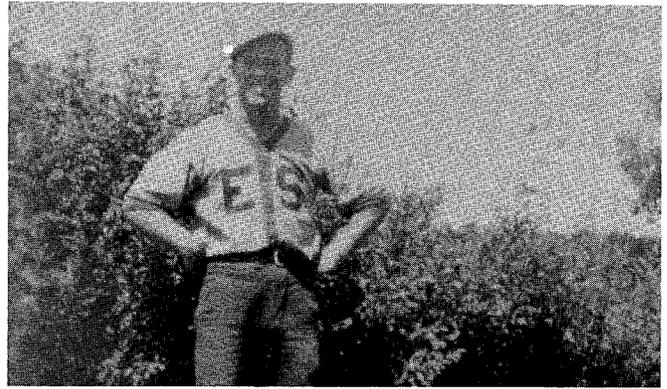


*Mary and Akim (Jack) Nickolaychuk, Alexander and Sophia.*



*Clarence Nickolaychuk (Mickey), 1936.*

The Nickeys moved to East Selkirk in 1915, as Jack was employed as Section Foreman for the C.N. Railway there. They had three children: Alexander, Sophia, and Clarence. Jack Nickey was one of the founders and a very active member of the Ukrainian Reading Society of East Selkirk. He also served as president for years. During this time, the society's members built the Ukrainian community Hall, which became the social and cultural center for the townspeople. Another favorite activity of the community at that time was their annual picnic on the banks of the Red River. This was a gala affair which took all day, as the picnic site was two miles away from town. Mr. Nickey owned one of the first automobiles in town, a Maxwell, and used to take a real load of passengers along with his family to the outing.

The Nickeys were also members of the Greek Orthodox Church.

Jack Nickey passed away on December 30, 1924.

Clarence Nickey died in 1938, at the age of twenty-one.

Maria Nickey passed away on September 30, 1972.



*Left to Right: Anne Martin, Pearl Crass, Mary Nickolaychuk, 1916.*



*Michael and Katherine Novastaski.*

### **MICHAEL AND KATHERINE NOVASTASKI**

*submitted by Elsie Nova*

Michael and Katherine Novastaski were married in Krakowiec, Poland, in 1908. They had one son, Nicholas.

Michael emigrated to Canada in 1913, he worked to provide a home for his family to emigrate later. Katherine and her son Nicholas arrived in East Selkirk on June 22, 1922. They spent their life farming in East Selkirk.

Michael passed away on Jan. 6, 1939. Katherine passed away on Sept. 2, 1967.

Nick went to the Happy Thought School and it didn't take very long for him to learn English and catch up to his age group in class. When in his earlier teens, Nick would work during noon hour and after four at Sharpe's General Store packing eggs into crates, as they were delivered to the store in ordinary boxes. Later, he became a full time employee and worked there for three and a half years along with Max Zielig.



*Michael and Katherine Novastaski and son Nicholas.*



*Elsie Mikolash and Nick Nova.*

### **NICK AND ELSIE NOVA**

*submitted by Elsie Nova*

Nick Nova and Elsie Mikolash were married at East Selkirk, in the St. Stanislaus Church on April 29, 1939, by Father Antoine D'Eshambault. They were blessed with three children, Leona (Mrs. Ron Bolin) of Winnipeg. Bette (Mrs. Vern Cannors) of London, Ont. And Geoffrey and his wife Mary Ann of Regina, Sask.

During the earlier years of their marriage, they farmed and Nick would supplement their income by going out to work. During the Second World War, Nick took employment at the Defence Industries Limited in Transcona, in 1944 and worked there for two and a half years.

Nick also was employed at the steel foundry in Selkirk for a few years. Then he worked at the Manitoba Rolling Mills for 26 years, retiring in Nov. of 1974. Elsie was the homemaker through all the years.

When the children were married and away, Elsie was employed at the East Selkirk Post Office from June 1975 to Jan. 1981.

Nick and Elsie are now retired and live in East Selkirk.



*Elsie and Nick Nova.*

## JOHN AND ELEANORA NOWAKOWSKI

*submitted by Charles Novak*

Mr. and Mrs. John Nowakowski came to Canada at the turn of the century. Mrs. Nowakowski, born in Lwow, Poland, Eleanora Cieslik, came to Canada as a child where she settled with her parents in Narol. Mr. Nowakowski was born in Stanislawow, Poland. He left Poland as a young man and arrived in Winnipeg where he met Eleanora whom he married in 1912. They had a family of three sons and four daughters.

After their marriage they settled for a short time in Winnipeg. Following their brief stay in Winnipeg, they settled on a small farm along Henderson Highway in Narol where they market gardened. Mr. Nowakowski was also employed as a section man with the Canadian Pacific Railway at Birds Hill for 38 years until his retirement in 1954. His only means of transportation in the early years was walking to and from Birds Hill each day, a distance of six miles each way. He eventually purchased and used a bicycle which continued to be his transportation until retirement. In the meantime Mrs. Nowakowski, in addition to raising her children, looked after the garden, growing and delivering the vegetables by horse and buggy to her customers in Winnipeg's North End. When the sons became old enough to drive and the automobile became more common with the market



*John and Eleanora Nowakowski.*

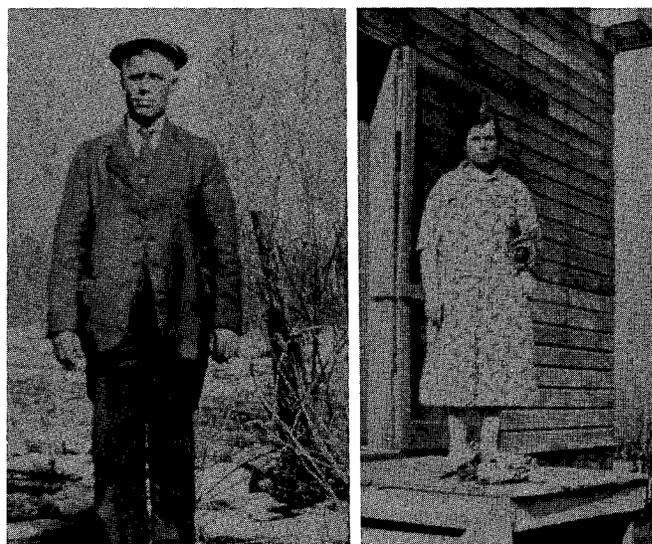
gardeners, the horse and buggy gave way to a truck for delivering the vegetables to the market. Mr. and Mrs. Nowakowski resided in Narol most of their lives. They were active lifetime members of the Corpus Christie Church. They eventually moved to Winnipeg in 1971 where they resided until their passing in 1973.

## WASYL (WILLIAM) AND MARIA NOWASAD

*submitted by Polly Blankenship*

Wasyl and Maria (nee Chychrun) were both born in the Western Ukraine, Maria in the Village of Perimilve, next to the town of Horaskiz.

They settled in Manitoba, the Walkleyburg district in 1911, the year of their marriage. They farmed 240 acres for 17 years.



*Mr. Wasyl Nowasad. A Raleigh salesman. Maria Nowasad (nee Chychrun).*



*Apiary in 1927.*



*50th wedding anniversary. Wasyl and Maria Nowasad.*

They were blessed with a family of six daughters: Ann (Mrs. Fred Demchuk), has three children, Eileen, Dorothy, and Janet. Kay (Mrs. Peter Kozarsky) has one son, Albert. Norma (Mrs. Sidney Baker), has one daughter, Kathy. Nellie (Mrs. W. Popp), has two children, Charlie and Claudia. Olive (Mrs. Cecil Jenkinson), has four children, Jack, Cecil, Dale and Sharon. Polly (Mrs. W. Blankenship), has one daughter, Lynn.

William served as a Postmaster for 9 years, and was a School Trustee for 8 years. He was one of the first Rawleigh Distributors for the area; travelling the territory by horse and buggy.

In 1928, the family moved to East Selkirk where they farmed a small tract of land and kept an Apiary.

William became an employee of the Abex Steel Foundry of Selkirk, in 1942. He retired in 1958, deceased in 1973.

Maria is in her 90th year and still resides in East Selkirk.

There are 12 grandchildren and 22 great-grandchildren.



*Nowasad sisters March, 1973.*

## ADELINE (NEUMAN) NOWELL

*submitted by N. Froehlich*

Adeline was born in Volhynia, Russia, on July 14, 1894. On Nov. 16, 1911, Adeline Neuman, the youngest daughter of Johan and Anna Christine Neuman, travelled to Liverpool, England, from Russia. On Nov. 30, 1911 they sailed on the ship Teutonic, and arrived in Portland, Maine. On Dec. 8, 1911, they came by train to Beausejour.

Adeline worked in Wpg. and then she married Jim Nowell. Jim went to the Army during the War, and came back to Canada after the war was over. Jim then became a streetcar driver in Wpg. Adeline worked in restaurants, and later in 1936, she opened up a small coffee shop in Grand Marais known as Blondie's Cafe. Adeline operated this cafe until 1953.

Adeline remained living in Grand Marais after Jim died, and has now moved to a Seniors Home in Wpg. She celebrated her 89th birthday in July 1983, and is well known as "Blondie".



*Adeline Nowell (nee Newman).*

## JAMES ROGER OASTLER AND BEATRICE OASTLER

*submitted by Marguerite Buchannan*

James Oastler was born near Parry Sound, Ont. in 1871, his parents having immigrated from Scotland the previous year. He attended the one room schoolhouse near the farmstead and later worked to put himself through the Ontario Agricultural College in Guelph. In 1897 he graduated with a degree of B.S.A. winning two Silver Medals. He came west that fall to attend the Manitoba Dairy School. For two years he was manager of the Crystal City Creamery; then he became stockman on the farm of the Hon. Thomas Greenway of Crystal City for two years, followed by the position of Livestock Manager at the Minnesota Experimental Station at Crookston for three years. In 1905 he became the manager of The Sir William Van Horne's farm in St. Andrews, N.B. There he met and married Susan Beatrice Andrews in 1908. In 1912 he was transferred to East Selkirk, Man. as manager of the Van Horne Farm of over three thousand acres. In 1924 he took up farming for himself on a section of land north of East Selkirk.

James Oastler was always deeply interested in agriculture. He joined the St. Andrews and St. Clements Agricultural Society in 1913, was made Vice-President in



*Marguerite and Helen Oastler. Massey Harris Binder.*

1927 and served as President from 1928-1931. The Board of Directors tried to interest the community in the Plowing Matches which alternated each year from one side of the Red River to the other, the chief prize being a gold watch donated by the T. Eaton Co. The ladies of the community would also be involved in setting up a booth protected by poplar saplings and feeding not only the contestants but also the many onlookers. The highlight of the year was the Selkirk Fair which had originated in 1875 developing into the showplace for the farmer's horses, cattle and other animals, the vegetables, the baked goods and preserves and the crafts and sewing, all preceded by the parade. Mr. Oastler often commented on the work and worry involved in transporting the show animals the many miles and the crossing on the Ferry before the advent of the truck and the Bridge. He had a genuine interest in the showmanship and the opportunity to inspire the youthful farmers-to-be in good farming techniques.



*Mrs. Oastler and Frederick, 1912-13.*



*James R. Oastler house. Audrey Waytiuk 3 years old.*



*James and Beatrice Oastler on their golden wedding anniversary 1958.*

Not only was he interested in the advance of scientific knowledge concerning soil, weeds and good farming techniques but also in the community as a whole. He was an Elder of Knox Church in Selkirk, a member of the Independant Order of Odd Fellows of Crystal City, a receiver of a Jewel for 50 years membership with the Masonic Lodge of Selkirk. He took a kindly interest in the new immigrants who settled around the old Roundhouse in East Selkirk observing their diligence and success in coping with life in a new land and, I think, is fondly remembered by them and their descendants.

This lover of the good black loam of Manitoba and its courageous settlers died, aged 88, on November 3, 1959. His widow Beatrice, who had struggled along with him the many hard years on the farm, through the pain of the death of their four year old son shortly after their arrival from St. Andrews in 1913 of Diptheria, through the 1929 depression and other hazards of early frosts and hail, through the struggle involved in the establishment of the Co-op Wheat Pool and the uncertainties of the Market for grain, through the boarding of the many "hired hands" in the days of horses and also during the depression because of the work "schemes" of the government of placing reluctant men on farms, rebellious men whose chief enthusiasm was displayed at the meal table rarely at the work session that was supposed to follow -- yet deposite all these problems Beatrice managed to find time for her vegetable garden and her flowers -- the peonies and sweet peas gladly given to the Church teas and other functions, her help on the Board of the Agricultural Society -- this energetic woman then moved to Ottawa where daughters, Helen and Marguerite resided. There she sorely missed her Knox Church Ladies Aid Group and the many kindly neighbors and friends of East Selkirk. She died in her 90th year in 1974 in Ottawa and was buried in her beloved St. Andrews-by-the-sea in the cemetery facing the Bay of Fundy where she grew up. Much did they both contribute to the happiness and development of this area of Manitoba.

## CASPER AND ANNA OGWONOWSKI

*submitted by Helen and Minnie*

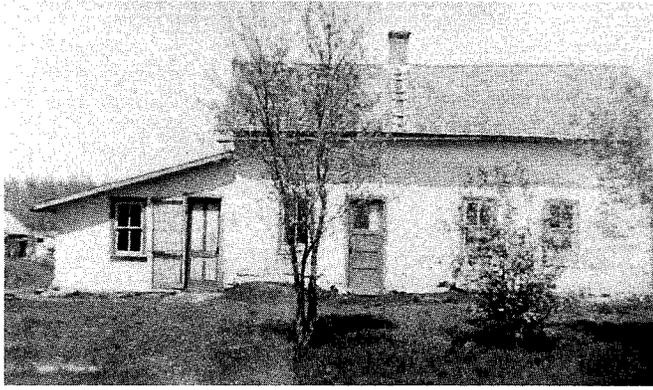
Casper Ogonowski is the son of Ludwick Ogonowski and Aniela (nee Sikorska). Casper was born Jan. 6, 1885 in Michalowk (Borszczow) in the Province of Tarnopolskie, Warsaw. Casper was one of six children born to Ludwick and Aniela: Jennie, Sally, Mary, Axenia and William. William was a twin brother of Casper. Casper arrived in Canada with his family at an early age.

Casper married Anna Semenovicz, the daughter of Joseph Semenovicz and Theodosia (Zuk). They were married on Nov. 12, 1911, at the Ukrainian Catholic Church in East Selkirk. Reverend A. Filipow officiated and John Denesuik and Joseph Semenowicz were witnesses. Anna had been born Jan. 1, 1895 in Narol, Czesowow, Austria. Anna had four sisters: Jennie, Nellie (Krutish), Nettie (Menzie), and Eva (Gloss). There were no brothers.

Casper and Anna bought land from the Ukrainian Parish and built themselves a log and plaster home in East Selkirk. It has since been remodeled and modernized. They managed a mixed farm of cows, pigs, chickens and a large garden which supplied their winter needs. The water came from a well-pump in the yard and is still present to this day. Wood stoves supplied the cooking and heating needs and then later the family converted to oil. Electricity and telephones were installed in later years. Casper was employed by the C.P.R. as a Sectionman.



*Anna and Casper Ogonowski.*



*Old Ogonowski house beside the Arnhold school in Oak Point.*

Casper and Anna had 6 children, one son passed away at 9 years of age. The oldest was Edward followed by William, Helen, Adele and Minnie. The children all attended the Happy Thought School in East Selkirk and were involved in sports, social and the cultural activities of the Village. The youngsters helped with the farm work, the gardening and the picking of wild fruit for winter jams.

Casper and Anna had a very busy life and some good times along with the bad. They enjoyed their land, home and family and the community of East Selkirk.

Casper died in 1961 and Anna died in 1981 and both are buried in the East Selkirk Cemetery.

Edward married Simone Tremblay and they had 2 children; Carol and Christopher and 2 grandchildren, Terry and Laura.

William married Bertha and they had 3 children, Patricia, Marilyn and Richard and 4 grandchildren, Wayne, Tracy and Todd.

Helen married Nick Kuhtey and they had 5 children, Lydia, Robert, Gordon, Herbie and Marianne. In this family there are 9 grandchildren: (Tracy, Cathy, Shelly and April) (Jode, Amber, Justin, Justa, and Lindsay).



*William (Bill) Ogonowski with Matt Karanko in front of Kelich's store.*

Adele married Michael Trojan and they had 5 children: Francis, Cathy, Marilyn, William and Michael.

Minnie who married William Horoshok. By the first marriage she had 3 children: Susan, Shirley and Judy. In this family are 7 grandchildren: Carey, Nicole, Riel, Jason, Elise, Sherri and Shelly.

These are the 18 grandchildren and 33 great-grandchildren of Casper and Anna Ogonowski.

The children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren loved to visit the country home and pick raspberries, plums and walk down the railroad tracks to the water tank and watch the freight trains and the passenger trains going to Grand Beach and they have lots of beautiful memories.



*Anna and Casper Ogonowski's 50th wedding anniversary with some friends and relatives.*

## **ALEX AND YOANNA OLEKSIUK**

*submitted by Tracy Youzwa*

Yoanna Poloska, a long time resident of East Selkirk, came to Canada from the Ukraine in 1913. The entire voyage took 14 days. She met Alex Oleksiuk, who also came from the Ukraine, and married him in the St. Vladimir and Olga Ukrainian Church in Wpg. in 1916.

Within a year they moved to Sturgeon Falls, Ont. where Alex was employed at a Pulp and Paper Mill for 30 cents an hour.

Upon moving back to Wpg., he worked at various jobs and one of the major jobs was the excavation of Eaton's Mail Order House on Donald Ave., Wpg., where Eaton's Place now stands.

In 1927, they moved to 160 acres of land in Melrose, Man., where they farmed for six years. Potatoes were their major source of income, and a 75 lb. bag of potatoes was sold for as low as 10 cents. The potato crops that survived were pedalled down the streets in Wpg. In one incident, a housewife actually took the potatoes home, cooked and sampled the potatoes, before purchasing them.

At another time, Alex shipped a boxcar of oats to the Lake Head, and was disappointed to learn that the price of oats didn't cover the cost of the freight.



*Alexius Oleksiuk and Yoanna. Married in Winnipeg, Oct., 1916.*

Due to dry years and the grasshopper epidemic, Yoanna and Alex couldn't afford the mortgage payments and they lost the farm.

In 1933, they settled in East Selkirk with their mere possessions on a hay rack, 5 head of cattle, a few chickens and a team of horses.

Alex and Yoanna raised their three children. The first born, being their only son, Frank, in 1918. Frank was born in Sturgeon Falls, Ont. He was employed at Yellow Knife Gold Mine in the North West Territories for the greater part of his working years. He passed away in Nov. 1980, at the age of 62.

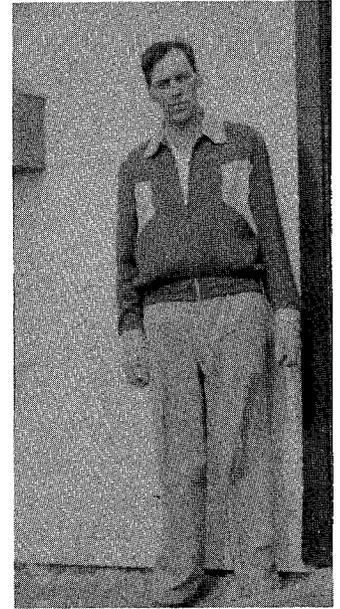
The second born to Yoanna and Alex, was their daughter Jean, in Wpg., in 1923. Jean married Don Houser in 1942, in Welland, Ont. Jean and Don raised 3 children and presently reside in Florida, USA.

Again in 1931, Yoanna and Alex were blessed with the birth of their second daughter, Stephanie. Stephanie, upon completing her education, took up sewing at the Monarch Overall factory in Selkirk. She met Nick Youzwa, the son of George and Mary Youzwa (both deceased) who is originally from Wakaw, Sask. They were married in Sept. 1948. They decided to take up farming and are presently living on the old homestead of Mike Jaroslowski.

They had 2 children, Douglas in 1956, and Tracy in 1961.



*Stella and Jean Hauser (nee Oleksiuk), 1942.*



*Frank Oleksiuk, 1947.*

Doug married Cheryl Birg, from Bengough, Sask. in 1980. They are now living on the Oleksiuk homestead. Doug and Cheryl are both employed with IGA, Doug working in Wpg., and Cheryl working in Selkirk.

At the present time, Nick drives a school bus for the Lord Selkirk School Division, and Stephanie is employed as a costume designer at the Lower Fort Garry National Historic Park.

Tracy is employed by the Royal Bank in Wpg., and resides at home.

Alex passed away Oct. 1974, at the age of 79. Yoanna, at 89, is still active and enjoying good health. Yoanna still lives in East Selkirk.



*Alexius and Yoanna Oleksiuk, 1946.*



*Left to Right: Nick and Stephe Youzwa, Yoanna Oleksuk (Stephie's mother), Tracy Youzwa, Doug and Cheryl Youzwa.*

## **FRANCISCO (1848-1927) AND ANNA (1871-1939) OLESZCZUK**

*submitted by Mrs. Irene Miles*

On the advice of his younger brother, Francisco Oleszczuk left his job as a policeman in Trembola, Poland and immigrated to Canada in March, 1898 with his second wife Anna (nee DziaKiewicz-Blaskiw), their first infant child who died shortly after and 4 children plus a grandchild from his former marriage.

They settled and lived in Winnipeg, where Francisco worked in a sawmill for three years. Anna, who had lived all her life on a farm in Poland, was not happy in the city and with all the money she possessed, purchased 59 acres of land in Narol at 50 cents per acre and the family moved to the present site.

Francisco and Anna were very religious. As there was no Roman Catholic Church in Narol at that time, Francisco became one of the founding members of the original Corpus Christi Church.

They raised 3 sons and 3 daughters. The eldest, Paul, was born in Winnipeg in 1899. He died at the age of 24 of tuberculosis.

Mary (1901-1976) the oldest girl, was born in Winnipeg. She married Nick Antonick and they lived in Selkirk. They had 2 daughters, Irene (Mrs. Michael Miles) and Evelyn (Mrs. Vincent Trezza).

Leon (1903-1971) was born in Narol. He married Stefania Schnerch and they lived in Winnipeg. They had one daughter, Adele (Mrs. Frank Neufeld). Leon was principal of the Donald School in Narol for 15 years before taking a teaching position in Winnipeg.

Rosalia was born in Narol. She married the late Lester Johnston of Little Britain. They had 2 children, Henry and Gloria (Mrs. Neil Sandison). Rosalia presently lives in Little Britain.



*Back Row: Francisco Oleszczuk. Middle: Mike Antonick, Anna Oleszczuk, Anna's brother Joseph. Front Row: Rosalia, a cousin Kay and Helen.*

Helen, the youngest girl, was born in Narol. She married William Wyker of Transcona. They lived in Narol for 12 years and are presently residing in East Kildonan.

John (1910-1982) was the youngest son and he was born in Narol. He married Lucille MacDonald of Gonor and they have one son Lorne. John remained on the farm, market gardening until his demise.

Life was very difficult for the family, the father lacked knowledge in farming and there were 2 families under one roof, the nearly grown children of the first marriage and the young children of the second marriage. Money was scarce and often food was scarce, too. When Paul was about 10 years old, he went to Winnipeg with his father to sell their produce. En route to home, the horses were spooked, the wagon overturned and the father was badly hurt. Paul, thrown free, was uninjured and ran home several miles to get help. The father sustained many



*Mary and Nick Antonick's 40th wedding Anniversary. Back Row, Left to Right: Rosalie, John, Helen. Front Row: Leon, Mary and husband Nick.*

broken bones from that accident and from then on was unable to work again. This was yet another hardship for the family to endure. Being a very close family they all helped as much as they could. During the winter months, Mary and Rosalia would work in Winnipeg, returning home to help from spring to late fall. Helen remained at home helping her mother and later her brother John, who inherited the farm. John was only 16 when his father died. Even after they married and left home, the daughters along with their husbands and children, would help during harvest time. Although the work was hard, there were happy times and many happy memories. To this day the place is still referred to as "The Farm".

## OMENIUK FAMILY

*submitted by Robert Omeniuk*

John Homeniuk and Maria Gombowski were married in Poland in 1899. John arrived in Canada in 1904, and came to Narol to find a homestead. John lived with the Nadwidney family until he purchased the homeland, Lot 265, Municipality of St. Clements. Mary arrived in 1906 with their two children Tom and Anne. They derived their livelihood from market gardening plus other jobs that they could find. John worked as a laborer in the construction of Lockport and did other jobs to help get ahead. The children were an integral part of the farm but were also given an opportunity for education at Donald school where they unanimously award Miss Stevenson as the best teacher they ever had.

Tom Omeniuk was born 1901 in Poland. He married Rose Kornaga in 1924. They have three children, Helen (Mitchell), Steve and Joe. Tom farmed at Blackdale, Man., worked next for D.A. Adams hauling coal, then went to work for Empire Sash. He then went into partnership with Don Beaton in Wilson Gregory until he



*Mike and Tom Omeniuk.*

separated forming his own company, General Lumber Building Supply. Tom passed away in 1979 and Rose in 1982.

Anne Omeniuk was born in 1903 in Poland. She married Joseph Burdiak and lived in Narol and several years later moved to Fort William. Anne remarried in Toronto to Bill Bonderanko, and she still resides in Toronto. There were two children John Burdiak and Dorothy Samborski.

The first child born in Canada was Tilly but she did not survive past six weeks of age. In 1910 Jessie Josephine was born. Jessie left home for Toronto at the age of 16 and married Harold Allen in 1931. They have one son Ronald who is department head in the Dept. of Education and who has a 300 acre farm near Lindsay, Ont. Jessie remembers her younger days in Narol as "horrible, hungry, and sometimes happy days". She remembers that her mother used to make clothes out of sugar bags and that one girl still had a red patch on her bloomers.



*John Omeniuk*



*John Burdiak and John Omeniuk.*



*Bertha Miller and Nancy Omeniuk.*