

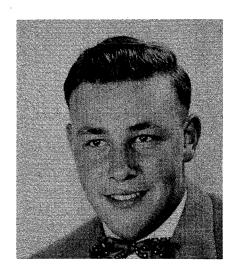
Tom and Rose Wolanchuk.

TOM AND ROSE (WOLENIN) WOLANCHUK

Tom and Rose Wolanchuk were both born in Narol, Poland. They emigrated to Canada in 1899 and settled in East Selkirk. Tom worked in the CPR Shops, travelling to Winnipeg each day by Ferry and the Streetcar. Later he worked at various jobs such as harvesting, the Selkirk Mental Hospital and the Robinson Mill.

There were nine children in the family: Jim, Stanley, Tom, Victoria, Mary, Mike, Frank, Rose and Howard.

Tom recalls that one summer the immigrant families staying at the Roundhouse in East Selkirk picked poison mushrooms and about 30 children died from this poisoning.



Adam C. Kulikowski



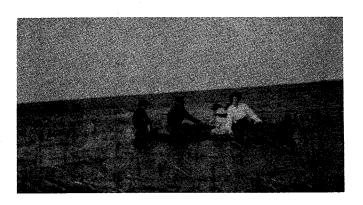
Adam C. Kulikowski (on left).

Having completed 16 months as the 7th, Secretary Treasurer of the Rural Municipality of St. Clements, it is indeed inspiring to be part of a progressive municipal corporation. The writer has spent almost a quarter of a century in the treasury post, having assumed Assistant Secretary duties on April 18, 1961. Our Municipality has progressed rapidly within the past two decades with the construction, upgrading and hard surfacing of roads along with vast improvements in our drainage systems. Our heavy equipment and modern fire fighting protection units provide the residents of St. Clements with a superior service claimed as one of the best within the province. This progress would not be possible without dedicated and conscientious personnel and St. Clements has been blessed with both. Much credit is due to our employees such as Harvey Chernetsky, our Public Works Foreman, Metro Denesiuk, Patrol Operator, Clive Rennie the Fire Chief, all rendering a high calibre of service to our ratepayers. Apart from the above we have been blessed with competent and efficient office staff some of whom have spent many years in our employ, namely Ione Dewar who is presently completing her 42nd. year of dedicated and loyal service for the residents of St. Clements. Assisting me administratively in the office at the present time are Jennie Witwicki, Ernie Koterla and Debbie Fiebelkorn. Three of the five members have successfully completed the Manitoba Municipal Administrator Certificate Program. Pictured above is Secretary-Treasurer, Adam C. Kulikowski (on the left) receiving his certificates from the Deputy Minister of Municipal Affairs on May 2nd, 1978.

In my 23 years of municipal life, I feel proud and privileged to have served the people of St. Clements and wish to express my gratitude and sincere thanks to my predecessor, Mr. William Sokolowski, who patiently and so capably, shared his vast experience and knowledge grooming me for the position of Secretary-Treasurer, which I perform and enjoy this day. Much of the success that I have enjoyed as Secretary to the Planning Commission, as Building Inspector Enforcement Officer and later as Secretary-Treasurer of the first Planning District within the province is due to the quiet and efficient training received under the guidance of William Sokolowski, The Municipality of St. Clements was indeed privileged to have the services of this gentleman for almost 40 years.

As we commence our Centennial year (1984) it will be interesting to see what great advances are in store for us with the advent of the space and computer age technology upon us. You may be assured that the Municipality of St. Clements will continue to progress and represent well the people within this beautiful corporate boundary. In conclusion may I express my sincere thanks and gratitude to all the many people who have spent countless and dedicated hours to ensure the success of our centennial events.

Finally, to our pioneers who first paved the way for us, this year is really a tribute to their painstaking efforts, failures and successes.



May 11, 1971

Lake Winnipeg

The treacherous Lake is here again, Water in the fields and plain, Has overlapped the mother base, A secret enemy in a phase. Of tantilizing ebb and flow, Discord, when the Northwinds blow, Marring land, the fish, and fowl, Which makes us Mortals frown, and scowl The Beaches that were once a place, Now, have not a single trace. Of the homes that once were there, Treacherous Lake, how do you dare? To sit, and laugh, that such as we Must submit to powers that be. Honest work, and hardship labor, Take on such a bitter flavor. You have helped to spoil our dower. Manned with earnest skill and power. This is progress, we are told, Treacherous Lake, you are so cold. We cannot fight your mighty powers, So we leave this home of ours. Leave you to your lonely rampage, On the fields, and Lakeshore frontage.

by Miranda Woodward

THE EARLY SETTLERS

John Dolinski

In the evening it was dark and dreary When the kerosene lamps were lit, Now the pioneer rested tired and weary From a day of grime and grit.

His future had no hope
But he would struggle and persist,
With only determination to help him cope
Just to hang in and exist.



Mr. and Mrs. Dubowits.

The days when a neighbor was a friend With whom one could cry or laugh, He would share with you to the end Or cut his loaf of bread in half.

All the folks were meek and humble Pride and arrogance had no place, When in need they would assemble And in sorrow they'd embrace.

They found time to visit one another
Through a narrow trail in the woods,
What they had they shared with each other
Like a honest neighbor should.

The days when a neighbor was an asset And in him you can take pride, When in need he was a blessing To have him by your side.

Where has all this humanity vanished
Let's all stop and take a look,
How all greed and hate was banished
When they followed the good old book.

But the benefits did not go to the pioneers As rewards they seldom do, Instead they blossomed out in later years To the ingrates like you and me. The century has past, let's all salute
Yet there is so much we hold dear,
Now let's bow our heads and pay tribute
To our hardy pioneers,
Let's not forget to pay homage
To those brave and courageous men,
Who left the land of bondage
To start all over again.

Let's pause a while and reminisce
What a life they had to lead,
Those pioneers may they rest in peace
We loved them all indeed,
They ventured out on hope and whim
To strange and foreign lands,
With nothing else to support them
But their own two rugged hands.

They forged ahead through swamp and bog With their children on their backs,
They felled the trees and hued the logs
And built themselves a shack,
The tools they had were bare and few
Their hands with sweat and brawn,
They faced the life the best they knew
Their struggle just begun.

The roof was sod, the floor was mud For a table, just a board, And there they ate some rabbit food But they prayed and thanked the Lord, With bitter cold and winter rough They could not provide their needs, And when the going really got tough They prayed and cried indeed.

They cleared the land with a grub hoe
And sowed the grain by hand,
They had the hope that it would grow
On this new and virgin land,
They picked the rocks and built a fence
Around their new homestead,
They feared no odds and took a chance
And hoped to grow some bread.

Behind the hill a wolf would howl
As they rested by a dim light,
And the hoots of the big-horned owl
Disturbed the silent night,
They used the scythe to cut their hay
The sickle to cut their grain,
All manual work and not much play
On this vast and wild terrain.

Let's celebrate the Pioneers' day
Lest their valour be a loss,
For they are the ones who paved the way
And blazed a trail for us,
Let's visit the graves of our pioneer
While there is yet a trace,
Let's stay a while and shed a tear
And even say a grace.



Julia and Wladislaw Alexander Olexyn, First Blacksmith.



Left to Right: Mike Golembioski, Harry Koshyk, Paul and Tony Golembioski.



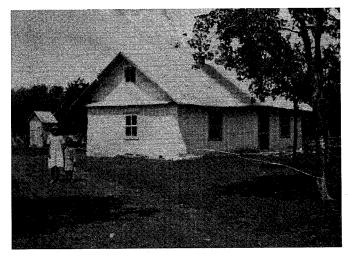
Mr. and Mrs. Gustav Ludwick and son Stanley.

JOSEPH AND APOLONIA ONHAISER

submitted by Helen Doherty interview with Stanley Onhaiser

My father came here in 1898. I was born on the other side of the road. There were no houses. Our closest neighbor was Tom Hay and Johnston. We got our mail at Gonor. I would hitch my dog and go by sleigh. Father would go to the bush, cut cordwood take it to Wpg. and sell it for \$5.00 per load. The day that I came into the world my father made a little tent out of poplar logs, that is how we lived. Later they cleared the land, put up a house and garden. Before the Corpus Christi Church was built, services were held in my father's house. After the church was built, Simeon Ludwicznski, Tomczak and Stanley Onhaiser used to take turns starting the fires, 2 hours before mass. This is the third Corpus Christi Church that we have now. Stanley married Mary Gmiterek who was born in 1898 and had lived at East Selkirk, Cook's Creek and Beausejour. She says she went to work at age 14 at CloverLeaf in a Section Foreman's house during the winter and for a farmer (Carter) in the summer, for 3 1/2 years for \$18.00 per month. There were 21 people to cook, feed and wash for. Carter had a big farm with 80 cows, 150 pigs and 11 horses. For 7 years I worked out at 3 places and then I married. My brother worked with horses on the power line. I could stack sheaves as fast as a farmer could cut the grain. Joseph Onhaiser and his wife Apolonia lived at Lot 218 in Narol and John Onhaiser lived at Lot 219. The Onhaiser's worked very hard to make a living for their many children. Joseph, by trade, was a Blacksmith. He was very active in forming the Corpus Christie Church, and was one of the first to get it underway. The first "Mass" was held in their home. Apolonia was an immaculate housekeeper and a very good cook. She could make a meal out of almost "nothing". The Priest's of the parish had their dinner at the Onhaiser home. Apolonia attended Mass and at the same time had a very good meal for the priests and her family. This went on for years and years. The priests were in high praise of her meals.

Note: Helen Doherty visited Stanley Onhaiser on Feb. 24, 1983 at the Misericordia Hospital, he was in the Wheelchair, but was very cheerful and told Helen that the nurses were very good to him.

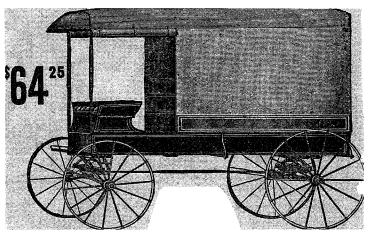


Onhaiser's House Built in 1900.

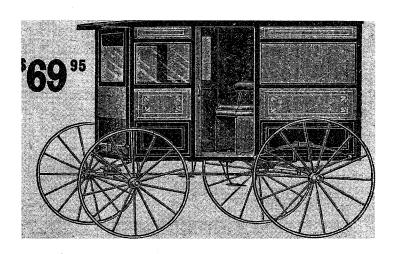


Joseph and Stanley Onhaiser and Frank Wachal.



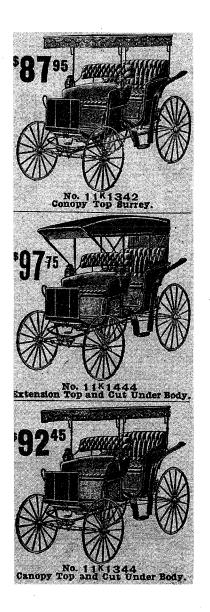


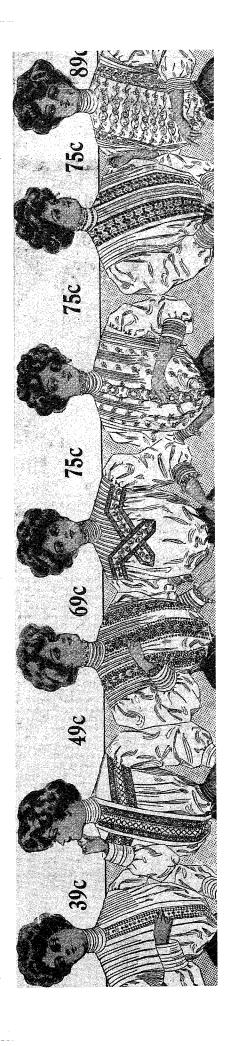
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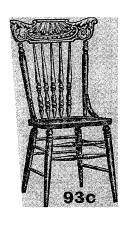




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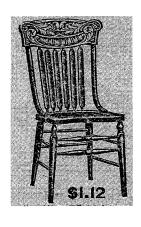
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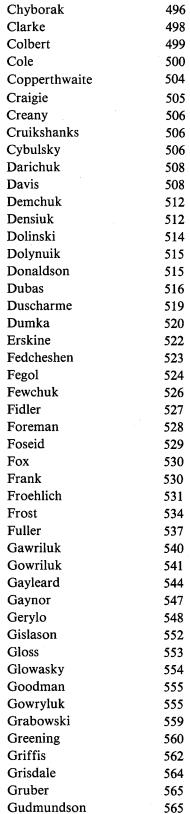




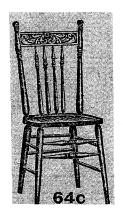


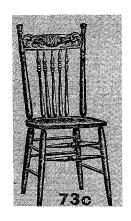
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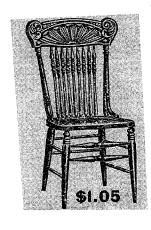


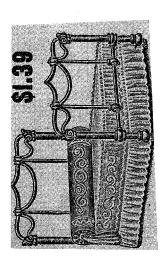
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