us the sweetness of wolf willow and the unhampered  
air from a thousand grassy miles of prairie.

And deep within us, unconsciously, the links of the long chain of  
loyalties are being forged that fifty years later will pull us back to search  
for old faces and talk of old days.

By Rossa Williamson, the daughter of W. E. Crawford, and known to  
the Hartney district as "Lil Crawford." She spent her early schooldays at  
Hartney, later moving to Brandon. She has written several short stories which  
have been published in the Canadian Home Journal, and Women's Home  
Companion.

#### THE HARTNEY-LAUDER AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

The Hartney-Lauder Agricultural Society was organized in the year  
1893, with James Duthie as the first president. Other officers were: vice-  
president, S. H. Dickson; second vice-president, J. G. Cheyne; secretary-  
treasurer, A. G. Hopkins; directors: W. T. Weightman, Frank Hill, W. Laugh-  
land, John Fee, Ed Briggs.

The first fair was held on the south side of the town.

Names of early exhibitors were: W. Laughland, Marples, Duthie, Mor-  
rison, Ed Somerville, T. A. Somerville, Whettters, Gibsons, Galbraiths, J.  
Griffith, J. Ramsey, Ed Irvine, Landreths, Robsons, Scharffs, R. McBurney,  
C. S. Thomas, Jaspers, and many others. The fair was held yearly with a few  
exceptions, mostly during the years of war and depression.

This year the Agricultural Society will hold its 57th Annual Fair  
during Anniversary week. The 1957 president is Ross Thomas; vice-president,  
R. G. Agnew; secretary-treasurer, N. R. Jasper.

The present fair board extend their gratitude and respect to the  
pioneers, who put so much time and effort in the building of such a fine  
agricultural community.

#### THE HARTNEY STAR

Messrs. Rutherford and Woodhull published the first copy of The  
Hartney Star on February 23rd, 1893, in rooms situated above the present  
Woodhull's Drug Store. Later the plant was housed in the present Hartney  
post office building. In 1901 Walpole Murdoch bought the business, and built  
a one-story brick printing plant on south Main Street. He was a master  
printer, his advertising lay-out being well in advance of his time. In 1910  
Miss Annie Playfair took over the business which she ran until 1921 when  
she sold out to the present owner and publisher, W. A. Bourns. In 1940 he  
purchased a second weekly newspaper—The Deloraine Times and Waskada



...ws, and moved the printing plant to Deloraine, where both newspapers  
...e now printed. Since that time, The Star has won many Provincial and  
...ominion prizes.

For sixty-four years The Hartney Star has weathered the rust of  
...vancing age, and today offers its services, as lusty as ever, to mark the  
...ogress that the town and district must tread in order to become a well-  
...ounded invigorating place for future generations to live in. Over the span  
...years, Hartney and the surrounding district has grown up. The days of the  
...-cart, the homesteader's shacks, the old prairie trails, have given place to  
...reamline automobiles, modern buildings, and paved highways. During this  
...riod the hometown paper has faithfully recorded the joys, sadness, achieve-  
...ents, and progress of the community.

A good newspaper is never old. Its efforts are always directed to the  
...urtherance of schemes for the advancement of the district, of which it is a  
...rt. Today, just as in 1893, when the first editor announced the birth of his  
...n and ink baby, this paper sees its duty—and does it. The present publisher  
...W. A. Bourns, and the editor, Mrs. Dorothy F. Ridge.

#### THE WHITEWATER-HARTNEY BAPTIST CHURCH

During the early years in the Whitewater School District, services of  
...rship were held in the school, with the different denominations in turn  
...roviding a minister. People came for miles to attend these services, some in  
...ggons, but many walked. After church nobody hurried away, but stayed to  
...sit with their neighbors, about their only contact with the people of the  
...rounding district. In September, 1888, a Baptist Church was organized by  
...e Rev. J. H. Best, and a student pastor, J. H. Dolittle. Among the charter  
...embers are the names of Graham, Matthews, Dunning and Turnbull.

In 1891 the name of the church was changed to Whitewater-Hartney  
...church, and services were held in a small hall which stood near the present  
...me of George and Mary Ross. Later a parsonage was built for the minister  
...d his family. In 1893 the new church was dedicated with Rev. D. D. Mc-  
...Arthur as pastor. Full records are not available, and much of this story is  
...om memory. So, if you, the reader, feel that there are errors or omissions,  
...e trust that you will not be too critical.

David Alexander and his wife arrived in 1902. Under his leadership  
...d eloquent preaching the congregation continued to expand. The seating  
...capacity was often inadequate. The church was fortunate in having outstand-  
...g singers; the names of Chapin, Campbell, McConnell, Reekie and Hollins-  
...ead, come readily to mind. Percy Hollinshead later made a name for himself  
...musical circles in Toronto and New York, using the family name of  
...edferne Hollinshead.

Festus Chapin, dealer in coal, lumber and implements, was leader of  
...e large Sunday School. It was a real pleasure to watch him leading the  
...ung voices in singing. The Christmas concert and Sunday School picnic  
...ere the highlights of the year. The pioneers were a thrifty people, and  
...parently frugal with words, for one motion on the books reads, "It was  
...ecided that we do away with the janitor." There is no record of his funeral  
...wever, so some sinister method must have been used for his extinction.  
...n event of 1910 was the installation of gasoline lights, which added much  
...the brilliance and convenience. So much so, that one English lady was  
...ard to remark, "Hits so beautiful 'ere now, we shan't want to go to 'eaven!"  
...nother event was the purchase of a two manual organ with glittering pipes.  
...e air was supplied by someone operating a sort of push bar. Among the  
...nisters who led the church through the years are the names of Sweet,

Collinge, McArthur, Kennedy, McDonald, Priest, Dafoe, Newton, Harvey,  
Riggs, Scott, Smith, Hart and others.

Through the years the church had its ups and downs, sometimes the  
...gregation was small, other times it was large. This was mainly due to  
...folk moving away from the district and others passing to their last resting  
...place. Finally it was decided to sell the building to the Christian Alliance  
...gregation, who had it dismantled and moved to Brandon, where it was  
...re-built. Part of the cash received from the sale was given to Miss Bessie  
...Turnbull, daughter of one of the pioneers, for use in her missionary work in  
...India. So from a small missions church organized in 1888 on the prairie, the  
...Good News is being taught on the other side of the world.

#### ST. JOHN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH — GRANDE GLARIERE

The above parish is the second oldest in the district, and was founded  
...in 1888 by the Rev. John Gaire, after he arrived from France to do mission  
...work in the Canadian West. The first service was held on July 22nd, 1888, in a  
...home close to the site of the present church. The first death in the parish was  
...James Whiteword in December, 1888. By the year 1897 there had been  
...seventy-five burials in the little prairie cemetery. Many of these were infants  
...and young children, the victims of cholera, tuberculosis, etc. Well-known  
...names among the early settlers were: Joseph Charles and Francis Vodon,  
...who came from Belgium in 1888, and the Barbet and Theivin families who  
...arrived from France in 1889. These were followed by other settlers, the  
...Delaites, Copet and Stringer families. From 1889 to 1892 the Boulangers,  
...Rey, Sylvester, Martine, Quenelle, Aime, Davreaux and Isabey families  
...arrived from France. During the same period the Marcq, Bauche, Carbotte  
...and Gratin families settled in the district. Though many of the early settlers  
...moved further west later, many descendants of these pioneers are still in the  
...area today. At the turn of the century, the Hardy and Bonnet families  
...arrived to try their fortunes in the new country. The first little chapel soon  
...proved inadequate for the growing congregation, so part of the present  
...church was built in 1890. In 1894, the church, as we know it today, was built  
...and furnished, thanks to generous gifts from people in France and Belgium.

Although primarily devoted to the spiritual care of his flock, Father  
...Gaire was also concerned about the secular education of the children. When  
...a satisfactory teacher was not available, he taught the children their lessons.  
...The first convent was built in 1898. This was replaced by a larger one in  
...1906, under the direction of Rev. Father Beauregard. Unfortunately it was  
...destroyed by fire in 1922. In the first years of settlement, the nearest railway  
...point was Oak Lake, thirty miles distant to the north. Until the railway  
...reached Grande Clariere in October, 1905, many weary drives were made to  
...Oak Lake and later Hartney, for mail and supplies.

#### THE EVENING AUXILIARY TO THE HARTNEY UNITED CHURCH

The history of the Evening Auxiliary, United Church, started in  
...November, 1945, when a number of ladies gathered at the home of Mrs. Don  
...Sarvis to discuss forming an organization for the young ladies of the church.  
...The name to be the "Young Women's Auxiliary." The main purpose of this  
...organization would be to assist the W.A. in the work of the church, and to  
...relieve them of some of the responsibility they had carried for so many years.

The first meeting was held at the home of Mrs. Mugh Hills on the night

f November 19th, 1945. Thirteen members joined. Five of these charter members are still very active. Seven more members joined during the first year. Officers elected were: president, Mrs. Hugh Mills; secretary-treasurer, Margaret Geekie; vice-president, Laura Fry. On January 14th, 1952, the Young Women's Auxiliary affiliated with the Women's Missionary Society, at the same time changing the name to "The Evening Auxiliary." Today we have thirty-two members on the roll, with Mrs. G. Carter as president.

At each meeting there is a devotional period, a study period, business meeting and social hours. During the war years food parcels were sent overseas each month, sewing was done for the Red Cross and donations given to many relief organizations. Needy families in the district are also given a food parcel at Christmas. Other projects are catering to many events, sponsoring the Tyro Boys, etc. As the members look back over the years, they feel that much good to the community has been accomplished by their efforts.

#### **THE WOMAN'S ASSOCIATION OF HARTNEY UNITED CHURCH**

There is very little information available regarding the W.A. of the United Church. No records can be found previous to 1936, but it is known that Ladies' Aid was organized when the Methodist Church was built in 1890.

The ladies were enthusiastic and worked hard to furnish the parsonage. This has always been their first concern, but right down the years they have also given a substantial sum of money to the church board to help defray the expense of running the church. Since church union the organization has been known as the Woman's Association. The parsonage is still their special concern. Generous donations are made annually to the Institute for the Blind, Lock Lake Camp, and the Church Home for Girls.

An important branch of the W.A. work is the sick and visiting committee, who see that newcomers to the district are welcomed, that regular visits are made to the aged and shut-ins, and fruit and flowers sent to the sick.

#### **THE WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF ST. PAUL'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

The women of St. Paul's Church have always had a keen interest in the missionary life of the church. The history of the missionary groups is as follows: In 1895 the Foreign and Home Missionary Societies were organized. These were two separate groups, who met monthly in the afternoon and evening respectively. On May 28th, 1941, the groups combined to form the Women's Missionary Society. The first executive consisted of: president, Mrs. McCott; vice-president, Mrs. A. Campbell; secretary, Mrs. N. Foote; assistant secretary, Mrs. M. Forbes, with Mrs. Robbins as treasurer.

Throughout the years the program has been diversified, yet underlying, it has been an enthusiastic Christian concern for all people. The present executive includes: Mrs. J. G. McBurney, president; Mrs. W. McNeil, vice-president; Mrs. H. A. McArter, secretary, and Mrs. Wm. Duthie, treasurer.

#### **HARTNEY UNITED CHURCH**

Prior to 1898, church services were held by the Presbyterians and Methodists in the Millerway school house. In 1898 the Presbyterians built a church on land donated by Mr. J. Ross on the southwest corner of 19-6-21. Some of the founders were J. D. Ross, John Mair, Richard Kerslake, Frank Ross, Donald Ross, Thos. Love, Wm. Cowieson, Wm. Brown, and Jas. McCulloch. This church was ministered from the Elgin charge, which also included Westhall. The ladies of Millerway Church were famous for their owl suppers, served at first in a tent, and later in the church basement. After union in 1925, Millerway continued under the Elgin United Church charge

until 1951. In 1955 the church building was sold to Regent, torn down and moved to become part of the new Regent United Church, which was opened in 1957. At Regent, the Millerway Church pews, windows and carpet are still in use. The W.M.S. continues to function, and Sunday School was held until quite recently.

Unfortunately the records of the Methodist Church are missing, but from histories of Melgund and Lauder we know that Methodist church services were held from the time of the first settlers. Melgund was then the centre of the settlement, near the present town of Hartney. When the railway survey was completed and the town site determined, streets were laid out and business houses located. Miss Emma and her sister, Miss Mary Morris, tell us that the lumber for the Methodist Church was brought from Souris in 1889 or 1890 by their father and other men. The church was built in 1890 on the site now occupied by the present United Church. The parsonage was brought from Melgund the same year. The Rev. J. H. L. Joslyn was the first Methodist minister in the new town of Hartney. Lauder, Melgund and Hartney were in his charge until 1891. The old parsonage was replaced by the present brick building in 1900, during the ministry of Rev. C. Teeter. From 1891 to 1910 the following ministers were in charge of the three pastorates: Rev. Thompson Ferrier, Rev. Somerville, Rev. C. Teeter, Rev. D. Kennedy, Rev. Gourd, Rev. J. H. L. Joslyn, and Rev. J. I. Thorn. During the last mentioned minister's term, Melgund was put in the Lauder circuit, while Bethel and Forbes joined with Hartney. Since then the following ministers were in charge: Rev. D. B. Kennedy, Rev. J. W. Shier, Rev. A. R. Maunders, Rev. R. O. Armstrong. Mr. Armstrong preached only one Sunday in Hartney before his sudden death. For the balance of the year, with church union pending, the pulpit was filled by conference. Mr. Armstrong was the last Methodist minister.

#### **THE UNITED CHURCH**

In 1925, after complete union of the Methodist Church into the United Church of Canada, the Rev. Arthur Lavender was minister, and continued until 1930. Ministers since that year were: Rev. E. S. Dixon, Rev. T. W. Bird, Rev. J. W. Anderson, Rev. J. Barber, Rev. A. Frieber, Rev. W. R. Donogh, and Rev. J. Mathieson.

After union, the Methodist Church building proved to be too small, and the present United Church was built. The old church was moved back and incorporated into the new building, to serve as a choir room. The choir loft is actually in the old Methodist Church. In 1928 the new church was dedicated, with Rev. C. W. Gordon as guest speaker. The mortgage was paid off in 1943. A stained glass window was placed in the larger tower as a memorial to Edith Somerville Mills, by the Somerville and Gibson families. In 1948 a film projector was purchased for the Sunday School.

In 1949 a Hammond electric organ was installed and dedicated. The chimes were presented as a memorial to Mrs. John More, by the More and Hammond families.

The church elders at time of union were: W. J. Jasper, Geo. Brunson, Clyde A. McKenzie, D. W. Storey, and H. M. B. Clark. Managers: M. Rander, J. F. Bartley, S. Drummond, D. Rankin, A. McDowell, R. J. McKenzie.

1957 church elders are: D. D. Sarvis, W. H. Hodgson, W. J. Keeler, J. A. Moffat, J. M. More.

The choir has carried on faithfully through the years. An early picture of the Methodist choirs shows: Millie Shore, Mr. Brownell, Mrs. J. A. Callander, Chas. Moodie, Miss Simpson, Curt Callander, Mary Morris, Olive

more, J. A. Callander (leader), Mabel Shore, Emma Morris, Margaret Woodhull. Though most of the members have moved away, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Callander and Miss Woodhull stayed with the choir for many years. For the last several years the United Church was fortunate to have Mrs. D. D. Sarvis, a talented musician, as organist, while her husband, D. D. Sarvis, led the choir. Unfortunately Mr. and Mrs. Sarvis left Hartney in June, 1957, to live at Indian Head, Sask., but the choir which they helped to build up, will continue, with Mrs. Garnet Lowery as leader and organist.

All records of the W.M.S. up to 1919 have been lost, but Mrs. J. A. Callander, an early member, tells that a group of Methodist leaders met each week in various homes. The group was small.

Two dedicated members of the W.M.S. left bequests to the society. Miss Rena Hopkins, who died in 1942, left shares which bring in an annual cheque of \$5.00, and Miss Maggie White, who died in 1955, gave the W.M.S. the sum of \$500.00.

The earliest record of the Sunday School is from January 12th, 1900. Teachers at that time were Miss E. Morris, Mr. Beynon, Mrs. Strathy, Miss Hopkins, Mrs. Bradley, Miss M. Morris. Other teachers during the early 1900's were: Mr. Morden, Mrs. Mitchell, Miss Simpson, Miss Shore, Mrs. Lewis, Miss Mawhinney, Miss McKenzie, Miss Crick, Mr. Brownell, Miss Immerman, Mrs. Saunders, Mr. Shaw, Mrs. Hales, Mr. Moodie, Miss Hope McRoberts, Geo. Pettapiece, Dr. McEown; J. A. Callander was secretary.

The present Sunday School leaders and teachers are: Mrs. J. A. Fry, Superintendent; Mrs. Alice Castle, assistant; Miss Molly Thirde, secretary-treasurer. Teachers: Mrs. Turner, Donald Watson, Vona Todd, Beverly Gibson, Mrs. L. Molison, Mrs. G. Lowery, Mrs. N. R. Jasper, Mrs. Arnason, Mrs. Hymers and Mrs. R. Atkinson.

#### HARTNEY MASONIC LODGE

Hartney Masonic Lodge No. 52, A.F. and A.M., was granted a dispensation in 1891, and received their charter on September 8th, 1893.

The first three principal officers were: Worshipful Master, G. A. Coulter; Senior Warden, Wm. B. Muir; Junior Warden, Wm. Hopkins.

Members holding office in the early years were: Frank Hill, R. Jackson, McGaffin, W. H. Galbraith, A. G. Hopkins, J. S. Cummings, E. W. Bateman, W. Barter, R. Shore, Frank Henry, Ben Roper, G. Culver, Jas. Duthie, L. D. Lewis, and W. Butchart.

On June 10th, 1895, the Grand Lodge of Manitoba officiated at the laying of the "corner stone" of St. Andrew's Anglican Church. The Hartney Brass Band was in attendance.

In the early days, the Hartney Masonic Lodge had many homes—Bateman's Hall, Brookbank Hall, Hopkins Hall (the top floor, now known as Bell Hotel). They moved to their present location in the Town Hall in 1906.

Brethren having been honored by being selected as a D.D.G.M. are: A. Coulter, Wm. B. Muir, Richard Shore, J. C. Walker Reid, C. D. Batty, Jas. Duthie, Jas. A. Callander, Geo. Morrison, J. C. Duthie, and R. H. Gibson.

Wm. Hopkins received the honor of being elected Grand Master of Saskatchewan. J. C. Walker Reid, also had the distinction of being chosen Grand Master of Manitoba.