

of business was more than a shopping centre. At night world politics, ills of the world, medicine and all topics of the day were discussed late into the evening around a pot-bellied stove. During the day, as customers came in, if they were accompanied by children, the kids were escorted to the candy bins to make their selections "on the house". Few, if any, were refused credit. Thousands of dollars were carried on the books. The family often questioned his rather loose business dealings, to which he had one stock answer, "The money I came with from Romania I still have," or "It will take me two more weeks to become a millionaire." His faith and belief in people never wavered and he was rarely, if ever, let down by them.

A yearly summer ritual of his was to load all the children who wanted to go, onto the huge trucks and send them to Winnipeg Beach to enjoy the rides and goodies of the day.

In the early days of the depression many people were in jeopardy of losing their land and all their possessions to the Mortgage Companies for non-payment. Many of these people were not versed in the English language and chose him to be their spokesman before the judge in the city courts. He spoke nine languages being extremely fluent in Polish and Ukrainian. He counselled his clients with a set format; telling them to be confident, "we will win additional years to pay off the mortgage." He told them that once their name was called to "Start crying and don't stop until you reach home." Needless to say, all expenses were paid by him.

In the early 1930's Mr. Sharp became active in the purchasing and exporting of Potatoes. What began as a small sideline became a very lucrative business -- and M.R. was known as the "Potato King of Manitoba." In 1938 over 250 people gathered at the East Selkirk Hall to honour their Reeve and his wife on the occasion of their 20th Wedding Anniversary. Mr. J.O. McLeneghan the MLA for Selkirk was the Master of Ceremonies and kind words and appreciation were expressed by Steve Karanko, T. Mikolosh, D. Morrison, J.M. Turner, C. Barclay and A.E.K. Cowles. The community presented the couple with a tea wagon, china and a tri-light lamp.

All four of the Sharp children graduated from Happy Thought High School. Carl was in the first graduating class some 54 years ago. Molly was the one family member who was always totally involved in the Community. In spite of much adversity in her life, a constant "up" spirit, and always feeling the cup was half full instead of half empty, has been a great influence on the many lives she has touched. Though only one of the four children, i.e. teacher Ruth, chose to directly serve society, Morris and Rose Sharp would be proud to know that among the third generation there are two lawyers, three social workers, a nurse, and two school teachers.

The above history was written by Sidney, a 1940 graduate of Happy Thought School, who, though absent from the East Selkirk area for almost forty years, still reflects on the village he loved and enjoyed as a young man growing up.



Alex and Nettie Shastko, grandchildren, Marsha and Bill Furdyk about 1955.

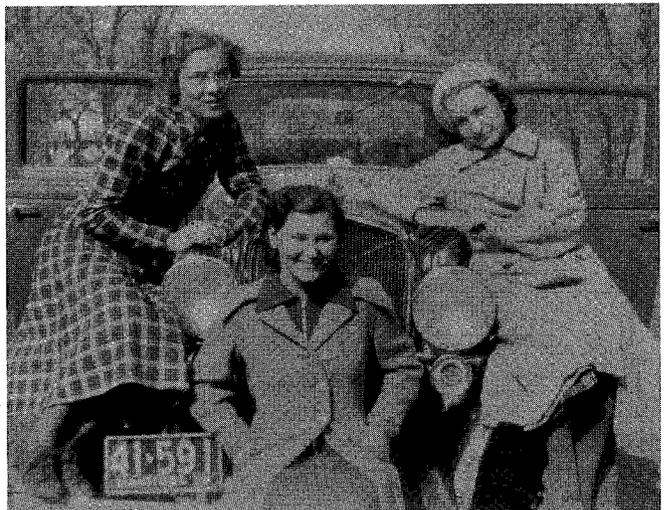
ALEX SHASTKO

submitted by Mary Furdyk

In the year 1907, a young man by the name of Ilko Shastko (Alex) left his home, the village of Yabloonev, in the Ukraine, (occupied by Austria at that time) and came to Canada to seek a better way of life. Due to the heavy influx of European immigrants at the turn of the century, work was very hard to find.

He went to the West Coast where the railroad was being built. First he found a job in Seattle, Wash., and then got a job on the railroad in Prince Rupert, B.C. While at Prince Rupert he went to English classes in an old bunkhouse and learned to speak, read and write the English language. He already could read and write in Ukrainian.

In 1914, he was granted his Naturalization Papers, making him a British subject. That same year he came to East Selkirk, as his mother and stepfather Maryna and



Mary Shastko, Mary Kelich, Nellie Kologinski, 1938.



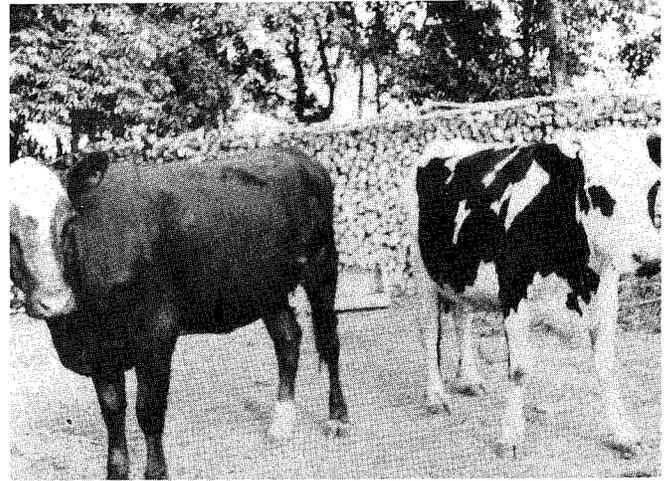
Jim Solnik, Mrs. Shastko, Alex Shastko, Mrs. Jim Solnik, Mrs. Sam Solnik, Mrs. Kologinski.

Simon (Sam) Solnik were living there. His sister Anna was already married to W. Kologinski, his brother Dmytro (Jim) was married to Anna Starodub. A second brother Nick (John) was not married yet.

His parents had come to Canada several years before him and settled in Winnipeg, then moved to East Selkirk. Sam had two brothers, Alex and Nick living here. Here, Alex met a young lady, Nastia Polowkon (Nettie) who had come to Canada the year before from the village of Torhoweatcha. She was staying at the Anton Kordalchuk's home because they were from the same village.



Mary Shastko, Mary Kalinski, Ellen Plumptree, Sept. 1937.



Mrs. Shastko's cows, Bossy and her daughter.

She found a job doing housework for Mrs. Jones in West Selkirk. In Oct 1914, they were married by Bishop Paul in East Selkirk. Alex got a job at the Manitoba Rolling Mills in West Selkirk, bought 4 acres of land and built a house. He encountered many hardships, including walking to work and back everyday, winter and summer. A work day was not 8 hrs. but was 9 or 10 hrs. or more a day. He then got a bicycle which made it easier for him.

Nettie looked after the home and also worked at the Van Horne Farms during the peak seasons. A daughter Mary, was born to them. Nettie's younger sister, Irene came to stay with them, later Irene married Nick Malyna and also lived in East Selkirk. During the war years, Mary worked in the Gen. Motors Plant in St. Catharines, Ont. Later she married John Furdyk and two children were born to them, William who is a teacher in Powerview, Man., and Marsha (Mrs. Peter Daniw) who is a Vocational Recreationist with the Lakehead Psych. Hospital in Thunder Bay, Ont. A son, Adam John, was born to Marsha and Peter on Oct 7, 1982.

Alex retired on a pension from the Rolling Mills at the age of 65 after working there for 33 years. His mother Maryna died in 1953 at the age of 90 and Sam died in 1963 at the age of 88.

During the years of retirement, Alex bought himself a tractor and machinery and looked after his parcel of land. His wife Nettie died in 1966 and Alex lived with Mary until his death in Jan. of 1968, at the age of 83. He didn't do anything outstanding but he worked hard for what he got.

NICK SHULSKI

submitted by Helen Doherty - Interview Feb. 24, 1981

Nick came to Canada with his mother, Natalie in 1906. His father Alexander had come to Canada earlier, in 1902.

They settled on the east side of the Red River on Lot 265.

Nick went to work at a very early age and worked for farmers doing harvesting. When he was 16 years old he

worked for the railroad. In the 1930's he worked for a Dutchman in Birds Hill and got \$1.00 per day for 10 hours of work. He rode his bicycle to and from work.

In 1941 the house burnt down and Nick was forced to live in the chicken coop until another house was built. Nick liked to recall how he cooked his meals in the chicken coop and how Natalia Malizdravich used to get a good spot selling vegetables at the Dufferin market by bringing Bill Kormilo, the Supt. a chicken.

Nick did market gardening and sold his produce in Wpg. streets and at the Dufferin Street Market. He recalls buying rings of garlic sausage at the Gibson Gates Meat Market by the armful for only 25 cents and six pounds of hamburger for 25 cents.

Nick had four brothers and two sisters: Thomas, William, Alex, Walter, Anna (Boskey) and Sophie (Danko).

Walter was employed by the J.I. Case Company for almost 30 yrs. He passed away May 29, 1978.

THE HISTORY OF THE SHUMILAK FAMILY

*written by Carol Fiddler (Grand-daughter of Antoni and Katherine)
inspired by Stephanie Shumilak (daughter-in-law)
heard from the Shumilak family - who listened so well
submitted for Paul, Anton Jr, Joseph, Stanley, Bert and Katherine*

Even from an insignificant place near the Russian border, such as Narol, which still remains a relatively small agricultural village apart from the more modern world, could news be heard about the prosperous lands of Canada.

It's nearly a century ago now, in 1899, when Josef Pirozek and his wife Julia ventured from the "old country" to the new. Other members of the family had considered the move for years. Poland, then divided by three powers, Austria, Russia, and Germany, was overpopulated, with little possibilities of realizing individual self-ambitions. Young married people ended up being extensions of the main parental household. The Pirozeks had followed the temptations of German agents soliciting migrants to other lands.

Julia had been lonely for her family when she wrote flowing reports about her new life in Beausejour, Man. She spoke of the abundance of wood, prairie chicken eggs just ready for the picking, and numerous fish in the streams.

Julia's father, Pawel Szumilak, was born in 1834 and his wife Agnieszka was born in 1838. They had spent their entire lives in an east European village. It was late to venture into the unknown, but pressure from their other children made them abandon their life in Poland.

In Poland, the Szumilak families had dwelled inside the village, where they received education in different trades, while they supplemented incomes by farming small pieces of land outside the village. Jan, the second oldest son, operated and instructed at a shop for shoe manufacturing. With Jan, the youngest son Antoni, apprenticed and became a maker of footwear. A son-in-law Michael Czastkiewicz, was a tanner. They could not extend farm operations because of land shortage. Thus, they sold their existing farms for Austrian currency,



Pawel and Agnieszka Shumilak, man at left son Antoni, girl at right, niece Ludwega.

which unlike present day Polish zlota, had value on the world market.

The family paid the German entrepreneurs for train tickets to Hamburg, from where they took a ship to Halifax. With Pawel and Agnieszka came their children, Jan and wife Elizbieta, Elizbieta and husband Michael Czastkewich, Stanislaw and wife Pawline, Maria and Piotro Gmitrowski, Franek, Karolina and husband Leon Dobrucki, Antoni (17 years old), and grandchildren.



Grandparents Josef and Agnieszka Szajewski.

Stanislaw had just returned from the Austrian cavalry and it was Franek's turn to serve. However, finding the route to Canada a little more romantic, he followed his family. Andrzej, the eldest, who was a head postmaster, remained as a family representative in Poland. Close ties still remain with this family, who, after World War II, began to reside in the Krakow area of Poland.

From Halifax, the Szumilak families with some personal possessions boarded a train and travelled straight to Beausejour, where son-in-law Pirozek met them by horse team. Their destiny was a few miles northeast of present day Ladywood (20-14-8E). The land had been purchased from the Shaw land owners. It was an agricultural world and the main hunger was for land. Their trades were not practised extensively.

They all lived in a two room house with the Pirozeks when they arrived. Soon they jointly bought an ox whose use they alternated every three days. Having arrived in June 1900, they had the opportunity to plant a garden. Life was difficult as indicated by Pawel's letter to Poland. His wife Agnieszka once had to carry a bag of flour on her back from Beausejour while the men were away harvesting in western Manitoba.

In the summer of 1899 another Polish Catholic family, Josef Szajewski, born in 1860, and wife Agnieszka (Psednowek), born in 1862, had taken the same Hamburg-Halifax route. Off the ship, they immediately boarded a train to East Selkirk. With them came their children; Rosia, Michael, Katherine (9 years old), Wladislaw, and Jan. Later, Maria and Karolina were born in Canada. The family had walked to Lentowicz's in Cooks Creek. After a brief stay they proceeded to Winnipeg. The Szajewski's were more rural people than the Szumilak's in Poland, but they remained in Winnipeg for three years to earn enough money for farm land.

The children also worked. Katherine babysat for a Jewish family during which time she learned the Yiddish Language. Her salary paid the rent. In 1902, the Szajewski's moved to their new farm a few miles south of Ladywood. The farm is presently owned by the Michael Szajewski family.

By 1909, Antoni Szumilak had earned enough money from harvesting and C.P.R. railwork to purchase a small farm in the Seabright district. Antoni made trips to Beausejour, the nearest service centre, as fate had it, Katherine Szajewski had one day returned to Beausejour from her work in Winnipeg because of an inflamed hand. She had asked one of the Polish neighbors for a ride to her parents' farm. However, in her absence, the family had relocated. Overhearing the conversation, Antoni rescued Katherine and drove her home with his wagon team. As a knight in shining armour, Antoni rescued Katherine, the damsel in distress.

Soon after, in accordance to the manners and customs of the time, Antoni sent an honorable neighbor, Petronella Komadowski on his behalf, to Szajewski's, to introduce his upstanding character. He was interested in courtship. The Szajewski family was slightly reluctant at first as being a "good" Catholic was of utmost importance, and this was to be investigated before any commitments were made.

Fate took command. On November 28, 1911,



Parents Antoni and Katherine Shumilak and daughter, Agnes.

Katherine and Antoni were married in the Roman Catholic church in Beausejour by Father A. Palowski. During their farm life in Seabright, nine children were born; Paul, Anton, Joseph, Agnes, Katherine, Stanley, Bert, Carol, and Bernice. Life was happy and satisfying in many respects. Work was hard but there were rewards. From youth Antoni Szumilak, Sr., was an avid swimmer. Every Sunday saw father and children making a summer excursion, by wagon and horse team to the Brokenhead River to enjoy swimming as well as a good bath.

A difficulty to remember is the fairness of the education system. Although the Szumilaks lived closer to Seabright School they were forced by educational boundaries to go to Beausejour School.

In 1928, Katherine's sister, Maria and her husband, Basil Kolisnyk, had moved from Seabright to the Mayfield area, a more Anglo-Saxon district. Paul Shumilak, Sr. lives on this farm today. Antoni Szumilak, Sr., had been in need of a larger farm. In 1929, after hearing from the Kolisnyks of available land, he purchased a farm from the Knights. Joe Shumilak presently owns this farm. Antoni paid \$2500 in cash and had a \$5000 mortgage on 240 acres. The depression was on and economics were not in favor of investments and payments. Times were more difficult than at Seabright. However, Antoni, being a very proud person, refused

any government welfare and still kept his farm. It was during this time that Mary, Anelia, and Rosalyn were born. In 1943, the family home burned, with items which today would probably be considered antiques.

Antoni was a man with many interests. He constantly subscribed to Polish newspapers and could always be found reading in his rocking chair in the evening. He also left a large library of Polish books at his death. His telling of Polish tales to his children and grandchildren is remembered. Translating the radio news (into Polish) was an important task for Antoni's children as current events and history were a major interest. From all the Szumilaks, he was the one to maintain the contact with Poland. In 1961, Antoni with his son Joseph, had gone back to visit his motherland and his many nieces and nephews. Although, he was not educated in English he was a self-taught English reader. He always had hobbies, such as beekeeping, winemaking, and health remedies. He enjoyed swimming unto his last summer at the age of 82. He had passed away in his rocking chair with a book in his hand. His cherished wife, Katherine, a gentle person, was never heard complaining, even at the end when she suffered so dearly from cancer, losing both her legs. Katherine passed away in 1957.

Great-grandfather, Pawel Szumilak had died in 1912, his wife Agnieszka in 1922, Josef Szajewski in 1937, and his wife Agnieszka in 1929.

However, their families have spread across Canada, unto Florida, Texas, and California in the U.S.A. Six of Antoni and Katherine's children live in the Mayfield area today: Paul and wife Nettie Kogut children (Robert, Paul, Jimmy, twins Doreen and Diane); Anton and wife Sophie Komadowski, (Donald, Richard, and Marsha); Joseph and wife Pat Syrota - (Joseph and Carol Surowich's children Tony, Karen and Timothy); Katherine and deceased husband Mike Komadowski, child Carol; Stanley; Bert and wife Stephanie Sawchuk - (Kenneth, Katherine, Douglas, and Lorraine); Agnes and Joseph Rychliski - (Joe - deceased, Reggie, and Reema), live in California; Carol Derraugh (Bruce and Vern), live in Winnipeg; Bernice and George Forrest - (Christine, Gail, Grayden) live in Toronto; Mary and Nicholas Fill (Lyle, Michael, Gregory, Nicholas, and Andrew), and Rosalyn and Dick Rougeau, (Anthony, Laura, Guy, and Richard) live in Sault. Ste. Marie, Ont.; and Anelia and Pat Cashman - (Patrick, Brett, Kitty) live in Stouffville, Ont. Antoni and Katherine would have been able to count twenty great-grandchildren.

A translation of a letter from father Pawel Szumilak to his son Andrew and daughter-in-law Josephine in P.O. Plazow, Galicia, Austria.

Beausejour, Man., Canada
March 7, 1901

My Dear Children:

May Almighty God Bless you Andrew and Josephine in all your deeds in your new home with your children, and may you see your childrens' children, may you find happiness, especially good health and may you live in peace for a long time. May the Almighty Providence and



1909-1910 The Szajewski's.

Compassion remember you as you are remembering me in your hearts.

Now, I will describe to you my dear children, our voyage. From Oleszyce, by train, we arrived in Hamburg in 3 days. Here we spent a few days and then we boarded a ship for Halifax, Canada. After supper we experienced a bad storm with great discomfort, headaches, vomiting, cramps of the stomach and so on. The journey took thirteen and a half days, then by train to our destination Beausejour, which took 4 days, then from Beausejour to Ladywood, a distance just as from Cieszanow to Narol in Galicia. Coming to this north-western country, I felt very miserable, filled with sorrow and grief for my property. I kept asking myself, why did I leave my country, why did I sell everything, what did I do?????

My Dear Son, here we have a house with 5 rooms, a barn for 50 head of cattle, also a warm barn for four horses with windows in it, another very warm barn for a piggery, a coach-house, two poultry houses with windows for chickens, ducks and geese. Our predecessor installed a steel stove so that in the winter the chickens wouldn't freeze. Heat costs us nothing as we have our own wood, "oakwood" and there is a fire going day and night because here we don't have stoves as in the old country, built from stone or brick. As long as it's burning, it is warm, but when the fire goes out, it is cold again.

On February 10th my dear children, I went to confession and received the last sacraments and was ready to die from grief and sorrow for my possessions, my country and my church, I was just grief-stricken ...

Together with John and Peter we own three parcels of fenced land, it is divided into 6 parts. There is some meadow, bush, pasture and around 10 mórg of cultivated land, clean for seeding. We seed oats, barley, peas, wheat, buckwheat, corn, potatoes, beets, carrots, tomatoes, tobacco, cabbage, turnips, celery, and we seed all this from seed not from transplants as back home. But, what a wonderful soil, no fertilizers, no manure, everything grows unbelievably. The people here burn manure, or if they live close to the river they throw it into the river. We have enough grassland to cut for hay, it will take us 6 days with horses. We also have 6 morg fenced

for pasture for sheep, pigs, with gates which makes it impossible for them to get out. We thresh with a threshing machine with 6 teams of horses and our 2 oxen. Straw is burned, or some people are taking it away because there has been no rain for 4 months. We did not burn the straw but are using it for bedding in the barns and for chickens. On July 2nd we had rain for the first time. It's good here but very sad and lonely, no birds like in the old country, there were the happy days, but here just sadness.

My dear children, I pray to God and to our Blessed Mother from Krupiec to return to Galicia, to die and be buried in my country. Everyone is laughing at me for saying such a thing: -- here we have everything, tea, coffee, buns, cheese, butter, milk, pyrohy with cheese and sometimes with cabbage and there ???? what.

Antoni went away to make some money during harvest. In a period of 6 to 8 weeks he made \$65 compared to our 100 reinskie. He spent \$5 for the train, bought himself pants, shoes, shirt and gave us \$40. The Englishman that Antoni was working for had over 200 pigs and he mailed him \$7, was he ever glad ... and the food he had was unbelievable. Here pigs are fed with grain and milk not like over there and the cream is separated from the milk by machines.

Now I'll tell you something about our livestock. We bought 2 oxen for \$100, 2 cows with a heifer for \$85. One cow calved in 6 weeks and the other shall calf sometime in March. If God willing, there will be something out of this, out here no one would sell a small calf for no money. In 8 to 9 years we hope to build our stock to the size as our landlords possessed in our country back there. Here nobody feeds calves with fingers and dumplings, they feed themselves and they pasture. Firewood is plentiful on our property, "Oaks". On our yard we have over 40 cords for next year to sell, dry cured wood sells for \$2.80 a cord. So far we sold oakwood in Beausejour for \$60, it is a distance like from Narol to Cieszanow. Our Michael and Joseph Pirozek have been cutting wood, and they have already made over \$20. Our Antoni has taken a great liking to tea, that without it for him it is impossible, he is always sipping tea with great joy.

Now something about the prices here: sugar - 5 cents a pound, salt, just like at home, very white, for \$2.70 a barrel, so we figured it out that a pound doesn't even cost one cent; beef and pork is 6 cents a pound. Around Christmastime an indian came with 11 perch fish (okonie) for 25 cents.

On the way to our new home across Canada, we came across different races of people - Colored people, Chinese with long pigtails, little caps and long fingernails, Indians and many others and the boys had fun with them, just like boys ...

And now my children time is coming to end my scribbling as I do not know if you will be able to read everything.

Many wishes and greetings my children Andrew, Josephine and our granddaughter Wladyslawa.

God Bless you all,
Your Father and Mother
Pawel and Agneiszka Szumilak.

A transcript of a gentlemen's agreement written in 1901 between - Father Pawel Szumilak, son John Szumilak and son-in-law Peter Gmitrowski

On the 24th day of the month of February in the year of 1901, a voluntary agreement was made to divide the land and the buildings between Mr. Pawel Szumilak; John Szumilak, and Peter Gmitrowski the following way:

1. Pawel Szumilak will take the new barn, coach-house, home from the north and the land from the north lengthways the farm.
2. John Szumilak - the old barn with boarded ceiling, chicken house with windows, and shed and the new kitchen and home in the middle with the land lengthwise.
3. Peter Gmitrowski - pig barn, new chicken house, kitchen and the old house from the south and the land lengthwise to the south.

On all sides with free entrance and departure, let's nobody be disappointed, and if so - it is final.

Signed: Pawel Szumilak	Witnesses:
John Szumilak	Michael Czastkiewicz
Peter Gmitrowski	Joseph Pirozek

On the 25th of May a voluntary agreement was made to divide the meadowland, and the land for future cultivation to: Mr. Pawel Szumilak, John Szumilak and Peter Gmitrowski:

1. Pawel Szumilak the meadow beside the school property and the land by Jaskiewicz side.
2. John Szumilak - the meadow in the center property with the land.
3. Peter Gmitrowski - the meadow from Pawel Szumilak side and the land alongside his property (Pawel Szumilak).

SIGNED BY: John Szumilak,
Pawel Szumilak,
Peter Gmitrowski



Left to Right: Bert, Stanley, Joseph, Anton, Paul, Rosyln, Anelia, Mary, Bernice, Carol, Katherine and Agnes. Seated: Katherine and Antoni.

BERT AND STEFFIE SHUMILAK

submitted by Steffie Shumilak

Bert Shumilak was born in the R.M. of Brokenhead, in Seabright, a School District near Beausejour, Man. In 1929, he moved to the Mayfield area with his parents, 4 brothers and 7 sisters. He attended school at Mayfield and in 1949 attended Brandon University, taking a course in Agricultural Mechanics. In his early years, he farmed with his father and brothers and took different jobs during the winter months, to earn some extra cash in order to help finance spring operations on the farm. Bert, being the adventurous type, took jobs in Windsor, Sudbury, Toronto, and Winnipeg. He worked for the R.M. of St. Clements from 1947 to 1951 and 1956 to 1961, as a heavy equipment operator.

In the fall of 1949, he met the school teacher of Mayfield School, Stephanie (Steffie) Sawchuk, daughter of Anton Sawchuk and Annie Lubianecki. Steffie was born on Oct. 2, 1932, in a village of Cloverleaf, which is 6 miles southwest of Beausejour. She had gotten her education at the Cloverleaf School and later took correspondence courses to complete her grade 12. She had gone to Manitoba Teacher's College during the summer months, enabling her to become a permit teacher. After her teaching career, she took a Secretarial Course at the Manitoba Technical Institute and then worked for The Royal Bank of Canada in Beausejour as a Secretary.

On Oct. 11, 1952, Bert and Steffie were married in the Greek Catholic Church at Beausejour, by Reverend Father Kaminetski. They had gone on a honeymoon to Niagara Falls, and came back on Nov. 1, and the temperature on that day was in the 80's F. In the spring of 1953, they purchased SW 21-13-6E, the Tom Tront property which is adjacent to Bert's home farm.

Bert and Steffie were blessed with 4 children, Kenneth, Katherine, Douglas, and Lorraine. One of Bert and Steffie's goals in life was to make certain that their children get an education, at least Grade 12. They have been successful in that respect, as Kenneth is presently employed by the Provincial Government in the Assessment Branch in Selkirk, and is working towards his Appraisers Certification. Katherine graduated from the Lord Selkirk Regional Comp. High School and has been taking University courses to upgrade her education for her own satisfaction and is working as a clerk for First Lady Coiffures. Douglas graduated from the University of Manitoba with a Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture. Douglas is employed by the Bank of Commerce in Wpg. as an Agricultural Consultant, and is taking Accounting at the University of Manitoba. Lorraine is attending University of Manitoba working towards her Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture. In Dec. 1983, Lorraine plans to take 1/2 year off, in order that she may visit her parents who will be in Sudan, Africa. Bert and Steffie have two married children at this time. On Nov. 28, 1981, Kenneth married his university sweetheart, Melanie Lawrence, of Wpg. Melanie had a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Wpg., majoring in psychology and presently is taking Psychiatric Nursing at the Hospital for Mental Diseases



The Bert Shumilak family.

at Selkirk. They presently reside in Selkirk, but will be moving to the home farm on May 1, 1983. Douglas also married his university sweetheart, Lesley Vannan, on Oct. 30, 1982. Lesley had a Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture from the University of Manitoba. Lesley is employed by the University of Manitoba in the Agricultural Research Branch. They live in Wpg. and come to the farm on weekends and whenever help is needed. Throughout their lives, Bert and Steffie were involved with people not only within their community but outside as well. In 1953, together with Mr. and Mrs. Frank Beauchamp and others, they organized and formed the Mayfield Community Centre. Mr. Frank Beauchamp became the President and Steffie, the Sec.-Treasurer. throughout the years Bert and Steffie were involved as Directors of the St. Andrews, St. Clements Agricultural Society; 4-H leaders of the Mayfield 4-H clubs, members and later Secretary-Treasurers of the Manitoba Farmers Union, Tyndall Local; as well as hockey, baseball, music lessons, and other activities as their children were growing up.

Bert was Chairman and later up to the present, Director of the P.F.R.A. - Libau Community Pasture; Director of the Manitoba Pool Elevators, a member of the Advisory Board to the Municipal Planning Board and Past President of the Lord Selkirk School Division Bus Drivers Association, of which Bert was a school bus Driver for over 17 years.

In 1972, Steffie had decided she would like to continue in the field of education on a different level, she ran for the office of School Trustee of the Lord Selkirk School Division No. 11, was successful (5 times) and had

remained there until her resignation on May 31, 1983, at which time she left in order that she may accompany Bert on a job in Sudan, N.E. Africa.

Even though Kenneth and Douglas have excellent jobs, they have a great feeling for the farm and often talk about having the opportunity to farm. It is with this in mind, that with the youngest, Lorraine, well into University, that Bert had applied for and received a job with CIDA, Canadian International Development Agency. He has taken a position as field supervisor on the Sim Sim Drylands Project (CIDA project No. 876-00902) in Kassala Province, Sudan, N.E. Africa, leaving on May 15, 1983 for a 2-year period.

SIGURDUR AND JARNGERDUR SIGURDSON AND FAMILY

Sigurdur Sigurdson and his wife Jarngerdur (nee; Eiriksdotir) came to Canada from Iceland in 1891, and settled in New Iceland (Gimli area). In 1920 they moved to Poplar Park. Sigurdur and Jarngerdur had nine children, six of whom reached adult age: Helga, Bjorn, Thorbjorg, Thorunn, Kristjan, and Jon. Sigurdur's farm was the one beside the school now owned by Marko's. All three daughters became elementary school teachers, Helga and Thorbjorg both taught at the Sheffield School.

Sigurdur passed away in 1945, and Jarngerdur passed away in 1951.

Bjorn served in active service overseas in World War I, and then returned to the Gimli area in 1927. Bjorn married Hildur Holm, and they had seven children, Irene (Mrs. Chanin), Ellen (Mrs. Gilmor), Alice (Mrs. Selbie), Raymond, who lives on the home farm Gilbert, who passed away in 1979, Sylvia and John. Hildur passed away in 1965 and Bjorn passed away in Nov. 1981.

Helga Sigurdson married Kristjan Isfjord in 1939. They lived first at Baldur, and then moved to Vancouver, B.C. Kristjan passed away in 1963, and Helga passed away in 1966.

Thorbjorg Sigurdson married Archibald Orr. They lived in San Diego, Calif., then they moved to Vancouver, B.C. Thorbjorg and Archibald had one son, Archibald. He is a geophysicist, and lives in Calgary, Alta. Archibald married Agnes, and they have three children, Geoffrey, Andrew, and Debra.

Thorunn Sigurdson married Haldor Johnson, and they have four children, Donald, Jerry, Diane, and Maureen. Thorunn and Haldor farmed at Brown, Man., before moving to B.C. Haldor is now deceased.

Jon Sigurdson married Vivian Ash, and they have two children: Randolph and Merna. Jon was a carpenter by trade.

Kristjan Sigurdson married Sadie Weremy in Jan. of 1929. They had five children, Edith (Mrs. Einar Isford), Kenneth, Ernest, Norman, and Shirley. Kristjan and Sadie lived in Vancouver for a short time in the 1940's, then they returned to Poplar Park, and from there they moved to Transcona. Sadie passed away in Nov. 1950. Kristjan married Carrie Wiltshire, and they lived in Burlington, Ont. for 18 years, when Carrie died in Nov.

1976. Kristjan passed away in Feb. 1978. Edith Sigurdson married Einar Isford on July 14, 1951. They lived at Baldur for ten years, then they moved to Holland, with their children. Edith and Einar have four children; Thomas, Heather (by adoption), Darrell, and Signe.

Edith operates her own catering business and Einar is a forman of the Department of Highways crew at Holland.

Thomas Isford married Shirley Wittevrongel in Aug. 1973. Tom owns and operates his own electronics business in Treherne, Man. Shirley is an Assistant Loans Manager at the Tiger Hills Credit Union.

Heather married John Foster in March, 1981, and they reside in Calgary, Alta. Heather is employed with the Post Office, and John is a lineman with the city of Calgary.

Darrell Isford is in training at the Selkirk mental Hospital, to be a psychiatric nurse.

Signe Isford married Vern Couture, and they have two daughters, Tracy and Sheryl. They live at Oak Lake, Man.

Kenneth Sigurdson married Nina Purden in Oct. 1950. They lived for many years in Winnipeg. Kenneth and Nina have two daughters, Karen and Nancy. Ken and Nina have been employed in the garment trade for many years, they now make their home in Scanterbury. Karen married Edward Gottwad. Edward is employed by Standard Brands Ltd., and Karen is employed by Office Overload. Karen and Edward have two children, Curt and Jennifer. Nancy married Walter Krahn, who is a Civil Engineer. Nancy and Walter have one daughter Melissa. Both Karen's and Nancy's families live in Winnipeg.

Ernest Sigurdson married Nancy, and they live in Richmond, B.C. Ernest spent several years in the R.C.A.F., after finishing High School, he then trained as a helicopter mechanic, before buying a machine and going into his own business. Norman Sigurdson married Barbara Baker, and they live near 100 Mile House, B.C. Norman and Barbara have one daughter, Cindy. Norman is a long distance truck driver.

Shirley Sigurdson married John Humble, a draftsman. They live in Charleswood with their children, Susan and David. Susan is currently attending the University of Manitoba.

CLARENCE AND RUTH SJOBERG

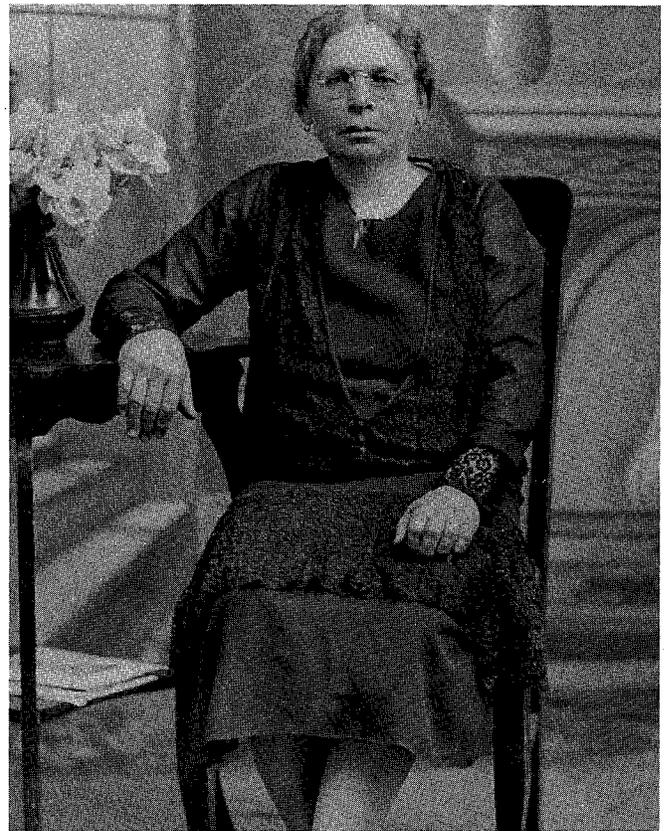
submitted by R. Sjoberg

Clarence Sjoberg and his wife Ruth (Sigfrid) moved to the Municipality of St. Clements in 1969 from Fort Garry, where they had owned and operated a Restaurant "Cedar Haven", not far from the University of Manitoba on Pembina Hwy. They sold their business and purchased property at 5997 Henderson Hwy. This was to be their retirement home. Clarence had been a Bus Driver for the City of Wpg. Transit for 14 years, and changed his occupation to that of RCMP Chauffeur, a position he presently fills. Clarence and Ruth were blessed with 5 children: Darryl in 1945, Darlene in 1948, Maureen in 1950, Loree in 1955, and Terry in 1965.

Darryl married Janie Anderson and they have 2



Sjoberg family.



Katrina Skehar (Dolinski).

children, Kenneth and Kirk. Darlene married Gary Foseid and they have 3 children, Sherri, Durelle and Garret. Maureen married Garry Leach and they have 3 children, Chris, Cindy and Colin. Loree married John Noble and they have 2 children, Kim and Krystal. Terry remains at home and is a student in Grade 12 at the Lord Selkirk Regional High School.

Sjoberg's in the first few years in St. Clements, had horses, cows and poultry as well as a fair sized garden. During the last few years they have kept chickens and Ruth manages the Cafeteria at the Greater Wpg. Gas Company. Ruth and Clarence also are involved with Amway and are Distributors for same, having attained many awards and recognition.

Clarence and Ruth have the 5 children, 10 Grandchildren, and are enjoying their family, their occupations and their leisure hours spent in travelling, which has taken them to Hawaii, France, Germany, Switzerland and Italy, Mexico, all parts of U.S.A., and Europe.

Their son Darryl is presently Personnel Manager and Representative of the Cargill Grain Co. in London, England.

Ruth and Clarence will be spending a month or so visiting their son and Grandchildren.

NIKOLI AND KATRINA SKEHAR FAMILY

submitted by Granddaughter Anne Watko

Nikoli Skehar (1853-1911) and his wife Katrina (Dolinski) (1863-1953) came to Canada in March, 1897, from Celo Pohorylevka, Prov. Bukovina.

At that time they brought with them four children, Bill, age 9 years, Marcia, 7 years (my mother) Harry (Grehor) 3 years, Metro, an infant and Lily, was born in Canada.

They first stayed at the immigration building in East Selkirk, as did many of the Europeans at that time.



Katrina Skehar and son Harry.



Marcia and William Stiehar.

Then they bought 1/4 section of land, 16-15-6E and settled in the Libau area. After having the railway being built through part of their land, then more acres were taken for highways, and acreage got whittled down to 124 acres, mostly rocks and bush and low spots.

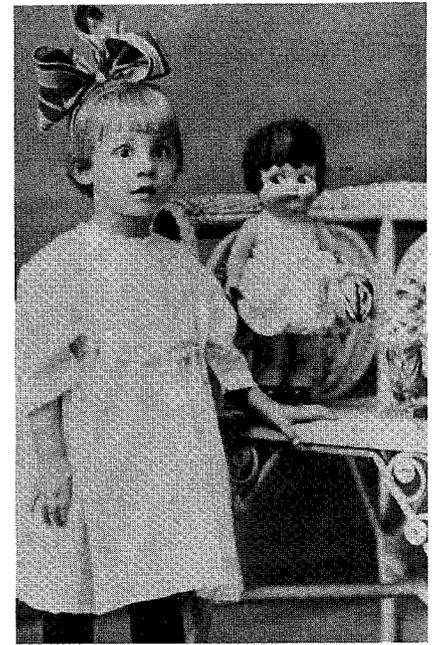
Life was very hard, and there were times that they had wished they were back in Europe, as there were times they were near starvation. My grandfather passed away at the age of 52 and then times were really bad for the family.

Bill married Maria Antamachuk, and raised seven children, Kay, Anne, Nick, Mary, Elenor, Peter, and Rose. Uncle Bill, Aunt Mary and Nick are now deceased.

My mother, Marcia, was married, at a very young age, to John Maleschuk, they had one daughter, Barbara. John passed on, at a very early age, because of an ac-



William, Marcia Stiehar and children Anne, Kathryn, Elana.



Anne Stiehar 3 years old.

cident. Barbara passed away in 1975. My mother was remarried, to William Stiehar and they had 3 daughters, Anne (myself), Kathryn and Elana. Mother died on Dec. 15, 1976, at the age of 84, and Dad in 1959, at the age of 72.

Uncle Harry never married, he passed away on Dec. 6, 1963. Uncle Metro married Patty Kolton of Dencross, they had 3 children Anne (deceased July, 1980), Tony, and Harry.

Aunt Lily married Otto Kushnir, deceased, they had one daughter, Helena.

SKRYPETZ FAMILY

submitted by Frank Skrypetz

Frank Skrypetz was born in 1897 in Lubachow, Poland. He arrived in Canada in 1902 at the age of five by ship in Halifax, with his parents Joseph and Pearl and younger brother Martin.



Joseph, Carl and Frank Skrypetz.